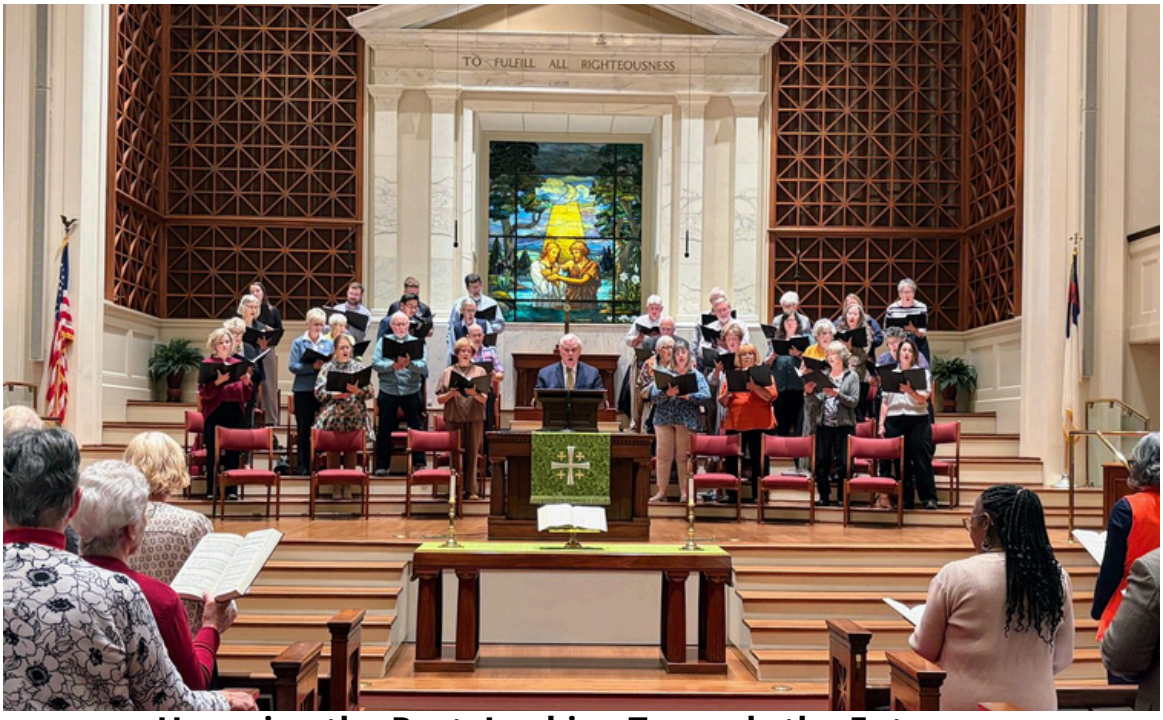Working Together Until Metro Richmond is Transformed

November 2-8, 2026



Honoring the Past, Looking Towards the Future

by Kate Wakeland

On Thursday, October 22nd, I had the privilege of attending the River City Faith Network's 75th Anniversary Celebration at Richmond's First Baptist Church. The event spanned the course of an afternoon and evening. It began with breakout sessions, where folks could learn more about Re-Missioning, Welcome House, and more. Then, everyone gathered in the fellowship hall for a banquet, where volunteers were recognized, dinner was served, and the RCFN community was celebrated. Then, folks moved to the Sanctuary for a brief business meeting before sharing in a time of Worship, which offered the opportunity to remember the past, reflect on the present, and look towards what the future of the network might bring. It was a wonderful time of togetherness,and it was clear how much planning and intention went into making it such a special day.

There are many unknowns for the future of the River City Faith Network, and that can feel strange and scary for church members, volunteers, and even staff. Proverbs 3:5 says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding". While we trust God with our future, we must also put in the work to plan for it. As we continue through the Re-Missioning process, as we put in work at our Baptist Centers and Camp Alkulana, and as we work to evolve and modernize alongside our congregations, we must find the balance between work and trust.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the River City Faith Network. We have felt you walking with us through the last 75 years, and we hope you'll continue to step into the years to come. I feel confident we will all face the future together, and that God will be there right next to us the whole time.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord God will be with you wherever you go."
-Joshua 1:9

Current Needs







Upcoming Events

RCFN Calendar





A New Venture In Richmond

Welcome House
RICHMOND
Virginia

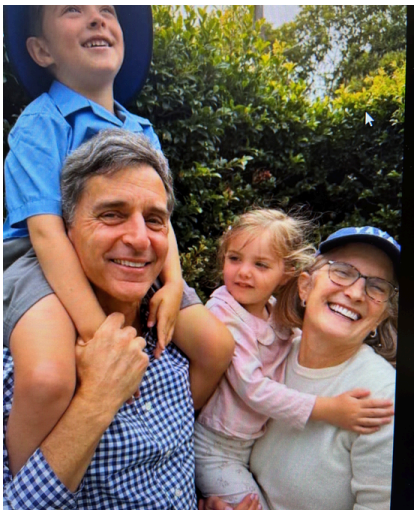
Did you know that the RCFN is working together with CBF Virginia and the BGAV to start Richmond's first Welcome House? Welcome House is an organization that provides temporary housing to refugee families as they settle in the country. We are thrilled to be a part of this project! See the links below for more information.

Attachment is add for some Frequently Asked Questions

See Attachment on the Welcome House Brochure

Pastoral Transitions

Congratulations to Dr. Jim Somerville on his retirement as Senior Pastor of Richmond's First Baptist Church. Serving 40 years in ministry, Jim has been a generous supporter of the River City Faith Network, a community leader, a thoughtful preacher, and prophetic Kingdom builder. Blessings to Jim and Christie as they find new ways to continue kingdom building and spending time with their grandchildren. We hold the FBC family and ministry staff in prayer as they navigate the transition period in the days ahead.



Congratulations to Dr. Sterling Severns, as he transitions from his 23 year pastorate with Tabernacle Baptist Church to answer the call to serve as Pastor of Earle Street Baptist Church in Greenville, South Carolina. We are grateful for Sterling's leadership of the Tabernacle community and prayer for his family as they enter their new call. We hold the Tabernacle family in prayer as they discern next steps in this season of transition.



Congratulations to Dr. William Gunter on his retirement from Bethlehem Baptist Church (Penick Road) after serving as their Pastor for more than 4 years. Dr. Gunter previously served as Pastor of Webber Memorial Baptist Church. We are grateful for William and his wife, Dr. Becky Gunter's pastoral leadership among our River City Faith Network churches. Though retired they will continue serving the Lord through pastoral ministries, counseling and other personal ministries in the Chesterfield community and beyond.



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RIVER CITY FAITH NETWORK

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