Mark your calendar!

6th Annual

River City Faith Network

WMU Missions Extravaganza!

Saturday

July 25, 2015

9:30 am until 11:30 am

at the

RBA Building

3111 Moss Side Avenue, 23222

Learn about the RCFN Missions Involvement Program!

This vital ministry provides support to:

Church Hill Christian Wellness Center

Oregon Hill Baptist Center

South Richmond Baptist Center

Camp Alkulana

Campus ministries at VCU and U of R

After-school program of the African Christian Community Church
Executive Director Notes by Mike

“Flexibility” is a key word that relates really well to the work done by the Raceway Ministries volunteers of the Central Virginia Baptist Ministries! When the work of setting up the Main Ministry Site at Richmond International Raceway began on Tuesday morning, April 21st, who would have guessed that workers and volunteers would still be onsite on Sunday afternoon, April 26th?

But we were!

Some said that the 2015 race weekend was the coldest weekend in April in Richmond since 2007! Adding to the challenges faced by the volunteers was the element of rain and drizzle through much of the day and well into the evening on Saturday, when the race had to be postponed until Sunday afternoon.

The weather certainly caused its share of inconveniences for race fans as well as volunteers, but when the Raceway Ministries Coordinating Team came together on Tuesday morning, May 5th to evaluate the race week’s ministry, the universal comment echoed by all was that “it was a great weekend!!” I fully agree with that assessment! It WAS a great weekend. More than 45 on-site volunteers invested in excess of 600 hours of volunteer time reaching out to folks and meeting needs in Christ’s Name.

In some ways, the weather worked to our advantage in giving us more time with folks at the camp sites and at our Main Ministry Site to engage in conversation as race fans waited for the action to begin. The CVRM motor homes served as on-site chapels for race goers who needed a listening ear, counsel and prayer.

The Virginia Baptist Disaster Relief Team sets up their lengthy mobile kitchen to bake additional cookies as well as to provide meals for Raceway Ministry volunteers. There’s nothing quite like the smell of fresh baked cookies wafting across the Main Ministry Site behind the back straight-away at RIR!

For me it was a great opportunity to engage folks as I drove a six passenger golf cart offering speedier transportation through the rain showers than merely walking from place to place could provide. I met people from Canada to Florida, from Main to California!

On Sunday afternoon, after the final race had begun, I spent some time in the stands taking pictures and connecting with race fans. I emailed the picture immediately above to a friend in North Carolina who knew of our commitment to Raceway Ministries. As soon as my friend received the picture and saw the thousands of race fans in the stands, the immediate response texted back was, “Now I see why this ministry is so important!”

My friend “got it!”

The vast numbers of people in the stands was obvious! The ministry is about representing Christ to thousands of men and women, boys and girls who come to Richmond and whom, were we not at the racetrack, we would never have the opportunity to meet to connect them with Christ!

Vacation Bible School is important for many of the same reasons that Raceway Ministries is important! For numerous churches, there will be more families and individuals reached for Christ during the week of Vacation Bible School than during any other week of the year. Statistics tell us that three fourths of all baptisms in Baptist churches and other churches which engage in Vacation Bible School happen as a direct result of their holding this annual event and following up with the participants in meaningful ways. That statistic alone points to the marvelous potential of VBS in our churches!

I want you to know that I will be praying for your church during the weeks leading up to VBS as you continue with final preparations, during VBS as you tell the gospel story in a variety of ways, and following your school that you will have teams in place to connect your new friends to other ministry options and entry points within your church family. Be patient to reach out to each attendee multiple times with friendship and hospitality that will warm their hearts toward Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:20 (NASB) reminds us that...“we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us.” The appeal is that we all “be reconciled to God.” The word “reconciled” means to be made at one with. What a goal—to have everyone in your neighborhood to be “at one with God!” By extension, that would result in our enjoying greater “oneness” with each other!

Have a great Vacation Bible School! Join me in praying for one another in this important endeavor!!

