Central Virginia Baptist Ministries, Inc.  
**Presents the:**

**2013**

**PASTOR-DEACON CONFERENCE**

**“Serve Well”**  
(1 Timothy 3:13)

**MARCH 18, 2013**

Ridge Baptist Church  
1515 Eastridge Road, Richmond, VA 23229

**SCHEDULE:**

5:45 p.m. Registration and Refreshments  
6:30 p.m. Opening Remarks  
6:45 p.m. Session 1  
7:45 p.m. Break  
8:00 p.m. Session 2

**CONFERENCE CHOICES, select two:**

- Church Change and Grief, *Travis Collins & Bob Lee*
- Deacons, Spiritual Leaders in the 21st Century, *Ken Kessler*
- Self Care For Deacons & Ministers Caring For Others, *Dan Bagby*
- Teaching Families How to Fight, *John Tadlock*
- Pastor Sabbaticals, *Brian Hughes*
- Deacon Team Ministry: A Better Approach to Family Ministry, *Tom Stocks*
- Worship and Reconciliation, *David Bailey*
- Ministry of Hospitality, *Dennis Green*
- Pastors and Deacons: Partners in Meeting Needs/Deacons Protecting the Pastor, *Todd Combee*
- The day I confessed “I love money more than my relationship with God!,” *Nelson Parker*

**REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED.**  
There is a $5.00 fee for this Conference to be paid at the door.

Questions? Contact Richmond Baptist Association at 804-329-1701 or office@rbaonline.org.
Greetings All:

What are your thoughts about “email?” I have to admit that for me it is a “love-hate” relationship that I have with this relatively modern phenomena!

I love the convenience of being able to communicate at any hour of the night or day without obtrusively awakening someone from a deep sleep. I can “send” and they can “sleep” undisturbed only to retrieve my communication when it best suits them. I love being able to interact with several people simultaneously on vastly different subjects and in multiple locations without anyone sensing that they do not have my undivided attention. Several needs can be addressed at once. Many travel miles are frequently eliminated. Less often is playing the game of “phone tag” the dominant athletic event of the day. I love being able to “reply all” to share a new meeting schedule rather than having to employ the old “phone tree” or making sixteen phone calls hurriedly ensuring that everyone gets the word.

I strongly dislike email when it stacks up. During the last third of December, for instance, it seemed to me that email communication slowed down considerably. I used that period to clean out the “email bin” – those emails that I had not deleted but also had not read because of the overwhelming volume when they arrived so that they had been assessed as being of less importance and therefore “could wait.” Truthfully, some had waited…and waited…and waited!

Too, some of the emails had been read but not deleted because they did not require immediate action but some action. Finally, I decided that I would not carry them forward into the new year, so I stayed up late one night after Christmas but before New Year’s Eve to “unstack!” At 4:00 AM I reached a place seldomly occupied; I had zero new emails! I shut down the computer and went to bed with a sense of victory! I was ahead! For once!!

On January 3rd, it was as if everyone had been holding back and waiting to be “first” to rush into the “in box.” By 9:30 that morning there was a new stack! And I was scrambling once again!

I’m so glad that God doesn’t let His email “stack up” but responds faithfully, regularly and always on time.

Many of you remember the D.C. Snipers from not so long ago. You remember how they terrorized our nation’s capital and even our own state capital region.

God’s faithfulness toward our prayers reminds me of the story of Ron Lantz. During that traumatic period fifty Christian truckers got together to pray that somehow the sniper terrorizing the Washington, DC area would be caught. Ron Lantz was planning to retire as a driver in a few days and didn’t even live in the area, but he felt sure that God would answer their prayers.

A few days later he was listening to the radio as he was driving again through the region and felt compelled to pull off the highway to a rest stop. The rest stop just a couple of miles from where the drivers’ prayer meeting had taken place. As he pulled into the rest stop, he was shocked to see right before his eyes a car similar to what was being described on the radio.

Carefully trying to read the license plate, a chill went up his back as the numbers matched. He quickly called 911 and remained there for what seemed to him the longest 15 minutes of his life until the police arrived. He even pulled his truck across the exit; there would now be no escape for these elusive murderers. The rest is now history - the snipers were taken into custody without incident.

Ron’s testimony shows the power of prayer.

The snipers killed 10 and wounded 3 during the weeks of their rampage, leaving the entire region in a state of terror. Yet out of the great darkness came a great beam of light as the world was given a clear testimony of the power of prayer.

