Pastor-Deacon Conference
Monday, April 13
Second Baptist Church
9614 River Rd, Henrico 23229

Theme – “Chosen for Service”
Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them. (Acts 6:3)

5:45 P.M. Registration and snacks
6:30 P.M. Welcome and Opening Remarks
6:45 P.M. Session I
7:45 P.M. Refreshment Break
8:00 P.M. Session II

CONFERENCE CHOICES
“What to Do When You Can’t Do It All: Leaders as Strategists” ....................... Dr. Bob Dale
“Leading in the Midst of Change” ............................................................................. Dr. Jerome Lee
“What’s a ‘Field of Dreams’ Church to Do in a Plowed Field World?” .................. Dr. Phyllis RP Tessieri
“Ministering to Returning Soldiers and Dealing with PTSD” .............................. Ken Roppas
“Virginia Baptist Foundation: Endowments and More” ................................. Cindy Elmore and Ron Hall
“Congregational Care Visitation” ............................................................................ William Eric Jackson
“BGAV Treasurer: Missions and Ministry” ............................................................. David Washburn
“Church Marketing and Branding” .......................................................... Carolyn Robinson

Conference Fee $10.00–Pay at the Door

For details, contact:
Dover Baptist Association, 804-550-1980
River City Faith Network of the Richmond Baptist Association, 804-329-1701
Middle District Baptist Association, 804-276-8481
or visit www.cvbm.org for more information
SUPPORT TEAMS BEGIN THEIR WORK

“Long over due!”

These are words that accurately describe the recent initiation of Support Teams for our three River City Faith Network Baptist Centers. While Camp Alkulana has had a Support Team, C.A.S.T., for many years, the advent of the three Support Teams, one for each center, comes as a result of the good work of the Constitution and By-laws Committee and the Writing Team put into place to re-organize and strengthen our work of ministering to the under-resourced and to streamline our governance.

The three Support Teams for our centers met for the first time on Monday evening, February 23rd at 7:00 PM. I opened the meeting with a brief word of welcome, appreciation and orientation followed by the testimony of our Camp Director, Beth Wright, sharing how C.A.S.T. operates and how she as Camp Director and the ministry of Camp Alkulana have benefitted by a Support Team approach.

After the brief plenary session, each individual Support Team had its own breakout session with our three Community Missionaries, Glinda Ford, Wesley Garrett and Jennifer Turner.

Conversation within each team was lively and animated. A number of good ideas were generated and the teams seemed to take ownership of their role with considerable readiness!

I am very pleased with the initial meeting and invite you to pray for the Support Teams and our Community Missionaries as they move forward. We can anticipate good outcomes from the prayers, counsel and activities of these new “long overdue” additions to our ministry structure. To all who voted for the new Support Team structure in our re-organizational meetings, thank you very much for your trust and forward thinking. I strongly believe that both will be strongly rewarded!

CAMP ALKULANA IN WINTERTIME

On Sunday afternoon, January 22nd, I went to Camp Alkulana as I do usually once or twice during the off season. When I go I walk the property, pray for our ministries and look carefully for any unusual changes or conditions to our buildings and facilities. Our Site Director, Jimmy Landrum, does an excellent job, but a second pair of eyes can be useful and I take that responsibility seriously!

On the 22nd the snow was more than knee deep! The beauty of the landscape was breathtaking! I had the blessing of seeing what few of you ever get to see - Camp Alkulana as a Winter Wonderland! Below are a few pictures of what I saw!

Above are several of the snow laden lodges. Wouldn’t it be COLD sleeping there now!! Wow!

To the left are the steps leading onto the “new” bridge across the creek.

In the next column you will see the creek, usually flowing along quite rapidly; now only a sliver is barely visible through the snow!
Above: Creek bed obscured by snow at the walking dam.
To the right is the dinner bell at the upper entrance to the dining hall located at the top of the stairs that go down to the kitchen and the “new” bridge.
Below is a view of the swim hole where many Camp Alkulana campers and counselors have enjoyed a cool swim on a hot July or August afternoon. No swimmer here now, the swim hole is covered by ice and snow. “Cool” would barely be the right word!

The craft shed covered by snow in January, 2015!

Small Increase Could Make Huge Difference!
Mr. Richard L. Martin, Jr., member of Huguenot Road Baptist Church, is our River City Faith Network Treasurer and the chair of our Stewardship Committee, one of our six Standing Committees. At the first Board of Directors Meeting in January, Richard, during his stewardship report, informed Board members that a relatively small increase in giving to the RCFN by churches already faithfully contributing would bring us into a financially positive situation! If each church only increased by 4.5% their current giving for 2014, the 2015 year would be a “break even year” or better! That is exciting news and a worthy challenge.