Prayerfully,

Mike
The promotional materials for the 2015 Camp Alkulana Offering and Week of Prayer for Associational/Network Missions have been available since Monday, April 27 at the RBA Office. Shown below are samples of the Offering Envelope, the Flier (8½ x 11) for the Camp Offering, and the Prayer Guide for the Week of Prayer. Other promotional items available for the Camp Offering are: bulletin inserts (5½ x 8½) or posters (11x17), and the Camp Alkulana brochure. These promotional items are not dated so that your church can use them any time during the year when you emphasize Associational Missions. To view samples of these items and download the order form, visit the Camp Offering section of the RBA website at www.richmondbaptist.org. To place an order contact Amy Sowder at 804-329-1701 ext. 201 or office@rbaonline.org. Hurry! Place your order while supplies last!

**THE PRAYER GUIDE** highlights a different network mission emphasis for each day of the week with specific prayer requests relating to that ministry. The use of the prayer guides for a week is an excellent way for a congregation, Sunday School class or missions group to get to know the staff and ministries of the River City Faith Network. The Guide is formatted so that it can be used for any seven-day period during the year, not just during the official Week of Prayer for Associational/Network Missions which is May 17-23, 2015.

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**Richmond Baptist Association**

Camp Alkulana Offering

2015 CAMP ALKULANA OFFERING

Offering Goal: $148,335.00

The girls and boys of inner-city Richmond need your help in 2015 to keep camp running!

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**The River City Faith Network**

Richmond Baptist Association

2015 CAMP ALKULANA OFFERING

Offering Goal: $148,335.00
Camp Alkulana

There is still time to order merchandise from the 100th Anniversary of Camp Alkulana! Everything below is still available but in limited quantities. Make sure to buy your copy of the book before inventory runs out. It costs $30 and can be purchased by calling the River City Faith Network of the Richmond Baptist Association or online at this link: https://squareup.com/market/Alkulana100.

The Camp recently created a Wish List on amazon.com. Here’s the link: http://amzn.com/w/1L96ZFZBBE0SZ

Here are some of the items on the Camp’s Wish List:

- Hiking Backpacks
- Propane Lanterns (& fuel tanks)
- Long Handled Lighters
- Assorted sizes of Flip Flops
- New Pillows
- Silicone Oven Mitts & Pot Holders
- New Dish Cloths
- Steel Wool Pads

It’s NOT TOO EARLY....
...to sign up!!

for the

11th Annual
Camp Alkulana
Golf Tournament
Belmont Golf Course
Friday, October 2, 2015

Go to campalkulana@gmail.com.

ALKULANNA 100
MERCHANDISE

Come Along, Join Our Song:
Camp Alkulana’s First One Hundred Years
A book on our camp’s history: $30

Alkulana 100 Shirts
Short-sleeve t-shirt: $10
Long-sleeve t-shirt: $15
Hooded sweatshirt: $20

Bumper Stickers: $1 each
Photo notecards with envelopes
Assorted 6 pack: $5 each

Proceeds from merchandise sales will benefit Camp Alkulana.
Purchases can be made with check, cash, or credit card. Quantities are limited.
CENTER NEEDS

WMU Mission Involvement Assignments will be given out to churches in July for September 2015 through August 2016. However, each Center has some currently needed items or needs not included in the Mission Involvement Assignments. Please look these over to see if you can help with any of these needs.

Thank you for your help with this!

OREGON HILL CENTER

1. 4 or 5 medium size Rubber-Maid "like" tubs with secure lids
2. Renuzit Air Fresheners
3. Volunteer mechanics to assist in labor with emergency car repairs for families we serve
4. A used reliable car for a family of 4 (automatic)

SOUTH RICHMOND BAPTIST CENTER

The South Richmond Center exists to minister to families and individuals in the Southside community around the St Paul's Baptist Church- Belt Campus. This past year we have experienced an increase in the needs of this mission endeavor. The Center Needs:

