Rev. J. Michael “Mike” Robinson called to be the next Director of Missions of the RBA!

On Thursday evening, September 9, 2010, 130 messengers and others representing 32 RBA churches met to unanimously approve the nomination of Rev. J. Michael Robinson as the next Director of Missions of the RBA. Rev. Robinson will be in the RBA office on October 1, 2010, to begin his service to the RBA Churches. Mike’s phone number will be 804-329-1701 ext. 201 and email: mike.robinson@rbaonline.org. Please turn the page and read Mike’s first column as DOM on page two! The RBA rejoices that God has lead Mike Robinson to be our next Director!

RBA Churches Elect Messengers For the:

**RICHMOND BAPTIST ASSOCIATION’S 59TH ANNUAL FALL MEETING**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2010**

**WOODLAND HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH**

(CELEBRATING THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY!)

611 WEST 31ST STREET

**THEME:**

“OUR SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION PARTNERS COME TO US”

3:00 P.M.—MEETING SESSION FEATURING:

**INSTALLATION OF NEW RBA DOM MIKE ROBINSON**

**PANEL DISCUSSION WITH SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH PLANTERS**

PETER CHOMA ♦ JOSEPH MONAGENG

SHADRICK MONAGENG ♦ HANS ZINYOKA

**TESTIMONIES OF SOJOURNER SUMMER MISSIONARIES**

LAURA BRADSHAW ♦ WIL JOHNS

EMILY SATTERWHITE

**ADOPTION OF 2011 BUDGET**

**RECOGNITION OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA BAPTIST MINISTRIES STAFF**

Later Dinner Time

6:00 P.M.—DINNER BY RESERVATION ONLY COST: $8.00

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS CONTACT YOUR CHURCH OFFICE AND THEY WILL MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR ALL WHO WANT TO ATTEND. INDIVIDUAL RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE TAKEN. NOTE: RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR

ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT: FRANCES JONES AT 329-1701 OR FRANCES.JONES@RBAONLINE.ORG
Greetings All:

There are times in every person’s journey when life takes unexpected turns! We’ve all been there! Sometimes those changes in direction are warm and wonderful! At other times they are heart-wrenching and deeply traumatic! Naturally, we always hope to avoid the painful and traumatic.

Early this year when contacted to serve on the Director of Missions Search Committee, I was honored. I was particularly thrilled when I discovered the caliber of individuals serving: Mrs. Wyatt Heisler, Mrs. Ruth Guill, Dr. Bob Thompson, Dr. Bill Welstead, Rev. Norman Burnes, Rev. Billy Davis, and ex officio members, Mrs. Jeana Murray-Nieporte and Mr. Dick Bidwell – all individuals with a deep love for God, strong and consistent involvement in their churches, and unquestioned dedication to the health and well-being of our association.

I am deeply grateful to these colleagues who worked painstakingly through the process of creating a profile of qualities for the person being sought. We solicited resumes that came from as far away as Brazil. We interviewed candidates. Strengths and limitations were kindly and carefully evaluated. In all phases of the process each member took the task seriously, working with great thoroughness.

After having given the full process due diligence, I am equally grateful to them for challenging me to personally think in new categories when they asked that I prayerfully consider my availability for the position. Speak of unexpected turns!!

Family and trusted friends gave considerable encouragement to allow the process to unfold as God might allow. As the journey began to take shape on an associational level, my heart has been warmed by notes, cards, calls and emails. Importantly, God’s Spirit has given great peace!

To all in our association who by your attendance at the meetings at Northminster and Patterson Avenue Churches expressed your interest in the life and vitality of our association, I extend our association’s gratitude! It is your involvement and dedication that gives strength to all that we do together.

During the final months of this calendar year as we experience the Annual Fall Meeting on October 17, I look forward to engaging with you in listening! My door will be open and my heart tuned to hear your dreams, aspirations, fears, frustrations and apprehensions! I hope to hear from clergy, staff and laity alike! Each will be valued equally.

