Report of the
The 2008 Christmas Stores at
the Three Richmond Baptist Centers

The RBA Baptist Center Community Missionaries, Margaret Allen, Jennifer Turner and Glinda Ford, express their very sincere appreciation to all the churches and individuals that participated in the Christmas Stores this year either by donating money or items or volunteering their time. The Stores blessed over 800 children and their families as the numbers show in the box below. “We could not have our Christmas Stores without the many hours of hard work volunteers put in to set up, help at sign-in and assist shoppers in selecting gifts. There are just too many volunteers to list, but we want each one to know that we are very grateful for all their help. They truly are a blessing to the Centers,” commented Margaret Allen on behalf of the three Community Missionaries.

The surrounding photos are great illustrations of the blessings experienced by the volunteers, shoppers, and children during this year’s Christmas Stores.

If your church was not involved this year, be on the look-out for details about the 2009 Christmas Stores beginning in September!

Those Blessed by This Year’s Christmas Stores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Hill</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon Hill</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Richmond</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Greetings,

Even in the midst of perilous times, the clock keeps ticking and the days on the calendar keep passing by. We now find ourselves facing another new year – 2009 – and we all wonder what is in store for us. The last months of 2008 found us hearing of an economic downturn, downsizing, foreclosures, bankruptcy, bailouts, billions/trillions of dollars, ripple affect, and much more. It almost seems as if we have developed a whole new vocabulary in order to be able to listen to the news broadcast.

But let me remind you that Christians find their joy not in their circumstances but in their Savior. Jesus is still on His throne seated at the right hand of God making intercession for us. If we are a child of God, His Holy Spirit is within us empowering us to serve Him. Christians should not give in to worry and fear. Fear is the leading emotion that keeps us from achieving our goals. When we act out of fear, we find ourselves in a state of paralysis. We are afraid of failure, we are afraid of change. And thus, we pull back and hesitate to do anything. We read in 2nd Timothy, verse 7, “God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” Sound mind has also been translated as “sound judgment” or “self-discipline.” So folks, let’s use what God has given us. God does and will take care of you.

The Richmond Baptist Association was blessed of the Lord in 2008. Yes, there were some difficult days and some hard times that we experienced, but the Spirit of God continues to move in our midst. There are so many wonderful things that happened in our churches this past year. We give God the glory for graciously pouring His mercy and grace upon us. Please let me thank you for your faithful support of the work of the RBA. Camp Alkulana and our three Baptist Centers were wondrously used of the Lord to minister of the people of Richmond. Thank you for your gracious spirit of volunteerism. It is a privilege to work with such beautiful people. And now we face the challenge of a new year with so many uncertainties. But we will prevail for God has not given us a spirit of fear. We will not be paralyzed by the work of Satan. We will overcome in the power of Christ Jesus!

One of the great challenges before us is the growing number of ethnic people groups in our community. The RBA must find ways to reach out and minister to these “strangers” in our land. Richmond is now an international city. Our churches must proactively find ways to touch these various language groups all around us. We have Korean, Chinese, African, Cambodian, Brazilian, and Hispanic ministries in our Association. These ministries must be strengthened and increased. There are large groups of Vietnamese, Indians, Somalis, Burmese (Myanmar), and multiple African peoples in our city. The churches of the RBA are on mission to reach every tribe and tongue now sitting on our doorstep.

Dover, Middle District and Richmond Associations have ceased the cooperative effort known as LAMP (Latin American Mission Project). Each Association is now to reach the Latino population in their respective areas. The RBA has three member churches developing Hispanic ministries within their church facilities. These Latino peoples come from many different countries. We simply cannot ignore their presence in our city. The people of the RBA must ask God for a passion and a vision to reach these lovely Latino people.

— Pete du Plessis, President, Richmond Baptist Association

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IRS Announces 2009 Mileage Rates

The Internal Revenue Service announced the 2009 rates on November 24, 2008:

Beginning on January 1, 2009, the standard mileage rate for the use of a car (also vans, pickups, or panel trucks) will be:

- **55 cents per mile** for business miles driven.
- **24 cents per mile** driven for medical or moving purposes.
- **14 cents per mile** driven in service of charitable organization.

