RCFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS
COMPLETES FIRST YEAR OF SERVICE

Your River City Faith Network Board of Directors is “the governing body of the Network … conducting the business of the Network” between Annual Meetings of the RCFN. Included among the important tasks of the Board:

- approving
  - applications for Membership / Affiliation by churches
  - cooperative agreements
  - applications for Provisional Membership by church plants
  - regular financial reports
  - the proposed Budget and the Mission Placement Committee report to be presented to the Annual Meeting
  - Bylaw amendments to be presented to the Annual Meeting
- authorizing and approving
  - legal matters
- act as the custodian of all property of the Network

At the most recent Board of Directors Meeting held on December 1, 2015, Board members enjoyed the hospitality of Skipwith Baptist who hosted our meeting with holiday desserts and a lovely meeting place. Guests from the South Richmond Center’s ministry shared moving reports of how the center on your behalf and in Christ’s Name has impacted a mother, husband and children during a period of unemployment and homelessness. Other reports from our Center Support Teams were joyfully received and meaningful discussions about ways to enhance and support their ministries are generally part of our time together. The Facilities Committee brought a recommendation to accept the services of Bradley Mechanical to provide HVAC service at the 3111 Moss Side location at a much reduced cost to the Network. The Personnel Committee recommended the hiring of Mrs. Danette Moen to become the new RCFN Assistant to the Executive Director / Bookkeeper. She will replace Mr. Steve Law who has served as our Financial Coordinator for four years. We can be very grateful to Steve for the excellent work he has done to re-organize the accounting process for the Network, streamlining very cumbersome and time consuming past practices that cost far more than could be reasonably justified. For some time the BoD has been considering the possibility of receiving a donated piece of property and buildings to complement the work of one of our existing centers. That process is on-going and should be brought to a conclusion very shortly.

As the RCFN Board of Directors completes its first full year of service, allow me to express deep appreciation to all who have served so well:

Dr. Cecil Chambers (Chair, Skipwith)  
Mrs. Joyce Clemmons (Clerk, First)  
Mrs. Mary Palmer (WMU, RCFN)  
Mr. Bob Jones (Facilities, Lakeside)  
Dr. David Bailey (Personnel, Grace)  
Mrs. Rosa Coleman (SRST, Carlisle Avenue)  
Mrs. Jeane Murray-Nieporte (At-large, Patterson Avenue)  
Miss Paula Bass (At-large, Stockton Memorial)  
Mr. Don Sage (Vice-Chair, Derbyshire)  
Mr. Richard Martin (Treasurer, Huguenot Road)  
Dr. Bob Thompson (Endowment, Lakeside)  
Mrs. Ruth Guill (Ministry Placement, Huguenot Road)  
Ms. Vicki Jones (CHST, Bethlehem—Fairmount)  
Mrs. Carolyn Keller (OHST, Southampton)  
Dr. Horace Wade, Jr. (At-large, Rising Liberty)  
Rev. Heather Tiller (At-large, Woodland Heights)

As we enter the second year of the Board of Directors new persons will be added to broaden the representation to the Network from our affiliated churches while enhancing our communication to each local church.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday evening, January 26, at 7:00 PM at 3111 Moss Side Avenue. Please pray for wisdom to continues the work of guiding the ministries of the River City Faith Network.
Musings from Mike:

Canadian geese are the bane of every golf course manager’s existence. The vast expanse of rolling green grass, clipped to just the right height for golfing, marvelously accessible water hazards and fine “roughs” for nesting combine to invite sometimes thousands of the winged squatters onto previously pristine golf courses all over the country.

The problem, of course, is that every where the geese go, well, the geese go. Have you ever noticed how much golfing attire is white? Thanks to the goose invasion, on some courses, shoes, shorts, shirts, not to mention the golf balls themselves, end up striped and streaked with goosey-green goo. But Canadian geese do have other, more admirable qualities. Canadian geese mate for life. Their faithfulness is outstanding.