1. Easel, for classroom, Bible Study and teaching
2. Leather NIV presentation Bibles (10-15)
3. Food Ministry is in need of non-perishable food (please, no #10 cans):
   - Green Beans
   - Corn
   - Canned Tuna
   - Canned Pasta Dinner
   - Canned beans
   - Rice
   - Spaghetti
   - Dry Milk
   - Oatmeal
   - Box Cereal
   - Paper bags (Doubled or tripled folded together.)
4. Clothing for Closet. All summer clothing requested, and a special need for Men's dress clothing for job interviews.
5. Volunteers needed for "Hoop Dreams" Basketball Ministry this summer. Friday evenings twice a month, adults are needed to help chaperone and/or offer basketball instruction.
6. Plans are in the making for an Adult learning ministry called JASON Ministry. Starting in July and continuing for five months. It is in hopes of teaching adults:
   a. Resume writing
   b. Finding and keeping jobs
   c. Writing skills, computer skills, etc.
   d. For Men Only Bible Study
7. Van - The SRBC is in need of a van for use at the center. The greatest need is transportation of our ministry guests, but also to reduce the wear and tear on our personal vehicles to the food bank for the Food Pantry needs. Pray that God will send a used vehicle our way soon.

CHURCH HILL CHRISTIAN WELLNESS CENTER

"THE WELL"

1. Sheets (king, queen, full)
2. Towels
3. Pots and Pans
4. Paint or Gift Card for Lowe's or Home Depot to purchase paint
5. Bus Passes ($5.00 each)
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 this project.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**
As the principal shooting date gets closer, prayer requests multiply. Auditions are going very, very well. Pray for discernment as final decisions are made on 36 roles. Ask God to guide producer Ken Roy as he fills the last crew positions, each of which is vital for the success of the film. Producer Heather Waters has launched some of the film’s social media and is close to launching the film’s website. Pray that these efforts will connect with a variety of audiences. Ask God to direct the Producers Team to several needed filming locations: a hospital patient room and waiting room, a couple of houses, and some street locations.

**MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING:**
Come pray with us on Wednesday May 20th at 7:00 pm at one of the primary set locations for the film - First Baptist Church Ashland, 800 Thompson Street, Ashland, 23005. As with each of the prayer gatherings, the meeting will last no more than one hour. We hope you can join us! For information regarding future Prayer Gatherings, go to www.belltowerpictures.com. *The Belltower Pictures Prayer Team*

**ACCC LUNCHES NEEDED THIS SUMMER!!**
If you or your group (WMU, small group, SS class, etc.) can help the **ACCC Children’s Summer Program** by supplying lunches for 25-30 youngsters on any Monday thru Thursday from June 22nd thru August 7th, please contact Ruth Guill at 745-1655. You will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Your help will be greatly appreciated!!!

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**
Tuesday, June 16
10:00 AM
Virginia Baptist Foundation
Conference Room
2828 Emerywood Parkway,
23294

**April 2015 RCFN Budget Report**
- **April Budget Amount:** $42,709
- **April Budget Receipts:** $38,833
- **April Budget Expenses:** $40,872

- **YTD Budget Amount:** $170,836
- **YTD Budget Receipts:** $106,366
- **YTD Budget Expenses:** $143,521

**2015 Camp Alkulana Offering**
**RCFN Week of Prayer Network Missions Offering**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As of 4/30/2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offering Goal:</td>
<td>$148,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>YTD Receipts:</td>
<td>$37,585</td>
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**Support CAMP ALKULANA with your PRAYERS!**

- **May 29**
  - Director Beth Wright moves to Camp for the summer

- **June 3-13**
  - Staff Training

- **June 17-28**
  - OLDER Boys (Ages 12-14)

- **July 2-9**
  - YOUNGER Boys (Ages 9-11 & CIT’s)

- **July 14-15**
  - Staff Training

- **July 16-27**
  - OLDER Girls (Ages 12-14)

- **July 31-August 7**
  - YOUNGER Girls (Ages 9-11 & CIT’s)

- **August 7-8**
  - Staff Wrap Up

James in his epistle in James 5:16 (MSG) encourages us to pray and helps us to understand that prayer offered to God is a very powerful force to accomplish much good. Hear his words to Christ followers: “The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.”