Early in 2011 I look forward to engaging with you in looking ahead at where we sense the footprint of God that we might join Him in all that He would have us be and do as an association. It will be my desire that our look forward will be broad-based, honoring the diversity that is so characteristic of the RBA.

Much gratitude to Pete du Plessis for having served our association so well! Pete has set a great example of leadership marked by transparency and integrity. He will be a “hard act to follow,” but with your prayers and involvement, we will move forward and honor Him appropriately!

Excitedly, Mike
**South African Church Planters To Visit Richmond**

#### October 14—November 1, 2010

**Open Invitation to a Welcome Reception for South African Church Planters**

**Friday, October 15, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at Second Baptist Church**

The RBA has been sponsoring four South African church planters in the Free State Baptist Association in the Baptist Union of South Africa for almost four years. Our South African partners will be arriving in Washington, D. C., on October 14. A “Welcome Reception” is planned for them on Friday, October 15, at Second Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. This will give you an opportunity to meet all four church planters and give them a personal welcome to Richmond. Plan to bring a large group from your church.

In addition, the Praise Team from our own African Christian Community Church will be providing special music for this time of getting acquainted with one another. **In order to help the folks at Second Baptist make adequate preparations, please contact Frances Jones (804-329-1701 or frances.jones@rbaonline.org) and let her know how many people from your church will be coming.** Thank you for your assistance in letting us know how many from your church will attend the reception.

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**Mark Your Calendars**

**RBA Executive Council Meeting**

Thursday, November 18, 2010
12:00 Noon
Mount Carmel Baptist Church
3200 East Broad Street
Camp Alkulana NEWS

INSPIRING SUMMER AT CAMP!

As our summer camp season drew to a close in August, we were again inspired by the good work God is doing through us as an RBA ministry to Richmond’s low income and at risk children and youth. We serve a total of 230 campers this summer, which is an increase of 33 children from last summer. We’re also continuing to increase the number of children that come to camp that truly need this opportunity because of reduced economic means. Last year we reported that 52% of our campers qualify for the federal free lunch program, based on family income. This year that percentage is up 8%-- which means over the last two years it has gone up 21%.

Thanks to your ongoing financial support, we’ve been able add a couple of exciting elements to our summer program in the last two years. We collected enough funds in our winter bike drive to purchase twenty new mountain bikes! Our campers were able to explore the area around camp and even take an overnight trip with extensive biking adventures. This was a fantastic addition to our adventure programming! The books that groups and individuals donated last year for our Alkulana library drive continue to be read all over camp during free time. It’s nice to see our campers get excited about reading! Additionally, a financial gift was made last year that allowed us to update our low-ropes course, assuring that campers are safe while practicing teamwork and build self-confidence.

In written evaluations, campers told us that their experiences at camp have been just as impacting as we hope. One of my favorite questions that we ask campers is if they feel differently about themselves at camp. As Baptists, we believe that we don’t enter into a time of worship together without experiencing transformation from meeting God together. We believe the same thing to be true about a child’s experience meeting God at Alkulana. Their responses underline that. Campers told us they feel more confident, more free, more kind, closer to God, a better person, more open and expressive, more energetic, more mature, more adventurous, and “like a new person.” Camp Alkulana-- your RBA ministry-- is changing lives!

