



Working together until Metro Richmond is

TRANSFORMED

April 2026

75



As part of our Remissioning process, the RCFN Board recently responded to a series of questions regarding the successes and challenges of the Association.

Dr. Philip Turner, newly elected Board Chair, shares his reflections:

GLORY DAYS

We often believe that the River City's Faith Network (RBA's) "glory days" are in the past—when the association office was busy, the budget was healthier, and everything seemed easier. We tell stories about those times. We remember them fondly. And before long, we compare our present to our past—and quietly conclude that those best days are gone. But what if that's not how God measures glory?

When we read the Bible, God's glory is often found more in the midst of struggle.

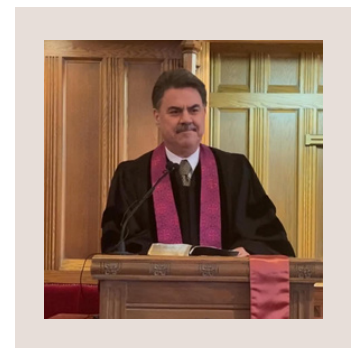
Not after the wilderness, but within it. Not after the cross, but through it. The Israelites saw God's glory not when life was settled, but when they were wandering, uncertain, and dependent on daily bread. The early church didn't shine because everything was easy—they were navigating conflict, persecution, and growing pains.

And at the center of our faith is the cross itself—the place that looked like failure but became the fullest display of God's glory.

Maybe we misunderstand what constitutes the glory days—perhaps they aren't just about strength, size, or impressive programs. Maybe God's glory is shown through faithfulness. When His people keep showing up during tough times. When love is practiced, even when it's hard. When forgiveness is chosen in the midst of disagreement. When a small group gathers to pray, not because it's impressive but because it's necessary. When people refuse to give up on their mission, even when the numbers aren't what they once were.

Our current challenges might teach us more than the past ever did: to clarify our purpose and remove what is no longer needed. The risk is that we overlook this lesson. We keep looking back for glory, while God is showing it right here—in the messy, imperfect, and stretching work of being the community today.

Maybe we are not as large as we once were, but perhaps our conversations are deeper, and our mission is becoming clearer. The question is not, "Have we seen our best days?" but rather, "Can we recognize God's glory in the days we are living now?" Maybe one day we will look back at this time, when reimagined and remissioned, and realize these were the glory days.



Let's Welcome the new RCFN Board Chair, Pastor Philip Turner, Oregon Hill BC

75th Annual Meeting
on Thursday, October 22nd
@
First Baptist Church
2709 Monument Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Registration is forth coming on the RCFN Website.



Please contact us:
office@rbaonline.org
or
call 804.329.1701



MINISTRY CENTERS



CHURCH HILL CHRISTIAN WELLNESS CENTER

Join us for Bible Study and Lunch on Fridays!

Our group enjoys lively conversation as we dig into the Scripture and fellowship around the lunch table.

Sponsor a Lunch

If you would like to prepare lunch, sponsor a lunch, or provide gift cards for lunch from Food Lion, Jason's Deli, Papa John's, or Sally Bell's please contact Glinda.



The Church Hill Wellness Center would like to express gratitude to all donors of clothes and shoes, but kindly requests that donations be withheld starting February 1 until further notice.

**Rev Glinda Ford , Director, CHWC
804.329.1701**

SOUTH RICHMOND BAPTIST CENTER FACE MINISTRY

GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING

Help support young men that wants to look their best at the next event.

Shirt size: S, M, L, XL or neck size 14-18

Pants size: Waist size 28-38 ; Inseam size 30-36

Suits Sizes :36-46

Footwear Sizes; 8-13, including half sizes

Belts, bow ties, dress sock all sizes

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The South Richmond would like to thank those that donate food each week to the center, but as of April 1, please call before you drop off your food donation.

**Any questions please contact Rev. Wesley Garrett at
804.404.2402**



OREGON HILL BAPTIST CENTER

Rev. Jennifer Turner, Director 804.329.1701

Men's Gently Used Clothing ONLY

Underwear (New or Like New - washed, unstained, no tears)

Athletic Shoes , Athletic Sweat Pants (sizes 30-34)

Athletic Long Pants and Jeans

Underwear & White Athletic Socks

Coats, Jackets , Hoodies, Rain Ponchos and Umbrellas

No women's clothing at this time.