The new rates are slightly lower than rates for the second half of 2008 which were raised by a special adjustment mid-year in response to a spike in gasoline prices.

For a copy of the full announcement go to: [http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=200505,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=200505,00.html)

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Northminster Baptist Church
3121 Moss Side Avenue

**Advance Announcement**
**MARK YOUR CALENDER**

The Camp Alkulana Support Team Cordially Invites You To an OPEN HOUSE RECEPTION For GRACE KIRKPATRICK Director, Camp Alkulana

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009**
3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Northminster Baptist Church
3121 Moss Side Avenue

RSVP by February 9 to: Frances Jones at 329-1701 ext 201 or Frances Jones at 329-1701 ext 201 or Frances.jones@rbaonline.org

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**RBA 2008 Financial Books Closing**

We will be closing the 2008 Financial Books on Friday, January 16, 2009. Any contributions that you desire to be included in 2008 need to be sent in and postmarked by December 31, 2008. Thanks

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**November 2008 Budget Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Receipts:</td>
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<td>Budget Expenses:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Expenses:</td>
<td>$609,109.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Mark Your Calendar**

**RBA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

*February 19, 2009  
12:00 Noon  
Location: To Be Announced*


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**RBA 2009 Resource Directory**

Plans are to publish the fully UPDATED 2009 edition of the RBA Resources Directory in early January 2009. The Directory contains contact information and staff listings for our churches as well as contact information for local, state and national Baptist organizations and community service organizations.

One primary source of updated information for our churches is the Annual Church Profile. But for those churches that choose not to complete and return their ACP, we don’t always have the most up-to-date information. To help us maintain the most accurate staff and contact information for each RBA church, we need to receive any and all updates to staff or contact information by December 31!

Send your updates to the attention of Frances Jones at frances.jones@rbaonline.org or call her at 329-1701 ext. 201.

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**Thanksgiving at Oregon Hill Baptist Center**

**Food Bag Distribution**

Jennifer Turner, Community Missionary for Oregon Hill Baptist Center, wants to express her sincere appreciation to all those from RBA Churches who donated generous amounts of “Thanksgiving-like food” and grocery store gift cards for OHBC Thanksgiving food distribution —52 households were assisted this Thanksgiving. She also would like to thank all the volunteers who helped pack and distribute the bags!

(Pictured are members of Senior Girl Scout Troop No. 21 which meets at Second Baptist Church who volunteered to pack the food bags with food items and gift cards donated by RBA churches.)

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**OHBC Thanksgiving Meal**

On November 24 at 12:00 noon members of Pine Street Baptist Church, several of whom live in the Oregon Hill neighborhood, prepared and served a meal for 13 guests at the Second Annual Oregon Hill Baptist Center Thanksgiving Meal, which doubled the number served last year. The meal served was for people without a home or who would have no other place to go for Thanksgiving. Jennifer reported that of the people served, all but two were homeless and all those present are people who participate in our food pantry ministry on a regular basis.

(Pictured, at right, are members of Pine Street who prepared and served the meal.)

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**Thanksgiving at Oregon Hill Baptist Center**

**Food Bag Distribution**

As of November 30, 2008

OFFERING GOAL: $95,000.00

YTD RECEIPTS: $119,950.21*

*Funds in excess of $95,000 will be placed in the Camp Emergency Reserve Fund.*

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Some of the guests enjoying a very generous Thanksgiving feast.
Words from Nita….  “Don’t Ask for Just a Few”

The wife of a seminary student came to her pastor to tell him of her husband's death. He was a man who loved God, she said. But he had owed some money when he died, and now the creditor was demanding it back. She had two boys that she was afraid were going to be taken from her. The first thing her “pastor” said to her was, “How can I help you?” Then he asked a question that we hear Jesus ask of his disciples, “What do you have?”