I have noted, as well, that if 20 of our churches just gave SOMETHING they would immediately move from the COMMUNITY Level of Affiliation to the CONNECTOR Level entitling them to Messenger status instead of a Guest role at our Annual Meeting. They would immediately have access to governance within the Network and would achieve the ability to supply members to our Support Teams.

There are also several churches that can easily move from the CONNECTOR to CHALLENGER Level by contributing an average of only $25 more per week to the Network. Their contribution can be to centers, camp and / or to the General Program Fund to qualify.

At whichever Level of Affiliation your church finds itself, I hope you will aspire to move to a more advanced level so that your capacity to participate in service and key decision making will be enhanced, thus, raising the quality of the work that we do together. Colossians 3:23-24 reminds us, “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.”

Invite Your Friends and Neighbors!
During the Easter season is an excellent time to invite friends and neighbors to join you for one or more of the Easter observances at your church! If they are not familiar with the traditions of your church, it will give you the opportunity to answer questions and offer explanations.

For many, the only reason they do NOT attend your church or any church is because no one has asked them! Will they miss heaven because NO ONE ASKED?
Pray for C.A.P.S.

Beth Wright, our Camp Alkulana Director, and Anna Tuckwiller, our Camp Registrar, have done excellent work in preparation for the Camp Alkulana 100th Anniversary Celebration! In that good work of preparation they have engaged in discovering, interviewing and re-establishing relationships with a number of the alumni of our camp.

It would be tragic to lose the impact of those efforts once the time of celebrating is over. So a group of camp alums, entirely independently of the River City Faith Network, have formed a group that they are calling C.A.P.S., the Camp Alkulana Preservation Society, to help to maintain contact with and harness the energies of former campers and counselors who, in most cases, have little or no ongoing connection with RCFN churches and organizations. Join our RCFN Officers in praying for this group that has a real heart for our camp that they may be very successful in ministering to and offering a means of ministry to Camp Alkulana alumni throughout the years ahead!

The idea for the film SHOOTING THE PRODIGAL began during a season of prayer, and the prayers continue as the project progresses from script to film. Your prayers will be a significant part of the project.

Prayer Gathering: Please join us for a prayer and information gathering Tuesday, March 31, at 7:00 pm in the chapel of Richmond’s First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave., 23220. Enter the chapel through the Mulberry St. parking lot.

USED STEEPLE AVAILABLE!

Mechanicsville Baptist Church (in the Goshen Association) has replaced their old steeple with a new one. They are selling their old, fiberglass steeple for $1500. It is intact, with no structural issues. It can be seen on the Charlottesville Craiglist site or at the church itself. If you know of a church that is looking for a steeple it would be worth their effort to look into this one. For more information please contact Dr. Ted Williams at 540-832-3269 or Elmer Guinn at 540-967-4863. Price is negotiable!

You can make a big difference!

Planning is already under way for the ACCC (African Christian Community Church) to hold a Summer Program for Liberian and other African American children and youth during the summer of 2015. ACCC cannot provide this programming alone; your help is needed! You and your church can help in several significant ways by:

- providing a meeting place with 2 to 3 rooms so that age group needs can be adequately served
- providing programming such as BookNet, Vacation Bible School, music, Bible study or drills, recreation, etc.
- providing lunches for between 25 and 30 youngsters daily

The ACCC Summer Program will begin on Monday, June 22nd, and conclude on Friday August 7th. The program will meet daily from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.

If you are willing to help, please contact Ruth Guill at 745-1655 or email her at mrguill@verizon.net.

February 2015 RCFN Budget Report

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</tbody>
</table>

2015 Camp Alkulana
As of 2/28/2015

Offering Goal: $148,335
YTD Receipts: $5,067

WILKESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH
SEEKING SENIOR PASTOR
Wilkesboro, NC

Missions-minded church supporting the Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptist State Convention of NC and the NC Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, WBC is a 733 resident-member congregation offering a contemporary and a traditional worship service each Sunday, with a full-time staff of 6 and a part-time staff of 17 including a vibrant preschool. Send cover letter and resume by March 31, 2015 to Pastor Search Committee, Wilkesboro Baptist Church, P O Box 294, Wilkesboro, NC 28697 or email pastorsearchcommittee@wilkesborobaptist.org. For more information, visit www.richmondbaptist.org or www.wilkesborobaptist.org.
Central Virginia Raceway Ministries

(CVRM) Sponsored by Dover and Middle District Assocs., and The River City Faith Network

Ministry Service Opportunities
During NASCAR Race Weekend
April 22-25, 2015

Volunteers are needed to minister beside RIR Guest Services by providing raceway fans an opportunity to worship, enjoy Christian music and arts, discover the message of Christ through media and know His transforming presence.