Grocery Store Gift Cards

Tide Laundry Pods & Dryer Sheets & Change for Laundry
Bottled Water & Protein (Vienna Sausage, Chicken, Tuna)
Snack Bags for the Unhoused

Unhoused Breakfast Meal

Rev. Turner prepares meals for the unhoused on Thursdays and if you would like to donate a meal or provide funds, please contact Rev. Turner.



Camp Alkulana

Thank you for your Support!!

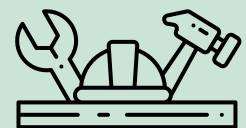
Our S'more to Give Silent Auction and Dinner Fundraiser was held at Richmond's First Baptist Church on March 14. There were 160 people in attendance and items were donated by many different local businesses and artisans.

The event had 12 sponsors, including Huguenot Road Baptist Church, River Road Church, Baptist, Derbyshire Baptist Church, and the WMU of First Baptist Church. Altogether, the event raised over \$13,000 for the Camp Alkulana ministry.

Camp Volunteer Work Days

Camp Alkulana Spring Volunteer Work Days are scheduled for May 16 and May 30. Please consider bringing a group to camp to help us ready the facility for this summer.

Contact Beth Wright
804.329.1701



Connecting the Light

Volunteers, Congregations, and Ministries

Recap of the RCFN Camp Alkulana Auction
March 14, 2026 at First Baptist Church, Richmond



Registration is still open for Summer Camp
For how to register, please contact the
RCFN Camp Alkulana office at 804-329-1701
Ext. 8603 Beth Wright
Ext. 8604 SaraAnna Burgess

SISTERS WHO CARE CONFERENCE 2026

Walking in My Worth

Join us

Saturday, April 11 8:30am - 4pm
East End Baptist Church Suffolk, VA

EVENT RUNDOWN

8:30 AM REGISTRATION 9:00 AM CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST 9:30AM CONFERENCE BEGINS 12:00 PM
LUNCH (INCLUDED) 4:00 PM CONFERENCE
CONCLUDES

\$45

Learn More & Register



hermission



Learn more and register at <https://onhermission.org/events/swc26>

CAMP ALKULANA	CAMP DATES 2026
OLDER BOYS JUN 14-JUN 25 ages 12-14	YOUNGER BOYS JUN 29-JUL 6 ages 9-11 & CITs
OLDER GIRLS JUL 13-JUL 24 ages 12-14	YOUNGER GIRLS JUL 28-AUG 4 ages 9-11 & CITs

River City Faith Network
Richmond Baptist Association
2828 Emerywood Parkway
Richmond, VA 23294
804-329-1701
office@baonline.org
www.richmondbaptist.org

Electronic Service Requested

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Metro Richmond is...*

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2026 RCFN CALENDAR

APRIL

April 1	Westhampton Scholarship Application Due
April 3 & 6	RCFN Holiday
April 10-12	Camp Alkulana LEAD Retreat
April 14 & 21	RCFN Staff Meetings
April 17	CHCWC Support Team Meeting
April 21	Clergy Day at Chaplain Training Event
April 25	Camp Alkulana ARVA
April 25	SRBC Support Team Meeting

Center Ministry Program Schedule

CHCWC:	Mondays: Clothes Closet Tues- Thurs: Financial Assistance Fridays: Bible Study Third Wednesday & Thursday: Food Collection & Pantry
OHBC:	Mondays: Mail Distribution First & Third Wednesdays: Laundry Ministry Thursdays: Meal, Lockers, Clothes Closet
SRBC:	Mondays: Furniture & Clothing Wednesdays: Bible Study Third Thursday: Food Pantry

Special Thanks

We are grateful for Dr. Daniel Glaze's leadership of the RCFN Board in 2024-2025. His support and generosity of heart for our center and camp ministries provided encouragement as he led us to embark on a Remissioning process. We are better because of his leadership. Thank you, Daniel!

Congratulations to

Dr. Philip and Rev. Jennifer Turner on the birth of their granddaughter Sylvie Mae

Ministry Transitions

Dr. Becky Gunter's last Sunday will be April 26th after serving 15 years as Pastor of Lakeside Baptist Church. We wish her well as she continues to minister in the Chesterfield community.

Our Condolences to the Families of

Dr. Herbert and Rev. Lorae Ponder and family of the passing of her father, Deacon Edward Charlie.

Mr. Mark Snipes at CBFVA in the passing of his brother, Daniel.

Rev. Glinda Ford and family of the passing of her brother-in-law, Nathaniel Ford.