A pair of Canadian geese chose a rather unfortunate nesting spot located close to a road. A few days after laying her eggs, the female wandered into the path of a car. Fortunately all she suffered was a broken leg. But while she was whisked away to a veterinary clinic and admitted into the recovery room, her faithful mate was left alone to tend to their nest.

The male not only continued to do all the nest-sitting; he also established a unique “coffee break” ritual for himself. When he periodically left the nest to eat and drink, he returned by way of the road where his mate was injured. There he settled down and patiently waited for his wounded mate to reappear. When the call of the nest finally overwhelmed him, the male reluctantly made his way back to his solitary hatching duties.

Isn’t this a powerful example of true faithfulness and devotion? What does it mean to be faithful? What does faithfulness require to exist?

In I Corinthians 1:3-9 Paul helps us to understand that the ultimate example of faithfulness is demonstrated to human beings by God’s gift to us in the incarnate Word. In the coming of Christ, which we have just celebrated, God is faithful. Faithfulness is one of the defining qualities of our Heavenly Father. And for Paul, the faithfulness of God cannot be separated from the righteousness of God. If God is truly righteous, then God must be unfailingly faithful. In fact, His righteousness is an expression of God’s own faithfulness to Himself.

Too, God’s providence is also undeniably woven into God’s faithfulness. You see, for a providential God to work out the divine plan according to the Divine Will requires an unyielding faithfulness. The classic understanding of Divine Providence demands that God’s constant, providential governance of all that occurs directs creation toward a preordained and salvific end. Unless God is faithful to this providential trajectory, all creation moves along on its own accord without reference to God or involvement by God.

Albert Einstein put it this way, “God doesn’t play dice with the universe.”

If I were to ask, “How has God’s faithfulness been made clear to you in your own life?”, what would be your answer? Are there examples that you can site?

What if I were to ask, “How has God’s faithfulness been evident in the life of your church’s congregation?” Are there ways in which you have seen it? Are there stories that you can tell? Is there evidence that you can offer?

God’s steady faithfulness is more than a theological principle or a Biblical doctrine! It is the loving, saving power of God working in our lives every day and invading the world in every corner.

One pastor tells the story of visiting in someone’s home in early Spring:

“We were talking, and suddenly I looked up on a corner shelf and noticed a Christmas ornament hanging — almost as though it had been forgotten in the mad rush to put away the holiday season’s adornments. I quickly looked away, hoping that my glance had not been noticed. But the woman caught me. Before I could say a thing she smiled and said, “No, I didn’t forget. Every year when I clean up the mess, I choose one ornament to leave up to remind me that Christmas is not just one day or one season — but a lifetime. That little bulb is my reminder that Jesus walks with me every day.”

On the 15th of January, Steve Law and Danette Moen worked together to close out the financial books of the River City Faith Network for the 2015 ministry year. As they did, they accounted for thousands of gifts, large and small, from individuals, organizations and churches who have caught the vision of the Network — the vision of ministering to the under-resourced of the Richmond area in the Name of Jesus Christ. Each gift added to another enabled our three Centers and Camp Alkulana to feed, clothe, equip and sustain mothers and fathers, small boys and girls, teens, grandparents and aunts and uncles in what is still for many a tough economy and difficult times.

Those of you who have given have been faithful and your gifts have had a year-long impact so that Christmas and the Spirit of Christ did not just come on one day of the year — December 25th — but throughout the year and at times when the impact was far more critical and the difference that was made was much more crucial than you or might ever know, but a tremendous impact it was nevertheless!

I cannot thank you enough for your faithfulness! It is a part of your righteousness and God’s faithfulness to others through you. We ended the year $37,070 short of receipts to meet expenses but we can be thankful that the faithfulness of many who have gone before us will allow our Endowment Committee to recommend that 2015 investment income be transferred to our operating account to rectify the deficit. Faithfulness is a GOOD thing! Thank YOU for your faithfulness!