Volunteers work a 4 or 6 hour shift as they serve in a variety of ways in our Hospitality Ministry Tents at the Richmond International Raceway (RIR) Complex. As ambassadors of goodwill, opportunities for service include:

Distributing:
- "cups of cold water"
- cookies
- Christian driver cards

Performing as:
- singers
- musical groups
- clowns, magicians, mimes
- jugglers
- balloon artists, etc.

Serving as:
- chaplains
- crisis counselors
- logistics & support persons

Volunteers are also needed to become residents or minister at a CVRM provided camper/motorhome parked at one of the three RV lots with camping race fans during the race weekend. RIR track management believes that having CVRM representatives living and ministering at these sites among camping race fans will strengthen the Christian influence throughout the raceway complex. CVRM is seeking RVs: If you have a camper or motorhome you would like to park at RIR for the race weekend either for your own occupancy or for someone else from CVRM to occupy, please contact Billy Davis (billy.davis1@verizon.net) or Todd Combee (toddcombe@verizon.net).

Volunteer Orientation

All volunteers are REQUIRED to attend the Training Session Tuesday, April 21, at 7:00 p.m., at the Richmond Baptist Building, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, Richmond, VA. At this session volunteers can sign up for a shift time. Shift times are:

April 21 - Tuesday: Set-up of Main Tent on the Main Ministry Site
April 22 - Wednesday: Set-up Disaster Relief Trailer
April 23 - Thursday: Set-up R.V's
April 24 - Friday: Hospitality Ministry for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Race:
  Shifts: 8:30 am-12:30 pm; 12:00 -4:00 pm; 3:30-7:30 pm; or 7-10 pm
April 25 - Saturday: Family Fun Carnival and Hospitality Ministry for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Race
  Shifts: 8:30 am-12:30 pm; 12:00 -4:00 pm; 3:30-7:30 pm; or 7-10 pm
April 25—Saturday: Take-down Main Ministry Site
  8 pm until done

Wanted! Thousands of Cookies!!!

We are asking that church mission groups, Sunday School classes, youth groups, etc. volunteer to make "homemade" cookies and bag these in small clear zip lock plastic bags with 2-3 medium sized cookies each. A label saying compliments of ______ Baptist Church may be put on the outside of the bag. No tracts please! These will be available from Motor Racing Outreach and the Central Virginia Fellowship of Raceway Ministries. Cookies may be brought to the RCFN/RBA Office, 3111 Moss Side Ave, April 20-24, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (329-1701).

For more information or to volunteer contact:

Charles Ward, Volunteer Coordinator
(H) 804-262-3612; Email: abcdward@juno.com

Debbie Carter, Chaplain Coordinator
(H) 804-377-9914; Email: DebbieCarter88@aol.com

Helen Carter, Children's Ministry Coordinator
(H) 804-526-0250; Email: HelenCarter153@gmail.com

Sam Duenckel, Golf Cart Coordinator
(H) 804-314-0294, (C)804-929-2633; Email: sam.duenckel@doverbaptist.org
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015 TEACHER/LEADER CONFERENCE**

SATURDAY - March 28th 9AM – NOON – Huguenot Road Baptist Church
10525 W. Huguenot Road, Richmond, 23235

**Time** | **Conference**
--- | ---
8:30 - 9:00 | Continental Breakfast and VBS “Snacks on a Shoe String”
| *Helping you stay within your VBS Budget*

9:00 - 9:30 | Worship – featuring the Lifeway VBS Music

9:40 – 11:45 | Director’s Conference (NOTE THIS IS A 2 HOUR CONFERENCE)
This conference includes recruitment, security, scheduling, follow-up, scheduling, teacher appreciation and much more:

9:40 - 10:40 | Bible Study for Children using the Lifeway VBS Bible Stories

9:40 - 10:40 | Bible Study for Preschoolers using the Lifeway VBS Bible Stories

9:40 - 10:40 | Theme Decorating and Bible Story Art Activities for Children
* (featuring Lifeway VBS crafts and many other ideas)

10:45 - 11:45 | Understanding the Children We Teach

10:45 - 11:45 | Bible Skills for Children at different learning levels
* (newies, middlers and oldies)

10:45 - 11:45 | Children on Mission at VBS
* (Ideas for involving children in hands-on missions)

Contact Gayle Bradley if you have any questions at: gaylebradley1@comcast.net.

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**April 26, 2015  4:00 PM**

**INCLUSION CONCERT**

Benefitting The Resource Center Inc.
The Inclusion Concert is a celebration of unity in diversity, a core value of The Resource Center. Come join us for this fabulous afternoon of music and other arts supporting the mission of The Resource Center to provide resources and consultation to congregations to increase their health and vitality.

**CARLISLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**
2010 Carlisle Avenue, Richmond, VA 23231
**Free Will Offering Will be Collected**

**Questions?** [www.resourcingchurches.com](http://www.resourcingchurches.com) or call Dr. Denise Janssen, Executive Director at 804.464.8913.