Our current economic crisis reminds me of this story from 2 Kings, chapter 4. The widow shares that she has nothing but a small jar of olive oil. Even back then oil was valuable - for cooking, for lamps and for fuel. Elisha encourages her to gather some empty jars: ‘Don’t ask for just a few.” The woman and her sons collect the jars from their neighbors and pour oil into them from their one jar. The oil stopped pouring only when they ran out of containers.

Many of you remember those lovely old blue-green canning jars that now reside mostly in antique stores. You may have gathered yours up and given them to a neighbor. The one sitting on my desk reminds me that God's provision is as large as our faith and obedience.

What will you ask God to do in your life as we begin this New Year? God's Word shows us that He can do so much more than we can ask or even imagine. Let's start “gathering jars.”

For information on CVBM’s beginning of the year projects, as well as upcoming mission and ministry opportunities, please contact the CVBM office at 804 598-6350 or go to the CVBM website: www.cvbm.org.

2009 CVBM EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

January 13: CVBM in partnership with BGAV will present a training conference on “Making Your Church Single Adult Friendly.” (See details below).

February 2: Ironbridge Baptist Church will host the CVBM Pastor/Deacon Conference. (See details below).

March: CVBM is sponsoring a mission project “To Share God’s Word.” We are collecting new and used Bibles for inmates in jails and prisons all across Virginia. Bibles can be dropped off at your Associational office.

April 21: CVBM Vacation Bible School Conference to be held at Winfree Memorial Baptist Church. Barna Research tells us that younger children are up to 800% more likely to receive Christ.

April 23: Once again, CVBM will be “on mission” supporting Habitat for Humanity projects in the Richmond area during Affordable Housing Awareness Week.

“Making Your Church Single Adult Friendly: How About Your Church?”

Parham Road Baptist Church
2101 N. Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23229
Church office: 270-3263

Tuesday, January 13, 2009
11:30 a.m.-12:15 Lunch ($6.00*)
12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Conference

Speaker: Morlee Maynard, LifeWay Ministry Specialist

This interactive workshop is designed to enable you to return to your church with a realistic strategy to ramp up your church's appeal to single adults. Parts of the strategy will surprise you. Recent research on young adults and Baby Boomers has made it clear--it's all about relationships--let's unpack that and figure out how that works with your church family.

Morlee Maynard is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MRE) and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (DEDMIN). She also serves adjunct with Midwestern Theological Seminary with Christian education students. Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, TN is Morlee’s launching pad for ministry where she serves as leader of the Adults in the Middle Team and the Mobilization Team as well as co-facilitator of an adult Sunday School class. She and her husband, Ken, are parents of a young single adult, Jonathan.

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Registration Deadline is January 6

To register for this event and to make lunch selections (see below), email Gayle Taylor at gayle.taylor@cvbm.org or call 598-6350.

Payment for lunch will be taken at the door. Lunch price: $6.00.

*Boxed Lunch Sandwich Selections:
(Lunches include a pickle, chips, cookie, and drink)
1) Chicken Salad,
2) Ham and Cheese or 3) Pimento Cheese

Questions? Contact Gayle Taylor, CVBM, gayle.taylor@cvbm.org or 804.598.6350.

Online Registration begins January 2, 2009 at the Central Virginia Baptist Ministries website: www.cvbm.org

2009 PASTOR-DEACON CONFERENCE

“I've Been Chosen to Lead” (John 15:16)

February 2, 2009

Ironbridge Baptist Church
10900 Ironbridge Road, Chesterfield
796-6868

Schedule:
6:30-6:45 p.m. Welcome and Music
6:50-7:50 p.m. Session I
8:00-9:00 p.m. Session II

Conference Choices:
♦ Certainty during Uncertain Times - Randy Rowekamp
♦ Transforming Your Deacon Body through Leadership - Tony Ramirez
♦ Equipping Church Members for Ministry - Sterling Severns
♦ Forgiving Difficult People - Everett Worthington
♦ Pastors and Deacons Caring for Each other - Herb Ponder
♦ Preparing Your Church for Emergency/Disaster in Your Community - Terry Raines
♦ The Rookie Deacon - Sam Grozdanov
♦ The Least of These - Gary Sims
♦ Understanding Your Church as a Family - Bob Dale
♦ What To Say When - Dan Bagby
♦ Women’s Ways of Leading and the Post-Modern Church: A Match Made in Heaven? - Tracy L. Hartman
♦ A Declining Church: What are Pastors and Deacons Supposed to Do? - Rick Hurst

Questions? Contact Gayle Taylor, CVBM, gayle.taylor@cvbm.org or 804.598.6350.
2009 VBS Curriculum Fair
January 27, 1 - 8 p.m.
January 28, 1 - 5 p.m.
January 29, 1 - 8 p.m.