John 16:24 testifies that “…until now we have asked for nothing in His Name.” But we are invited to “ask, and we will receive that our joy may be abundant.”

My email may stack up, but not so our prayer’s to our Heavenly Father!

Joyously,

Mike
LET’S GO TO CAMP!

ATTN: Children’s Leaders in RBA Churches

RE: Summer Camp Scholarships to CrossRoads Camp & Conference Center and Camp Piankatank

Leaders, the children enrolled in your church’s mission groups in grades four through six are eligible to apply for scholarships to the summer camping programs at CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center in Lowesville, Virginia, and Camp Piankatank at Hartfield, Virginia. There are two scholarships available for a week of summer camp at either camp. The scholarships are given by the WMU of the Richmond Baptist Association and are offered to children in RBA affiliated churches. Any number of children from an RBA church can apply for the scholarships.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES
♦ Complete the application form. Application forms can be obtained from the RBA office by calling 329-1701 or by emailing amy.sowder@rbaonline.org.
♦ Applicant writes an essay to accompany the application form.
♦ Two recommendations from church leaders accompany the application form.
♦ Questions? Contact Wyatt Heisler at 741-9320 or Mary Palmer at 794-2620.
♦ DEADLINE: March 8, 2013.
♦ Mail completed application forms with essays and the church leader recommendations to:
  RBA Woman’s Missionary Union
  Attn: Amy Sowder
  3111 Moss Side Avenue
  Richmond, VA 23222

RBA Welcomes
Rev. Mandy England Cole
Pastor, Ginter Park

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Mandy England Cole has been called to be the new pastor of Ginter Park. Her first Sunday in the pulpit will be January 27.

Rev. England Cole comes to Ginter Park from Sardis Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC, where she was ordained and served as Associate pastor. This is a homecoming for Rev. England Cole as she was born and raised in Richmond and Mechanicsville. She received her MDiv degree from BTSR and interned at Grace with Dr. Betty Pugh Mills.

Mandy and her husband Mark have been married for twelve years and have three sons, Ethan (9), Turner (6), and Carter (3).

We join with the congregation of Ginter Park in welcoming Mandy and her family to the RBA family.

Please Note
The RBA Office will be CLOSED
Monday, February 18, 2013
For the President’s Day Holiday
Camp Alkulana is looking for dedicated Camp Counselors for our 2013 Summer Season

Why not spend your summer at Alkulana?
Camp Alkulana is a year-round ministry of the Richmond Baptist Association with a targeted summer ministry to inner-city children. We serve about 200 campers per summer in a rustic overnight camp setting.

The camp is located in Millboro Springs, Virginia, deep in the beautiful Alleghenies. Some of the activities offered during the summer are hiking, cave exploring, camping out, cooking out, rock climbing, rappelling, ropes course, swimming, crafts, Bible study and worship.

Camp counselors are 18 years or older, are on-call 24/7, and are committed to transforming the lives of Richmond's young people. Our counselors wear many hats, doing everything from teaching crafts and swimming lessons, to changing Band-Aids and plunging toilets. They facilitate an interactive Bible study, lead outdoor adventures, and share their living space with 9-14 year olds! They are a brave staff! They do God's work each summer, loving children who often feel lost and unaccepted.

Top 5 reasons to work at Alkulana
5 live, play, and work in the outdoors
4 go on active adventures
3 make life-long friendships
2 become a child’s hero
1 serve God by serving others

Join us this summer!
Fill out an application online (www.alkulana.org) today or contact Beth Wright at 804-329-1701 x206 or campalkulana@gmail.com for more information.

Camp Alkulana Memories
"Scary Things Make Memories"
by Jovannah Alston
October 26, 2012

(Jovannah is 14 years old. She's a student at Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School and has been a camper at Alkulana since 2010.)

The view of the river was amazing. I was on top of a rock ready to jump off. The air was nice; I wanted to stay there the rest of camp.

I went to one of the best camps ever, Camp Alkulana. It’s always an amazing experience every time I go. You always do new things and have the best time doing them. You can do a ton of things like hiking, repelling, rock-climbing, snorkeling, swimming, riding the rapids while snorkeling, caving, camping, cooking over fires, and much more.