With Joy, Mike
The Food Pantry ministry distributes emergency food every 3rd and 4th Thursday at 1:00pm throughout the year except Summer.

Do you want to be active but you tell yourself, "I don't have any talents"? You pray, “God, What can I do? I can’t sing, teach or preach. I just don’t have any talents or extra money.” WRONG! God gives us all gifts.

**South Richmond Baptist Center (SRBC) needs**

*Hosts and greeters for the arriving participants,*  
*Hosts to register participants for food,*  
*Hosts to listen and Pray for the participants and last but not least they need *Hosts that can set up and take down chairs. Now don’t let satan tell you, “You aren’t a Host” Hosts are people who want to serve God anyway they can.

**Volunteer Help** can also be used on Wednesday prior to the distribution day, for bagging of food, (10:00 AM—12:00 PM is the best time) they usually pack 40-50 bags of groceries.

**Can you sew?** A group of seniors meets at 10:45 AM to noon on Wednesdays. They are in need of a Sewing/ Craft leader. There’s a Bible Study period at 10:00AM.

**ITEMS NEEDED:** Household items/ Donations, used microwave ovens, plates, pots, pans, as well as silverware.

Please Contact Wesley R. Garrett at the SRBC office:
(804) 232-0174

---

**REPORT CARDS AND PROGRESS REPORTS**

The children at South Richmond Baptist Center are asked to bring in their report cards and progress reports in order to receive more supplies. SRBC will give out any school supplies that were left over from the distribution in August along with new supplies brought in now. If you are wondering if they would want things like back packs, wonder no more. They would love anything you have that can help our children to get or stay excited about school.

---

**SOMETHING NEW!**

We are giving our newsletter a little facelift. The middle pages are now designed as bulletin inserts. Please cut them out, copy them and use them not only as bulletin inserts, but also put them on your bulletin boards, and /or use them in your prayer groups. Our Centers and Camp Alkulana minister to people all year long and they need our support to do so. We did a great job in November and December!

**Let’s keep up the good work!**

My husband and I watch (listen to) Dr. Lance Watson of The Saint Paul’s Baptist Church on Sunday mornings while getting ready for church. Several weeks ago, Dr. Watson said, “Giving doesn’t empty your wallet and Loving doesn’t empty your heart. Giving will elevate your living”

My husband, Rev. Kevin Moen of Concord Baptist Church in Caroline County, made the remark at church. “Danette wrote the phrase down and put it on the refrigerator. I can’t tell you the last time she put one of my quotes on the refrigerator.“ We all laughed.

Let’s keep those words in our hearts as we join together to do God’s work.

Danette
Oregon Hill Baptist Center
“Sharing the Light of Christ”

Thank You to all who support our ministries with “the least of these”! Without your support, we could not do what we do each week!

Some current needs at the Center:

1. 1 or 2 volunteers to assist with set up of our clothes closet for the homeless. (Two Wednesdays a month (1-3 PM).

2. 1 or 2 regular volunteers to sort food and to pack 20 food bags from our food pantry for our household distribution. (Wednesdays (1-3 PM).

3. Volunteer with experience in Excel spreadsheets to update food pantry records, locker room records, Food Bank report, etc. (Once a month)

4. Specific Winter Clothes for the Homeless: long underwear (tops & bottoms), waterproof winter gloves, men’s jeans (sizes 32-36), sweatshirts with hoods, warm socks, shoes and boots.

Please contact Jennifer Turner at the Oregon Hill Center if you are interested in assisting or need further information. (804) 648-1353

2016 IRS Mileage Rates

The Internal Revenue Service has issued the 2016 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating a car, van, pickup or panel truck for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning January 1, 2016, the standard mileage rates will be 54 cents per mile for business miles driven, (this is down from the 57.5 cents of 2015) 19 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, and 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.


For news, event information and more...