**STAFF NEWS**

**HATCHER MEMORIAL**

has called Rev. Greg Webber to be their new Senior Pastor. He will begin his ministry on June 1.
### CHURCH NEWS

**BON AIR** will have an all campus River Baptism on Sunday, June 14, at 4:00 pm, at Robious Landing Park. The Bon Air, Buford Road Campus, will have "Thailand Trek" Vacation Bible School, June 22-26, 9:00 am—12:00 noon. **FIRST** will offer a seminar, "Getting your Affairs In Order: Understanding Wills and Trusts on Saturday, June 6, 9:00-11:00 am. They will offer "Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid" Vacation Bible School, June 22-26, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. **GAYTON** is offering a brand new summer camp, Quest, for kids. Quest is a Christ-centered 11 week camp available for one or more weeks, June 15 - August 28. Contact the church for more information. The church is also offering "Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power" Vacation Bible School, June 22-26, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, with a cost of $15.00 per child. **GRACE** will have their Annual Variety Show on Wednesday, June 10, at 6:30 pm. **HATCHER MEMORIAL** will have "Hometown Nazareth, Where Jesus was a Kid" Vacation Bible School, June 28 - July 1. **HUGUENOT ROAD** is hosting the Richmond Food Truck Court on Thursdays throughout the summer, 5:30 - 8:30 pm. The church has a Mission Team going to Bland County, June 7-10, to staff the Bland County Ministry Center's Dental Clinic, working in their food pantry, and doing small construction work. **RIVER ROAD** held a "Stop Hunger Now“ event on Saturday, May 2. The church is hosting the Richmond Food Truck Court on Wednesdays, 5:30-8:00 pm throughout the summer. **SOUTHPITON** will have a Movie Night Under The Stars on Friday, May 22, 8:00 pm, with popcorn and lemonade. On June 24, they will have Watermelon for the swimmers at Southampton Recreation Center. **SWIFT CREEK** will participate in their second annual "Community Connection" event on Sunday, June 7. They will have one service at 10:30 am, followed by lunch for those participating and then will disperse into the community to engage in different activities for all age groups and activity levels. Some of the projects will involve visiting Retirement Centers, preparing Military Care Packages, visiting the Pediatric floor at CJW, doing yard work at Elementary Schools, making Baby Blankets and much more! **WOODLAND HEIGHTS** is hosting Richmond Food Truck Court on Fridays, 5:30-8:30 pm throughout the summer.

### June Events Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Camp Director, Beth Wright Moves to Camp Alkulana for Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>@ 10:00 AM RCFN Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Deadline to Submit Material for “Transformed!”</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3-13</td>
<td>Staff Training, Camp Alkulana</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14-15</td>
<td>National WMU Annual Celebration, Columbus, Ohio</td>
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<td>June 15-19</td>
<td>Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16 @ 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Endowment Committee Meeting, VBF Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>OLDER Boys leave for Camp Alkulana</td>
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<td>June 21</td>
<td>Father’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22 @ 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Oregon Hill Support Team Meeting, Oregon Hill</td>
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<td>June 23 @ 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting, RCFN</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25 @ 10:00 AM</td>
<td>South Richmond Center Support Team Meeting, South Richmond Center—St. Paul’s Belt Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 28 @ 12:00 Noon</td>
<td>OLDER Boys Return from Camp Alkulana</td>
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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 RCFN/RBA 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 RCFN Office is open from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.

Pray for the Church of the Week

June 7    The Light Community
June 14   Morning Star
June 21   The Mount Carmel
June 28   Mount Sinai
July 5    Mount Tabor

Would you like Biblical clarity on issues, events and trends that impact your life? You can with Crown Financial Ministries “Handwriting on the Wall” at http://blog.crown.org. And, if you like, you can subscribe so you get new posts.

Here are some of the recent posts, from Chuck Bentley, Crown’s CEO:

Do you tithe 10% of your total annual income?
You can save money, and lots of it, by using your local library...
Thinking of buying a home? I have some tips for you today...
Have you ever thought of Jesus as your personal financial advisor?

Randy Rowekamp
MoneyLife® Advisor and Master Trainer

For a 5% discount on most Crown orders, please use my promo code: rrowekamp