I went snorkeling with one of the best counselors ever named Sean. He told me to try something new. He wanted me to jump off the rock into water. When he said that, I immediately said, "No!" I didn’t know if I could float or not, plus I didn’t want to die that day either because the rock was super high. So I just sat on the rock and watched everyone jump off it. Then, Destiny, a person who could barely swim wanted to try. She was really scared but she did it! After she did it, she told me it wasn’t scary at all. But I didn’t believe her because I like my life and I love being alive.

So I started to swim the rapids with Ellie and Pebbles, That’s when Sean said, "JoJo, scary things make memories." After that I was still scared, but I decided to try. I got on the rock and when I looked down, it looked sooo far down and I knew the water was deep. Then I heard Sean scream from the bottom. He said, "JoJo, Jump! I won’t let you drown! When you come down, remember I’m right here, and also remember, scary things make memories" So I jumped. I was scared to death while going down. But, I came right back up from the water.

After that I couldn’t stop jumping off the rock because it was soo much fun. It was true what Sean said. Now everything I was scared of, I tried because of Sean’s words. Plus, I was with him all the time at camp, even on our high adventure, adventure group, interest group, and at breakfast, lunch and dinner. We did a lot of crazy thing in those two weeks. This was one of the best summers I had ever just because of Sean.

Sean, my favorite counselor ever, made me do tons of scary and crazy things that I thought I would never do, with just a few words, "Scary Things Make Memories."
Virginia Baptist Mission Board
2013 TAX & COMPENSATION PLANNING SEMINARS

To help church staff and church lay leaders understand and comply with the tax laws a series of seminars sponsored by the Financial Support Planning Ministry of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board will be held across the state in February-March 2013. The seminar in Richmond will be held on February 12, 2013, at the Virginia Baptist Resource Center. The seminar will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon.

The seminars are designed for church staff and lay leaders who handle taxes and compensation at BGAV churches. Attendees will get help with financial support planning for church staff, including retirement and insurance, handling minister’s taxes and federal reporting requirements for churches.

The most important federal reporting obligation for most churches is withholding and reporting employee income taxes and Social Security (FICA) taxes. A number of unique rules apply to churches and “ministers for tax purposes.”

The seminars are provided free of charge by the generous Cooperative Missions gifts of Baptist churches affiliated with the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

For information on the date and location of other seminars, to register for the Richmond seminar or to secure a post-seminar appointment, please contact Angela House, GuideStone Administrative Assistant at 1-800-255-2428 X5293 or by email to angela.house@vbmb.org.

Virginia Baptist Mission Board
2013 SOJOURNERS SUMMER MISSIONARY PROGRAM

The Sojourners Summer Missionary Program of the Richmond Baptist Association places youth, ages 16 (must have completed the 11th grade) to 21, in our three Baptist Centers to experience missions first-hand.

The 2013 summer session is for up to ten weeks.

The work schedule is flexible. The Sojourner will average 20 hours of service per week with some weeks being more intense than others. Stipends for 2013 will be $750 per individual.

The Sojourner Program offers experiences in working with children, youth, and senior adults in an inner-city environment. Sojourner youth are exposed to a variety of social ministries at all three Baptist Centers. The program is often formative in a young person’s choice of career or life of service.

A copy of the 2013 Application can be downloaded from the RBA website, www.rbaonline.org.

For more information, contact Mike Robinson at 329-1701 ext. 202 or mike.robinson@rbaonline.org.

Virginia Baptist Ministers’ DISCUSSION GROUP

www.vabaptistdiscuss.org

“Setting Good Emotional, Physical, and Spiritual Boundaries in Ministry”

Facilitator: Rev. Bill Wilson, President Center For Congregational Health Winston-Salem, NC

Monday, February 25 and Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Recommended Reading
Safe Sanctuaries for Ministers: Reducing The Risk of Abuse in the Church

By: Joy Melton

ROSlyn retreat center
8727 River Road
Richmond, VA 23229

Reservations Due: January 28, 2013

For more details and to Register:
www.vabaptistdiscuss.org

2013
COMpassion revolution is sweeping Virginia in 2014 thru hands on mission projects to your community helping people who need help in hundreds of different ways.

It’s a movement

- From 1 church to more than 2,000 churches in 20 states
- 50% of a church’s average attendance gets involved
- Hundreds of thousands of volunteers have served millions!

Lives and churches have been changed, for now and forever, and more will be in 2014.