My Summer Experience at the South Richmond Baptist Center and being a Summer Sojourner has been humbling and rewarding. I came in not really knowing what to expect or what to prepare for. My first day of working alone showed me just how much need there is in Richmond and that a big part of this summer would be me realizing how blessed I am and how I should be thanking God every single day. I’ve always known that I am blessed by God, not only because I have all of my basic needs being met, but also because of the family I was born into and the opportunities that I have received. I can’t count the number of times I have wished that I had more of something or the newest edition of something without realizing how little someone else has. I have donated to food pantries and Christmas stores before, but I have never seen their effect first hand. This job has enabled me to see how grateful people are for a simple bag of groceries, how excited people are for a chance to get some donated, but new to them clothes and how hard it is to make ends meet. This job has completely opened my eyes to a world that before I didn’t have to go in. It has given me a heart especially for children who have to grow up in a struggling environment. At the first food pantry that I helped with, one lady came up to the registration table to check in and I asked her how she was doing that day. She looked at me and with a bounce in her step said, “I am too blessed to be stressed.” I was blown away with her positive attitude in a situation that I would have a hard time swallowing. I hope that I have helped some people this summer, but overall I feel as though they have really helped me see how blessed and thankful to God I am. And whenever I feel like complaining or I wish that I had more of a materialistic item I will simply remember, “I am too blessed to be stressed!”

By Laura Bradshaw, Sojourner Missionary

RBA Administrative Council Meeting

Thursday, October 21, 2010
7:00 p.m.

RBA Office
3111 Moss Side Avenue
Hill Baptist Center
Richmond Baptist Center
stocked and ready. The Christmas Store at about Christmas! Before we know it the Richmond leaves turn, it's time once again to start thinking (Thursday and Friday) and the Store at birth to 12 years old. games, books, tricycles, bicycles (and helmets), sports equipment. jeans, tops, sweat-
ers, pajamas, coats, hats, gloves, socks, underwear - all kinds and sizes. Also, volunteers are needed to help with intake, set-up, and "minding the store."

More information to come next month.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
BAPTIST CENTER’S 2010 CHRISTMAS STORES
As temperatures finally begin to cool down and the leaves turn, it's time once again to start thinking about Christmas! Before we know it the Richmond Baptist Center’s Christmas Stores will need to be stocked and ready. The Christmas Store at South Richmond Baptist Center, which also serves Oregon Hill Baptist Center, will be held December 2 & 3 (Thursday and Friday) and the Store at Church Hill Center will be December 4 (Saturday).

Needed: NEW toys and clothes for children birth to 12 years old. games, books, tricycles, bicycles (and helmets), sports equipment. jeans, tops, sweat-
ers, pajamas, coats, hats, gloves, socks, underwear - all kinds and sizes. Also, volunteers are needed to help with intake, set-up, and "minding the store."

More information to come next month.

THANKSGIVING REQUEST
FROM OUR BAPTIST CENTERS

“The Well”
NEEDS GIFT CARDS, GIFT CARDS, GIFT CARDS

Glinda Ford, Church Hill Christian Wellness Center, says she plans to include grocery store gift cards with the regular food bags she will be distributing. She asks for donations of: 80 Martins or Walmart $10 Gift Cards to be delivered no later than Monday, November 15. She always appreciates food bag donations. If you have any questions, contact Glinda Ford at 780-0053.

OREGON HILL NEEDS
“THANKSGIVING LIKE” FOOD

Oregon Hill Baptist Center is in need of Thanksgiving "like" food to be given away on Monday, November 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Food should be delivered to the Center by Thursday, November 18 (please call ahead to set up delivery time). Call Jennifer Turner, Community Missionary for Oregon Hill at 648-1353 if interested in helping. Thanks in advance for your contributions — Jennifer

FOOD ITEMS REQUESTED ARE:
$10 Kroger or Martins gift cards (to be distributed 1 per family)
Canned Hams
Turkey or Brown Gravy
Boxes of Instant Stuffing or Potatoes or Rice
Flavored Rice (Rice a Roni, etc.)
Macaroni & Cheese (Family-size boxes)
Family sized cans Sweet Potatoes/Yams (No large #10 cans)
Family-sized cans Green Bean or Corn (No large #10 cans)
Cream of Mushroom or Chicken Soup
Cans of Fried Onions
Cranberry Sauce or Apple Sauce
Muffin Mix, Cornbread Mix, etc.
Graham Cracker pie shells in pan
Large boxes of Instant Pudding Mixes for pies
Apple Juice
Instant Coffee; Box of Tea Bags