CHECK OUT OHBC ON THE WEB:
http://www.richmondbaptist.org/ministries/oregon-hill-baptist-center/

For all churches who are using Group’s CaveQuest VBS Curriculum

Bring all your key leaders to Westhunt Baptist Church, 3801 West End Drive, Henrico, VA

on Sat. March 12th at 8:30 AM –12:30 PM. At VBS Funshop experience a “Day at VBS” and receive hands-on training. Learn to plan, coordinate, do effective family follow-up and pull off an amazing VBS event. The cost to register is $20.00/person early bird ($28.00 week of the event and at the door). Free childcare for elementary children. www.westhunt.com for more information and a link to register.
Now is the time to make reservations. RSVP on or by February 9 to:
Mrs. Carol Bowman:
bowmangn@verizon.net
Monument Heights B C:
arusher@monumentheights.org

2016 VALENTINE SOCIAL
Friday, February 13
7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
Monument Heights Baptist Church
5716 Monument Avenue, Richmond

PARTY FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Bible Study – Spiritual food, fellowship and prayer provided at our Body and Soul Bible study every Friday morning from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Lunch provided.

Clothes Closet – Shop for men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing. There is a separate career closet for those needing outfits for interviews or jobs. Operating hours are Monday’s from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Computer Classes – Come and learn the computer from the bare bone basics to a more advanced knowledge of the computer, such as Power Point. (Bare Bone Basics, Microsoft Word, Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Publisher). Classes are pending.

Volunteers are needed to teach the Computer classes and the GED classes.

Food Pantry – Food bags are distributed on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, first-come-first-served for zip code 23223 only.

Exercises Classes – Are you feeling a little sluggish, no energy, and your body is beginning to sag? Do you have any areas of your body that could use a tune up? Well, The Center has a solution for you! Come and get your heart pumping and your body jumping to a

2011 Fairmount Avenue, Richmond, VA 23223
Phone: (804) 780-0053, Fax: (804) 377-0371
Reverend Glinda F. Ford, Community Missionary
E-mail: glinda.ford@rbaonline.org

ENTRUST SPONSORS:

Mark your calendar! The Create for Christ video grant contest is just around the corner and 2016 is slotted to be the best year yet.

Here is what’s NEW for Create for Christ 2016

New Theme: In 90 seconds or less, create a video showing why missions matters.

New Timeline: We are announcing our winners more than a month earlier so you can plan your mission trip accordingly.

New Flexibility: You don’t need a trip planned when you enter the Create for Christ contest. Of course, planning ahead of time will help you determine your financial need, but it is not required. And you MUST use the $2000 grant for a mission trip in 2016.

New Focus: Go Local. Can’t afford an international trip or a road trip to North Dakota? Use this grant to serve those in your community, partnering with a non-profit, or create a project of your own.

The voting for Create for Christ will begin on February 22 and end on March 23. Remember, the earlier you submit your video, the earlier you can start getting votes!

Questions? Visit createforchrist.com, or contact (804) 278-4714 or Josh Karrer at jkarrer@entrustfcu.org.
Prepare & Enrich

Gearing up for premarital counseling season

The holidays are a popular time for engagements, which means you might soon experience an influx of couples seeking premarital counseling. Here are some ways to get ready to use PREPARE/ENRICH again:

Refresh your training - If it’s been awhile since you last used P/E and feel you could use an update, check out the Training tab on your Manage Couples page. Here you can find training videos, the Facilitator’s Manual, and more. If you prefer live training, consider contacting a Seminar Director in your area about attending a workshop as a refresher.

Review feedback materials - Explore the resources in the Feedback Materials section of the website. Here is where you can find the Couple’s Workbook (Standard, Biblical, and Parenting), as well as a Feedback Guide and helpful Follow-up Questions.

- Update your profile - Don’t miss out on couples’ notification emails, newsletters, or other important updates from P/E. Make sure your email address and other contact information is up-to-date by logging into your account and clicking Update My Profile.