Anyone can be a part!
JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

CHURCH NEWS

BETHANY PLACE continues ministering to hungry children from a neighborhood school through their “Backpack Buddies”. CAMBRIDGE will have a Chili Dinner and Family Game Night on Friday, January 18. CARLISLE AVENUE declared January 2013 as “MISSING MEMBERS” month and asked each member to look around or check the Church Directory on each Sunday and contact 2 missing members by card or phone the following week and report to the church who they contacted. After doing this each Sunday in January, they will have High Attendance “SUPER SUNDAY” on February 3 (Super Bowl Sunday).

DERBYSHIRE will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on Sunday, February 10, during their 10:30 am Worship Service. FIRST’s Dr. Jim Somerville will begin a Lenten “Journey to the Cross” series on Ash Wednesday, February 13, with an explanation of the symbols and calendar of the season. The service takes place at 6:15 pm and will be geared to help children and their parents understand the meaning behind the Lenten Season. Lenten services continue each Wednesday evening through March 20. The public is invited. The church is collecting children’s books to be distributed throughout the city. The goal of this winter drive is to provide at least one book for each of the 550 children at Glen Lea Elementary School. The books can be new or gently used, and suitable for pre-k through 5th grade. GAYTON will participate in “Feed My Starving Children,” a non-profit organization committed to feeding God’s starving children hungry in body and spirit, by having children and adults hand-pack meals designed especially for starving children on Saturday & Sunday, February 2 & 3. The meals will be shipped to countries with starving children. The Youth will have their annual Chili Cook-Off/Mission Trip Fundraiser on Sunday, February 24. GRACE will begin their 180th Anniversary with a Kick-Off Brunch on Sunday, February 10. GROVE AVENUE will host Priscilla Shirer Live on April 27. This day of Bible teaching and worship will be simulcast across the US and worldwide. Tickets are available online at www.lifeway.com/priscillashirerlive. NORTHMINSTER is offering Dave Ramsey’s dynamic 9-week course, “Financial Peace University,” starting Sunday, January 13. OAKWOOD MEMORIAL will host the RBA North-East WMU meeting and dinner on Tuesday, February 22, at 6:15 pm. PATTERSON AVENUE will have WMU Day with Rev. Glinda Ford during worship on Sunday, January 27. RIVER ROAD will have an Organ Recital featuring William Wisnom, on Sunday, January 27, at 7:30 pm and a Harpsichord Recital featuring Jory Vinikour on Sunday, February 3, at 3:00 pm. The church will have a Lenten Lunch on Sunday, February 10, at 12:15 pm. Reservation deadline is February 4. The church will host 40 homeless women through CARITAS February 16-23. SANDSTON will host 40-50 homeless men through CARITAS January 26, through February 2. SECOND will have a Taize Service, a quiet service of prayer and meditation that incorporates music, on Sunday, February 10, at 6:30 pm. STAPLES MILL ROAD has a group that has started a kids running club on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm, weather permitting. Most run 4 laps (1 mile total) on an isolated street, and have a healthy snack afterwards. STOCKTON MEMORIAL will host its 2nd Annual “Rock for Hope” to benefit the new “Blessings Home” being built on the Hope Tree Campus in Salem, VA on February 23, at 9:00 am. They plan to have food, fun and fellowship while rocking the day away for this worthy cause! WESTOVER will host the RBA South-West WMU meeting and lunch on Tuesday, January 22, at 10:30 am. They will also host a Community Spaghetti Dinner on Wednesday, January 30, at 6:00 pm.

STAFF NEWS

FIRST’s Megan Lowe has served 5 years as Children’s Associate. GAYTON welcomes Patricia Hutcherson as the Pastor’s Administrative Assistant and David Giles as the new Middle School Interim. GINTER PARK called Rev. Mandy England Cole to be their pastor. WESTOVER’s Pastor Justin Joplin was recently profiled on “Hills and Heights,” one of Richmond’s most popular neighborhood blogs as part of “Ask a Hills and Heighter,” an ongoing series that profiles artists, craftspeople, musicians and local business owners. To read the entire interview, go online to hillsandheights.org/2012/12/21/ask-a-hills-and-heighter-7.

Executive Council Representatives Plan to Attend

The First
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
of 2013 on

February 21, 2013
12:00 noon

Location TBA

PUTTING HOPE BACK INTO YOUR BUDGET

Entrust Financial Credit Union strives to put hope back into your budget. With budget coaching, competitive rates on loans and dividends on deposits, we are enabling the Richmond Christian Community to be a better steward of their finances.