SOUTH RICHMOND CENTER
THANKSGIVING DINNER AND FOOD BAGS

Margaret Allen reports that New Canaan Baptist Church is hosting the Thanksgiving Dinner at South Richmond Center on Thursday, November 18. Following the dinner she will distribute her Thanksgiving Food Bags. She is asking for donations of:

75 — $10 Food Lion Gift Cards
75 Regular Food bags with Thanksgiving items added

Please make your deliveries by Wednesday, November 17! Contact Margaret at 232-0174 with any questions or to schedule deliveries.
CHURCH NEWS

AFRICAN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY invites everyone to their 7th Anniversary Celebration on October 24 at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Hatcher Memorial. Dr. Bert Browning of Huguenot Road will be the keynote speaker for the short, colorful and inspiration service (1.5 hour service). Go to www.africanchristianchurch.org for more events during their anniversary week. BON AIR had a River Baptism on September 12 at Robious Landing. BRODUS MEMORIAL is making great progress in building their Community Building themselves by using rotating teams on “Community Building Work Days”. CAMBRIDGE will hold a Fall Bible Festival with a series of revival type services beginning on Wednesday, October 27 and continuing nightly through Sunday morning October 31. CARLISLE AVENUE contributed items to help Mechanicsville United Methodist Church host CARITAS. CHAMBERLAYNE is partnering with First Mennonite Church for a Neighborhood Mission Project to provide home repair services to families in need. DERBYSHIRE will host a concert by the 75-member “Gloria Deo!” Festival Chorus on Friday, October 1 at 7:00 pm featuring selected choral works and piano stylings by guest artists Joseph Martin, Heather Sorenson, Robert Sterling and David Swuebel. FAIRMOUNT MEMORIAL held a “Blessing of the Land” at the old West Nursery on route 360 to celebrate their new Hanover location in September and will host a Yard & Bake Sale!! on Saturday, October 2 from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm (Rain Date: October 16). FIRST has set up a coupon exchange station for members to bring in unused, unexpired coupons (grocery, restaurant, retail stores, etc.) to share with others who may be looking for them. GAYTON has a new, improved website, www.gaytonchurch.org, and has two Toolbox Projects planned for October: Repair and paint the exterior of a house owned by a woman struggling with MS and make many repairs on two Hope Tree Family Services houses. GINTER PARK prepared lunches to help Battery Park Christian Church host CARITAS. GRACE had a Family Camping Trip September 18-19 for a nature-filled weekend with fun fellowship, a campfire and yummy S’mores. HATCHER MEMORIAL participated in the 100th Anniversary of Joseph Bryan Park on Saturday, September 23 with spaces for “Who Are We?”, “Prayers and Memory”, “Food from Joe the Chef and Friends” and Hatcher sponsored “Children’s Activities Area” with crafts and games for children. HUGUENOT ROAD will send a Mission Team to Owsley County, Kentucky October 9-16 to do some home repair, community food and clothing distribution, and senior visitation. LAKESIDE will have “Music on the Lawn” featuring the Henrico Concert Band on October 10. LEIGH STREET is celebrating their Harvest Home on November 14. The theme this year is “Rejoice in Song.” Please call the church office at 648-0415 for lunch reservations. MONUMENT HEIGHTS had Rev. Minh Ha Nguyen, Leader of International Community Church, as guest speaker for their Alma Hunt Week of Prayer Missions Sunday Service. NEW COVENANT’s Crusaders for Christ Sunday School Class is collecting boxes of cereal for the Daily Planet for the month of October. NORTHMINSTER is partnering with Thrive!Moms, a social and life-help network for unmarried young mothers, teens thru 30s, and their children. OAK FOREST will have their Fall Brunswick Stew sale on October 9; will have Bill Lewis in concert Saturday, October 23 at 7:00 pm and will host the South/West WMU/RBA lunch meeting on October 26. PATTerson AVENUE graciously hosted the Special Called RBA meeting to vote for the new RBA Director of Missions. The Virginia Baptist Mission Board’s “Consider Your Call” is challenging people to consider how God might be calling them to serve the Kingdom through their local church and is sending out to their churches Sunday School Lessons, Worship Resources and Sample Sermons from Virginia Baptist Clergy. This year one of the two sample sermons was written by Patterson’s Pastor, Dr. Bill Nieporte. PINE STREET is beginning the journey of “Pursuing Missional Faithfulness” to prayerfully reflect on their identity and calling and to find out who they are and what God is calling them to be and do. Bill Moore, a congregational coach, will be working with them in this process. RIVER ROAD is collecting donated books for a Book Fair on October 9 to raise money for missions and will host CARITAS October 23-30. STOCKTON MEMORIAL will have South African Church Planter, Hans Zinyoka speak at a joint Sunday School assembly as well as give a 10 Minute “Mission Moment” during the 11:00 am service followed by a covered-dish dinner in his honor on Sunday, October 31. WESTOVER will host the RBA’s annual Senior Adult Luncheon on Friday, October 8 at 10:30 am.