INGLE HALL
on the campus of Union-PSCE & BTSR
3406 Brook Road

Come browse at your leisure - light refreshments -
consultants onsite
Sample Kits from All Major Publishers
(Denominational, Cooperative & Independent)
10% discount if ordered from Cokesbury during this event
Sponsored by THE RESOURCE CENTER
in partnership with COKESBURY BOOKSTORE

Make it a new year’s resolution to visit and use:
The Resource Center
Lingle Hall on the campus of BTSR

For information,
call 804-358-8306 or toll-free: 888-241-5132
resourcecenter@cavtel.net
www.resourcingchurches.com

It's Time to It's Time to It's Time to It's Time to
Make your Reservations Make your Reservations Make your Reservations Make your Reservations
For the For the For the For the
2009 SPECIAL EDUCATION
VALENTINE SOCIAL

February 13, 2009 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Monument Heights Baptist Church 5716 Monument Avenue, Richmond

Featuring Puppets, Clowns, Singing and Square Dancing!

Once again there is no charge to attend!

RSVP by February 6
To Amy Sowder, RBA
329-1701 ext. 208; amy.sowder@rbaonline.org

2009 CHURCH TAX AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT PLANNING SEMINARS

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.” Yet many churches do not comply with them because they do not understand them. This misunderstanding can lead to substantial penalties.

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 January-February 2009. The seminar in Richmond will be held on February 10, 2009, at the Virginia Baptist Resource Center. The seminar will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided.

The seminars are designed for church staff and lay leaders who handle taxes and compensation. 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. Jeff Cranford, Financial Support Planning Specialist, Empowering Leaders Team, VBMB will lead the seminars.

For information on the date and location of other seminars or to register for the Richmond seminar, please contact Melody Fowler, GuideStone Administrative Assistant at 1-800-255-2428 X5293 or by email to melody.fowler@vmb.org. The seminars are provided without charge through the Cooperative Mission Budget gifts of Baptist General Association of Virginia churches.
CHURCH NEWS

BETHANY PLACE started Beth Moore’s newest study, Esther: It’s Tough Being a Woman, on Wednesday nights in December. BROADUS MEMORIAL will begin the discipleship study, Experiencing God, beginning in January. GAYTON is hosting a complimentary workshop “Navigating Your Career Transition” on Saturday, January 24 at 6:30 pm until 12:30 p.m. for all job seekers. Those interested in attending can register at www.gaytonbaptist.org.

CAMBRIDGE’s high school seniors and juniors are planning a Mission Trip to Peru next June 18-28, 2009. FIRST will offer Indoor Soccer for children, ages 4 through 3rd grade, beginning in January. GINTER PARK’s Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a Chili Cook Off on Friday, January 23 at 6:30 pm. PATTERNSON AVENUE is encouraging members to “Read the Bible in a Year” by providing a list of Bible readings for each day of the year in their church newsletter “The Connection.” SANDSTON is inviting their members to “Read-The Entire-Bible-In A Year” by suggesting several different options to help achieve this goal. The church will host CARITAS in January.

STAFF NEWS

BROADUS MEMORIAL announces Rev. Garry Bone has accepted the call to become their new Minister of Education and Senior Adults. CHAMBERLAYNE welcomes Glen McCune as their new Minister of Music and Chris Gourley as their new Minister of Youth. HATCHER MEMORIAL’s youth minister, Joe Kendrick, volunteered to serve as their Interim Coordinator for their Live Out Loud Service. WESTOVER congratulates Rev. Justin Joplin and his wife, Kristy, on the birth of their son, Justin Ray Joplin, Jr., born Friday, November 21.