Learn more about the hope and encouragement that we provided to Meredith, member of Pine Street Baptist Church, at www.entrustfcu.org/higherpurpose. Tackling debt can be overwhelming, but we have solutions that may make it easier for you in 2013. Contact us today at 804-353-8012 or mbrresourcespecialist@entrustfcu.com.
Calling all former Camp Alkulana Campers and Counselors! Did you or someone you know attend Camp Alkulana as a camper or counselor in the past? We’re trying to create a contact list of camp alumni in our RBA churches as we prepare for the Camp’s 100th anniversary celebration in 2015. Please contact us and make sure you’re on our list. 804-329-1701 or campalkulana@gmail.com.

Friendship Memorial Baptist Church is seeking a 12 to 15 passenger van for church transportation. In good mechanical condition, no make or model preference. Contact: Deacon Willie Hamlett at 804-276-5348 or bham17@verizon.net.

GO AHEAD AND TALK – TEENS WANT TO KNOW ABOUT MONEY*

According to Capital One, 49% of teens are “eager” to learn more about money management. That’s right, eager. Still only 14% have taken a class on a financial literacy topic. Believe it or not, more than a third of teens want to learn money skills from their parents, according to Capital One. Here are a few tips for starting the conversation.

Go Shopping Together
Grocery shopping helps reinforce the idea of staying within a set budget. Let your teen know how much you have to spend and then, using a calculator, see how they do.

Let them Browse
Whether online, in a catalogue or even at the mall, browse with your teen. Check prices and take the opportunity to talk about “wants” versus “needs.”

Show Them How You Pay Bills
When you sit down to pay bills, invite your teen to the table. Show them where money goes and invite their questions about bills.

“A house is built by wisdom, and it is established by understanding; by knowledge the rooms are filled with every precious and beautiful treasure.” Proverbs 24:3-4

Randy Rowekamp, Area Manager, VA & WV 804-683-1595; RRowekamp@crown.org; www.rowekamp.crown.org

* Reprinted with permission from Do Well, a quarterly magazine from Crown Financial Ministries.

RBA on Facebook!
The Richmond Baptist Association invites you to check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RichmondBaptistAssociation. Our page is open to the public so anyone can view it; you don’t have to join Facebook to see it. Be sure to click on the “Like” button while you are there!
Annual Fix-up and Clean-up Days
At Camp Alkulana

May 18 and June 1, 2013

HELP US GET READY FOR THE SUMMER SEASON!
PLENTY TO DO:

• Yard Work
• Spring Cleaning
• Light Carpentry
• General Repair

GREAT BONDING OPPORTUNITY FOR CHURCH GROUPS*

Leave Richmond early, eat breakfast on the way. Arrive at camp by 10:00 and work until 4:00 with a lunch break. Stop in Staunton on the way home for dinner.

*Okay for youth to come with your adult group; however, youth should understand that “normal” camp activities will not be available, as the goal is to fix up camp.

For more information and to let us know that we can count on you, call or email Beth Wright, Camp Director: 329-1701, ext. 206 or campalkulana@gmail.com.

The Resource Center in partnership with Cokesbury will sponsor the:

2013 VBS CURRICULUM FAIR
February 5-7, 2013
1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday
1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday

VIRGINIA HALL (Turnbull Room)
on the campus of
Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond
Located on Brook Road between Westwood & Palmyra;
Enter from the Lamont Street parking lot

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HELP THE RBA SAVE RETURN POSTAGE COSTS
GIVE US YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS!
If you are on our newsletter mailing list and will be moving—please let Frances Jones know your Change of Address in advance! You will be helping us to direct $0.45 “postage due” to more important missions efforts. Thanks!!

MAKING A DELIVERY TO THE RBA OFFICE?
Please call before you plan to arrive to make sure someone will be at the office. There are times, during the day, when everyone may be away, so it will save time and gas if you call ahead. The RBA Office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday—Friday.

Transformed! is published monthly by the Richmond Baptist Association, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222, 804-329-1701.

Contact Frances Jones via email or snail mail at the addresses listed below:
• To submit an article—must be received by the 7th of each month.
• To be added or deleted from the mailing list.
• To submit a change of address in a timely manner so the RBA will not incur postage due costs for returned newsletters that cannot be forwarded.

Richmond Baptist Association
3111 Moss Side Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
Phone: 804-329-1701
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E-mail: office@rbaonline.org
Website: www.rbaonline.org

Return Service Requested