Encourage others to get trained - You know about the value and efficiency that P/E brings to your work with couples. Share those benefits with friends, coworkers, and colleagues by encouraging them to get certified to administer the assessment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

cs@prepare-enrich.com

SAVE THE DATE—May 12, 2016

2016 Virginia Baptist Homes Benefit Golf Classic

Tidewater Classic at Kiln Creek Golf Club in Newport News. Please register online at vbh.org/golf or contact Taylor Thomas at 804-521-9212
To help church staff and church lay leaders understand and comply with tax laws, A series of FREE seminars sponsored by the Compensation Planning Ministry of the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) will be held across the state in February and March 2016. The Richmond Seminar will be held on Monday, February 22, 2016. The Seminar will begin at 9:00 am and end at 12:00 pm with refreshments provided.

The seminars are designed for church staff and lay leaders who handle taxes and compensation. Attendees will get help with compensation planning for church staff (including retirement and insurance), handling minister’s taxes, and federal reporting requirements for churches. Jeff Cranford, Compensation Planning Specialist, Congregational Field Staff, BGAV, will lead the seminars.

For information or to register for the seminar, register online at BGAV.org/Tax-Seminars or contact Angela House, GuideStone Administrative Assistant, at 800-255-2428, ext. 5293, or angela.house@bgav.org.

Fresh Expressions Vision Days come to Virginia!!

The world has changed. Does your church have a vision for the future? Fresh Expressions Vision Days are a one day interactive learning experiences that inspire and equip individuals, church leaders and denominational executives to pioneer new ways to be the Church. At the Vision Day you will discover:

- How Fresh Expressions are renewing the church around the world
- What it means to be a Mission-Shaped Church
- Tools for starting Fresh Expressions in your area

Two upcoming Vision Days will take place in Danville and Winchester, Virginia.

Register today @ www.freshexpressionsus.org!

- Vision Day in Danville, Va, February 4
- Vision Day in Winchester, Va, March 19

December 2015 RCFN Budget Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget Amount:</td>
<td>$42,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Receipts:</td>
<td>$94,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Expenses:</td>
<td>$38,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Budget Amount:</td>
<td>$518,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Budget Receipts:</td>
<td>$479,627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Budget Expenses:</td>
<td>$516,697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Camp Alkulana Offering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As of 12/31/15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offering Goal:</td>
<td>$148,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Receipts:</td>
<td>$162,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Expenses:</td>
<td>$162,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pray for the RCFN of the RBA Churches seeking a PASTOR

Chamberlayne
Disciples for Christ
Gayton
River Road
Westhampton

Pray for the RCFN of the RBA Church of the Week

February 7 .. Bethlehem (Fairmount)
February 14 .. Bethlehem (Penick)
February 21 .. Bon Air-Buford Road Campus
February 28 .. Bon Air @ The Village

The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much! (James 5:16)

February Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, February 23 @ 7:00 PM
Richmond Baptist Building, Large Conf. Room

CALENDAR

February 2 @ 9:00 AM
Raceway Ministries Core Team, RCFN

February 2 @ 10:00 AM
RCFN Staff Meeting

February 2 @ 6:30 PM
Camp Alkulana Support Team, RCFN

February 7-14
WMU Focus Week

February 8 @ 10:00 AM
CVBM LDC Planning Team, RCFN

February 13 @ 7:00 PM
Special Needs Valentine Social, Monument Heights

February 15
RCFN Office Closed — Presidents’ Day Holiday

February 16 @ 10:00 AM
WMU Leadership Team Meeting, RCFN

February 22 @ 9:00 AM
Tax and Compensation Planning Seminar, at the Virginia Baptist Resource Center

February 23 @ 7:00 PM
RCFN Board of Directors Meeting
Richmond Baptist Building, 3111 Moss Side Avenue

February 27 @ 2:00 PM
SRST Meeting, South Richmond Baptist Center

WMU FOCUS WEEK
February 8—14
Theme: “All For You;” Scripture: Mark 8:31-38