RBA Senior Adult Ministry invites you to:
Join Other RBA Senior Adults for
“Nunsense II”
Wednesday, March 18, 2009
Riversides Dinner Theater
Fredericksburg, VA

The bus will depart the Robinson Street Parking Lot, First Baptist at 9:30 a.m. and stop by the Russell Stover Candies Store enroute to Fredericksburg. After satisfying our “sweet tooth” or buying chocolates for a friend, we will continue to the Riverside Dinner Theater for a delicious lunch and the production of “Nunsense II”. After the show we return to Richmond and arrive at the Robinson Street Parking Lot between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. Trip includes: Roundtrip deluxe motor coach transportation, lunch, performance, all gratuities for meal and driver.

We need 35 people to be able to make the trip. Sign up now if you are interested. Much interest has been expressed, so if interested, a check will reserve your seat.

- Contact: June Burton for reservations @ 730-1224
- Reservation deadline: February 19, 2009
- Make check payable to: June Burton, FBC
- Complete cost per person: $72.00
- Send Check to: June Burton, 6454 Thrush Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

LETS GO TO CAMP!

ATTN: Children’s Leaders in RBA Churches
RE: Summer Camp Scholarships to CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center

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 program at Cross-Roads Camp and Conference Center in Lowesville, Virginia. There are two scholarships available for a week of camp. The first is given by Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia and is offered state-wide to children in BGAV affiliated churches. The second is given by the WMU of the Richmond Baptist Association and is offered to children in RBA affiliated churches. Children in RBA affiliated churches can apply for BOTH scholarships. Any number of children from a RBA church can apply for the scholarships.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

For the WMUV Lisk Scholarship:
- Complete the application form that can be downloaded from the WMUV website: www.wmu-va.org.
- Applicant writes an essay to accompany the application form.
- Two recommendations from church leaders are written to accompany the application form.
- Questions? Contact WMUV at 804-915-5000.

For the RBA WMU Scholarship:
(Use the Lisk Scholarship form)
- Send a copy of the applicant’s application form and essay (without church leaders’ recommendations) to the RBA WMU GA Consultant:
  Lynette Loftus
  11813 Boyd Road
  Chester, VA 23831
- Questions? Contact Lynette at 804-796-6552.

HOST CHURCHES STILL NEEDED FOR 2009 RBA MEETINGS:

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS
(includes quickly served lunch & Thursday meeting
12:00 noon—1:30 p.m.)
**FEBRUARY 19**
AUGUST 20
NOVEMBER 19

58TH ANNUAL FALL MEETING
Sunday, October 18
3:00 p.m. Meeting & 5:30 p.m. Dinner

If your church is interested in hosting one of these meetings or if you have questions, contact Frances Jones or Pete du Plessis at the RBA at 804-329-1701 as soon as possible.
FREE UPRIGHT PIANOS

Fairmount Memorial Baptist Church has three old upright pianos in good condition. They have been tuned within the last two years. We will donate to anyone in need of one. If you or someone you know may be interested, please call the Church Office at (804)-329-5420.

The Richmond Area Diploma Course Offerings

JOHN LELAND CENTER FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

2009 Spring Semester

MONDAY (6:30 p.m.): Introduction to the New Testament
TUESDAY (9:30 a.m.): Church History
TUESDAY (6:30 p.m.): Life and Letters of Paul
THURSDAY (6:30 p.m.): Preaching and Communication

Classes begin on January 26, 2009

All classes held at Derbyshire Baptist Church,
8800 Derbyshire Road, Richmond, VA 23229

QUESTIONS & REGISTRATION INFORMATION:
Contact: Dr. Keith Smith @ Derbyshire
nksmith@derbyshirebaptist.org or 804-740-7238 x22

