Several months ago at a Board of Directors Meeting, Vice-Chair Don Sage, shared that he had submitted a grant proposal for $2,000 on behalf of Camp Alkulana. His proposal was made to the New Outlook Pioneers, Virginia Council, of which he is an active member and Treasurer. The New Outlook Pioneers are a component of the national Pioneers, a significant group of telecommunications workers and retirees numbering over five hundred thousand. This group celebrated its 100th anniversary several years ago, having been formed by workers in the Bell System telecommunications industry and dating back to the time of Alexander Graham Bell. The Bell System was once A.T.& T. and the Bell operating companies such as Bell Atlantic and others.

The Pioneers manage a Dodd Grant which offers funds to many worthy community service projects across America. This year, thanks to Don’s initiative, a portion of the Dodd Grant has been awarded to Camp Alkulana. Don is a member of Derbyshire Baptist Church!

The photograph shows the Chapter President, Mr. Oscar Covington, along with Mrs. Fran Hannah, immediate past President, Mr. Richard Hannah, Henry Janowitz and Don Sage presenting the $2,000.00 check to Camp Director Beth Reddish Wright on Wednesday morning, February 24th, at the Richmond Baptist Building! Council members are also planning to participate in a work day at camp this spring.

We can be very grateful to Don and the Pioneers for their generosity! Beth plans to use some of the grant to renew safety equipment for the caving program at Camp Alkulana in time for this summer’s campers’ arrival in early June! Join us in thanking God for good and generous stewards who see value in what God is doing through RCFN!
Max Lucado in a message entitled “When Your World Turns Against You” based on Matthew 26:64 reminds us that in the last days of His life things didn’t go well even for the Prince of Peace and the King of kings! In spite of this reality the good news from Matthew for the Christ-follower is the victorious promise that “In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of God.”

Lucado helps us to recognize that when Jesus spoke about Judas with the words, “Get up, we must go. Here comes the man who has turned against Me” that those words could just as easily have been spoken to anyone. They could have been spoken to John, Peter, James or any of the other disciples. They could have been spoken to the Roman soldiers, to the Jewish leaders, Pilate, Herod, or Caiaphas. They could have been spoken to every person who praised Jesus and welcomed Him into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the same people who would abandon Him on Good Friday night.

Everyone turned against Jesus that night. Everyone - Judas, the people, the disciples, the religious leaders, and, yes, even Peter!. With no place to go and caught in his own mistake, Peter did exactly what he had said he wouldn’t. He had promised fervently only hours before, “Everyone else may stumble in their faith because of You, but I will not!” As Lucado puts it, “I hope Peter was hungry, because he ate those words.”

“Though the kiss was planted by Judas, the betrayal was committed by all. Every person took a step, but no one took a stand. As Jesus left the garden He walked alone. The world had turned against Him. He was betrayed,” says Lucado and he is absolutely correct!

Lucado goes on to write: “Betray. The word is an eighth of an inch above betroth in the dictionary, but a world from betroth in life. It’s a weapon found only in the hands of one you love. Your enemy has no such tool, for only a friend can betray. Betrayal is mutiny. It’s a violation of a trust, an inside job.

Betrayal...when your world turns against you.
Betrayal...where there is opportunity for love, there is opportunity for hurt."

Lucado asks, “When betrayal comes, what do you do? Get out? Get angry? Get even? You have to deal with it some way.” Then he suggests that we see how Jesus dealt with it.

Interestingly, when Jesus greeted Judas He spoke to him this way, “FRIEND, do what you came to do.” Most of us wouldn’t have addressed Judas as friend, would we?

During the last supper, there is no evidence that he was turned away. He joined his friends and Jesus at the supper table along with all of the other disciples, treated as if he were just as faithful as the others. Even though Judas was not enlisted to become the betrayer; he volunteered for the task.

Have you ever thought what it was that Jesus knew about Judas? “Jesus knew that Judas had been seduced by a powerful foe. He was aware of the wiles of Satan’s whispers. He knew how hard it was for Judas to do what was right. Jesus didn’t justify what Judas did. He didn’t minimize the deed. Nor did He release Judas from his choice.

But Jesus did look eye to eye with his betrayer and try to understand!"

Who have you betrayed lately? Who has betrayed you? I suspect you have a ready answer to both questions. I sure do! I wish I didn’t, but I have been both the betrayed and the betrayer! Haven’t we all?

This Easter when you and I see Christ on the cross once again, I hope...
...I will remember and understand how seductive our powerful foe is.
...I will be alert to Satan’s whispers, willing to cast them aside as the worthless and destructive deceptions that they are.
...I will recall how hard it was for Judas to do what was right, how difficult it was for me to do the right thing the last time I was the betrayer.
...I will be more forgiving of those who will have a similar struggle when they set out to betray me or one of my good friends.