STAFF NEWS

BON AIR has brought in Emily Riley as a Student Ministry Intern to work with Middle School students and families, planning discipleship and community building opportunities.

PRISON CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM
Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women

After a two year absence, hygiene items can once again be collected for FCCW. Please remember that NO deviations from the approved list can be accepted, and items should be secured in a clear plastic zip-lock bag.

HYGIENE ITEMS MINISTRY
• One individually wrapped toothbrush
• One 6-ounce tube of toothpaste
• One alcohol-free bottle of shampoo no larger than 15 fluid ounces
• One alcohol-free 2.4 ounce deodorant stick (spray is not permitted)
• One alcohol-free 15 ounce bottle of lotion

Postage stamps, stationery items, all occasion greeting cards, and wooden pencils can also be donated.

Deadline for delivery of the items to the RBA is November 16, 2010. Call Wyatt Heisler at 741-9320 for more information.

THE WELL NEEDS FOLDING CHAIRS
Glinda Ford, Community Missionary at the Church Hill Christian Wellness Center needs 50 FOLDING CHAIRS to use for the ministries at “The Well.” If any Church or individual has chairs they would like to donate, contact Glinda at glinda.ford@rbaonline.org or 804-780-0053.

**Help/Situations Wanted**

**Part-Time Contemporary Music Director:** Bon Air Baptist Church seeks an experienced worship leader for Sunday morning contemporary service at the Buford Road campus. See [www.bonairbaptist.org/worship&music](http://www.bonairbaptist.org/worship&music) for a full job description and application requirements.

**Minister of Children and Youth Discipleship:** Grace Baptist Church, Richmond, VA is seeking candidates for a 30 hour per week staff minister with specific skills in both Children’s and Youth spiritual formation. A seminary degree or some experience is preferred. Submit resumes to gbchurch@gbconline.org; Attention: Reverend Dr. Elizabeth P. Mills or mail to 4200 Dover Road, Richmond, VA 23221. A full job description is available at [www.gbconline.org](http://www.gbconline.org).

**Part-Time Organist or Pianist:** needed immediately by Oakwood Memorial Baptist Church, 3100 Gay Avenue, Richmond, VA 23231 (Eastern Henrico County, near Airport) to play for Sunday morning worship service and Thursday evening choir rehearsal. For more information contact Norma Carlton at 804-737-8870.

**Volunteers Needed** to participate in a doctoral dissertation project on silence and attentiveness. If anyone is interested, please contact Rev. Joy Heaton at Westhampton Baptist Church (804-282-4243). The time commitment will be very small, participants will need to give a little time in October, November or December.