MINISTER OF YOUTH AND MISSIONS: Leigh Street Baptist Church, organized in 1854 and part of the National Register of Historic places, is seeking a part-time Minister of Youth and Missions. Ideal candidate must have seminary or church leadership experience. Must also be an energetic and creative individual who can develop community outreach programs designed to attract members of a revitalized community. Youth programs should focus on development in all facets of Christian life including spiritual, service, and social functions. If you can help grow our declining membership through innovative outreach activities and contemporary young adult services, please mail your cover letter and resume to Leigh Street Baptist Church, attention: Jane Long, 517 N. 25th Street, Richmond, VA 23223 or e-mail to Jane.long2005@comcast.net

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ORGANIST/PIANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR needed immediately by Oakwood Memorial Baptist Church to lead the choir and accompany on organ for choir practice on Thursday evenings and during Sunday morning worship service. Salary negotiable. Oakwood Memorial is located in East Henrico County near Airport. For more information contact Norma Carlton 804-301-4509.

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New Covenant Baptist Church is seeking a QUARTER-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR. The candidate will direct an adult choir and lead in music worship. Applicants should be proficient in piano and/or organ, and music direction. For consideration please call the church for more info at 804-282-9308, fax resume to 804-282-9356 or email NewCovenaBC@aol.com or you can mail a resume to: New Covenant Baptist Church, Attn: Personnel Committee, 7250 Patterson Ave, Richmond VA 23229

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January Calendar

DECEMBER 24 — JANUARY 1, 2009
RBA OFFICE CLOSED
FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
AND NEW YEAR'S

January 4
COLLEGIATE MINISTRIES EMPHASIS SUNDAY

January 6 @ 9:00 a.m.
CVRM CORE TEAM, RBA

January 7 @ 12:00 noon
MINISTERS' LUNCH, PICCADILLY ON BROAD

January 12 @ 7:00 p.m.
CAMP ALKULANA CAST, RBA

January 13 @ 12:10 p.m.
CVBM SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY CONFERENCE
PARHAM ROAD (LUNCH AT 11:30 a.m. FOR $6/PERSON)

January 15 @ 7:00 p.m.
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, RBA

January 16
RBA FINANCIAL BOOKS CLOSE FOR 2008

January 18
SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

January 19
RBA OFFICE CLOSED
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

January 20
DEADLINE FOR TRANSFORMED MATERIAL

January 22 @ 10:30 a.m.
RBA WMU WINTER CELEBRATION & LUNCH,
DERBYSHIRE

January 26 @ 12 Noon
CENTERS SUPPORT GROUP, RBA

January 27
6:15 P.M.: WOM, NE, STAPLES MILL ROAD
6:30 P.M.: WOM, SW, PATTERTON AVENUE

January 30-31
21-C CONFERENCE, FIRST BAPTIST WOODBRIDGE
NEEDED: SLEEPING BAGS & BLANKETS
With the coming of cooler weather, Grace Fellowship has experienced an increase in requests for sleeping bags and blankets. The men and women who live "on the streets" depend on these contributions to get through the winter months. The "life span" of a bag/blanket on the street is usually three months. They get worn out, they get wet and rot, they get stolen, or any combination of these. Grace Fellowship, the worship ministry of homeless and group home adults, operating with the First Baptist Church of Richmond, relies on the contributions of area churches and organizations to provide back packs, blankets and sleeping bags and work-clothes. They meet each Thursday at 6:30 for worship and dinner. It is truly, their church. If your congregation or organization can provide a sleeping bag or blanket, or would like to consider hosting a meal, please contact Mark Holland at mark4uth@comcast.net or marktholland@gmail.com. His church phone is 687-1166. We need blankets and sleeping bags NOW!

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.

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

DATED MATERIAL — DO NOT DELAY

Want to do Something BIG?
Annual Fix-up and Clean-up Days at Camp Alkulana
May 16 and May 30, 2009

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*
Leaves 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 your church, call or email Gracie Kirkpatrick, Camp Director: 329-1701, ext. 206 or alkulana@juno.com. Note: After March 1, contact Beth Wright, new Camp Director: 329-1701 ext. 206.

MAKING A DELIVERY TO THE RBA OFFICE?
Please call before you plan to arrive to make sure someone will be at the office. During the holiday season 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.

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 $0.42 "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.