**Singers are needed and welcome!** Rehearsals will be (pick two):
**Saturday, April 18,** 1:00 p.m. Laurel Park United Methodist Church (2700 Hungary Rd, Henrico), and **Tuesday, April 21,** 6:30 p.m. Pleasant Grove Baptist Church (8175 Pleasant Grove Rd, Mechanicsville), **Saturday, April 25,** 9 a.m. Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church.

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**VA Church Library Association 2015 Spring Conference**

"Hand in Hand—Libraries Without Borders”

**April 17—19, 2015**

Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center
Lynchburg, VA

**Featuring...**

**Hope Ferguson & Bev League,** Lifeway Conference Leaders and Church Library experts.

**Robert Whitlow,** best-selling author of legal novels in the South and winner of the prestigious Christy Award for Contemporary Fiction. A practicing attorney, Whitlow and his wife, Kathy, have four children. They make their home in North Carolina.

**Glenn & Anne McEowen** who started the Library Concepts—PC Card Catalog. They will be leading various classes on technology like the pc card catalog, e-books and e-readers, and promoting using technology.

Additional information can be found at [www.vbla.wordpress.com](http://www.vbla.wordpress.com).
To register contact [www.eagleeyrie.org](http://www.eagleeyrie.org).
CHURCH NEWS

CARLISLE AVENUE will have a Maundy Thursday Service on April 2 at 7:00 pm and 2 Good Friday Services on April 3, 11:45 am and again at 7:00 pm. FIRST UNION will present The Resurrection Play on Wednesday, April 1, at 7:00 pm in their fellowship hall. GRACE’s Deacons have decided to collect spare change and small bills in special containers on fifth Sundays this year and donate those funds to the River City Faith Network’s three Center Ministries: Church Hill Wellness, Oregon Hill and South Richmond. Small amounts of money can be used for such things as bus fare, laundry, a loaf of bread or a gallon of milk. The church will host CARITAS’s homeless April 4-11. THE LIGHT COMMUNITY will welcome Anointed New Life Baptist for a combined Good Friday service, “The Journey to the Cross”, on April 3 at 7:00 pm.

STAFF NEWS

DERBYSHIRE welcomes Karen Grubb Gilbert as the new Minister of Missions. FIRST UNION welcomes their new Pastor-Elect, Rev. Dr. William H. Whitaker, II. LAKESIDE welcomes Melita Nash as their new Administrative Assistant. STOCKTON MEMORIAL is pleased to welcome Ashlee Albertson as their new accompanist. WESTOVER has called Rev. Mary Mann to serve as their new Senior Pastor.

RIVER CITY FAITH NETWORK
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 PM
Richmond Baptist Bldg, Large Conf. Room

CAMP ALKULANA IS SEEKING CAMPERS & COUNSELORS

The Camp Alkulana leadership team is busy planning for the summer, and we invite you to be a part of it!
- Do you know children ages 9 (who have finished 4th Grade) to 14 that you’d like to see attend Camp Alkulana?
- Do you know college-aged students who would make good camp counselors?

Contact Beth at campalkulana@gmail.com or call the RBA office (804-329-1701 ext 206) to find out more. Camp counselors must be at least 18 years old. Campers should qualify for their school’s free or reduced lunch programs, though some exceptions apply. Get involved in your RCFN/RBA camp today!
**Dated Material — Do Not Delay**

**Non-Profit Org.**
U. S. Postage Paid
Richmond, Va.
Permit No. 1555

**River City Faith Network of the 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.richmondbaptist.org

**return service requested**

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**Transformed!** is published monthly by the River City Faith Network of the Richmond Baptist Association, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, Richmond, VA, 23222 804-329-1701.

**Contact** Amy Sowder via email or snail mail at the addresses listed above:
- **To submit an article**—must be received by the 7th of each month.
- **To be added to or deleted** from the mailing list.
- **To submit a change of address** in a timely manner so that the Network will not incur postage due costs for undeliverable newsletters.

**Making a Delivery to the RBA/RCFN Office?**
Please call before you plan to arrive to make sure that someone will be at the office. There are times during the day when everyone may be away, so it will save time and gas to call ahead. The RBA Office is open from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.

**Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week (Revised Schedule)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Gayton</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Ginter Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Gravel Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Hatcher Memorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Huguenot Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>International Community</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Want to Do Something BIG?**

**Annual Fix-up and Clean-up Days**
**at Camp Alkulana**

**May 16 and 30, 2015**

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.

**Pray for Churches Seeking a Pastor**

- Bethlehem (Penick) — Bon Air
- Disciples of Christ — Grace
- Hatcher Memorial — 

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*NOTE: The contents of this document are informational and should not be used as legal advice. Always consult with a professional for specific legal guidance.*