**Organ to Give Away:** 2-manual, full pedal board organ. Approximately 30 years old in good working order. If interested, contact Huguenot Road Baptist Church at 804-272-2072.

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**Entrust Offers World Access**

Our members live all over the world. Entrust has set up an elaborate system for account access no matter where you are, from our suite of online products, such as Online Deposits, to our debit cards, which work in ways and in places that others won't, and two separate websites for our members in the U.S. and overseas. And even though there is only one "official" Entrust location, we are part of a network of more than 4,000 Credit Union Service Centers that act as branches of Entrust and over 50,000 surcharge-free ATMs worldwide. Check out our new “Locations” section on our website to find ways that you can have easy access to Entrust.

To more about our World Access campaign, contact Alison Fallecker at 200-5028 or afallecker@entrustfcu.com or go to our website, [www.efcu.coop](http://www.efcu.coop).

SAVE THE DATE: Entrust is sponsoring the 2ND ANNUAL 20Cents, Making sense of financial stewardship on Nov. 6 at Cool Spring Baptist Church! Join us for fun, food, fellowship and finances at this conference for 20-somethings, by 20-somethings, all about financial stewardship. Visit [www.make20cents.com](http://www.make20cents.com) to register today!

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**September Calendar**

**October 1 @ 12:00 noon**

6TH ANNUAL CAMP ALKULANA GOLF TOURNAMENT, SYCAMORE CREEK GOLF COURSE

[www.alkulana.org](http://www.alkulana.org)

**October 5 @ 9:00 a.m.**

Raceway Ministries Core Team, RBA

**September 5 @ 12:00 noon**

RBA Ministers’ Fellowship & Lunch, RBA Interfaith Dialogue: Can We Talk” RSVP to RBA by 9/30

**October 5 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Cast Meeting, RBA

**October 8 @ 10:30 a.m.**

Senior Adult Fall Luncheon, Westover Reservation Deadline: 10/1

**October 10**

World Hunger Sunday

**October 11**

Columbus Day—RBA Office Open

**October 16**

National Boss Day

**October 17 @ 3:00 p.m.**

RBA 59TH ANNUAL FALL MEETING, Woodland Heights Dinner @ 6:00 p.m. (Reservation Only)

**October 20 @ 12 noon**

Deadline for Transformed Material

**October 21 @ 7:00 p.m.**

RBA Administrative Council, RBA

“Women on Mission” Meetings 
10:30 a.m. (Lunch): South–West @ Oak Forest 6:15 p.m.: North–East @ New Bridge

**October 31**

“Consider Your Call” Sunday
The Resource Center
Virginia Hall on BTSR campus
1209 Palmyra Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227
804-358-8306 w Toll-free: 888-241-5132
resourcecenter@cavtel.net

Nominations are now being accepted for the 7th Annual Christian Educators Appreciation Banquet to be held at the Trinity Family Life Center (3601 Dill Road, Richmond) on Friday, November 12, 2010 at 6:30 pm. Congregations should nominate an individual who has contributed significantly to the ministry of their church by the September 24th deadline. Reservations for church members attending the banquet with their nominee are due by October 22nd. Rev. Dr. A. Lincoln James, Jr., Pastor at Trinity Baptist Church will be the speaker.

For more information and an application, see the website www.resourcingchurches.com, or call The Resource Center, for more information.

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 20th 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 newsletter that cannot be forwarded.

Help the RBA Save Money
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! The RBA has to pay $0.44 “postage due” for each returned newsletter because they are mailed bulk rate and the post office will not forward them to your new address! Postage due costs can add up if we have several newsletters returned each month! We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

Dated Material — Do not delay

Richmond Baptist Association
3111 Moss Side Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
Phone: 804-329-1701
Fax: 804-321-7121
E-mail: office@rbaonline.org
Website: www.rbaonline.org

return service requested