I never want to minimize my poor deeds nor fail to take responsibility for my choices, but I do want to willingly seek and receive forgiveness, to enthusiastically apply correction, and cheerfully offer forgiveness to those who struggle to do what is right and stumble. Happy Easter!
VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION & SHIFT SIGN UP

All volunteers or anyone interested in learning more about this ministry ARE REQUIRED to attend the Orientation/Training Session on Thursday evening, April 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the Richmond Baptist Association building, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, Richmond.

Agenda items for this meeting include briefing by race track guest services official, volunteer responsibilities, finalization of the plans for the weekend activities, and a chance to ask questions. Volunteers can also sign up for a shift time, which are:

April 22 - Friday: SET-UP Main Hospitality Site & Hospitality Sites in RV lots
1 SHIFT: Noon-3 pm

April 23 - Saturday: FAMILY FUN CARNIVAL and Hospitality Ministry for the NASCAR Xfinity RACE:
SHIFTS: 8:00 am-2:00 pm, 2:00-7:00 pm

April 24 - Sunday: FAMILY FUN CARNIVAL and Hospitality for the NASCAR Toyota RACE:
SHIFTS: 8:00 am-2:00 pm, 2:00-6:00 pm

April 24 - Sunday: TAKE-DOWN Main Ministry Site: SHIFT: 6 pm until done

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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 Central Virginia Raceway Ministries.

Cookies may be brought to the RBA Office, 3111 Moss Side Ave. April 18-21, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (329-1701) or the Dover Baptist Assoc. Office, 11006 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland, VA (550-1980)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT WHEN YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER:

PHONE: (804) 601-4463 OR E-MAIL: INFO@VARACEWAYMINISTRIES.ORG

Children’s Ministry during Race Weekend

This spring April 22-24, the Xfinity Race will be on Saturday afternoon and the Sprint Cup Race will be on Sunday afternoon. We will be changing the kid’s activities to allow more time for families to enjoy the games and fun. Games and the matchbox derby track will be open and available from 10 am until an hour before race time each day. Will YOU be one of the volunteers during the time period 8 am until 2 pm?

You can volunteer by calling Helen Carter at (home) 804-526-0250 or (cell) 804-931-2500. Thank you in advance for helping to represent Christ at the Spring Race at RIR!!
New Bethesda Baptist Church Mechanicsville, VA
Is seeking a Student Ministries Pastor
Email Address: personnel@newbethesda.org
Church Web Site Address: www.newbethesda.org

Remember to use pages 5 and 6 as BULLETIN INSERTS, Bulletin Board notices or Prayer Sheets for Sunday School classes, Mission groups, etc.

Virginia Church Library Association
Lighting the Path to Church Library Ministry
Spring Conference April 15-17, 2016
Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center
Lynchburg, VA 24503
www.eagleeyrie.org 434.384.2211 www.VACLA.org

SAVE THE DATES—May 12, 2016
2016 Virginia Baptist Homes Benefit Golf Classic
May 12: Tidewater Classic at Kiln Creek Golf Club in Newport News. Please register on line at vbh.org/golf or contact Tayloe Thomas at 804-521-9212

All proceeds of the VBH Benefit Golf Classic go to the Endowed Funds for Benevolence to help seniors at the Virginia Baptist Homes who have out lived their financial means.

CHURCH NEWS

♦ New Bethesda Baptist Church Mechanicsville, VA
Is seeking a Student Ministries Pastor
Email Address: personnel@newbethesda.org
Church Web Site Address: www.newbethesda.org

♦ Remember to use pages 5 and 6 as BULLETIN INSERTS, Bulletin Board notices or Prayer Sheets for Sunday School classes, Mission groups, etc.

PRESIDENT RON CRAWFORD ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017

Rev. Billy Davis
332 Monroe Drive
W. Palm Beach, FL 33405
susanldavis24@gmail.com
Clothes Closet – a place we can donate our slightly used Spring and Summer clothes so others may shop for much needed men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing. There is a separate career closet for those needing outfits for interviews or jobs.

“Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst.”

Operating hours are Monday’s from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Church Hill Christian Wellness Center

The Food Ministry is in need of food for the monthly distribution period. Regular sized canned food of all types are needed throughout the month. Volunteer Help is appreciated on Wednesdays prior to the distribution day for bagging food, (10:00am-12:00pm is the best time) 40-50 bags of groceries are usually prepared. Distribution days are every 3rd and 4th Thursday at 1:00pm

MOTHER’S DAY is only a month away. Help us help other’s CELEBRATE their mothers.

We need 30 Mother’s Day cards by April 30th. “Like a Mother to me” cards are also needed.

SOUTH RICHMOND BAPTIST CENTER

Computer Skills instructor is still needed – Can you operate a computer? Share your skills with someone.

-Bare Bone Basics or more advanced there’s someone that needs you to give them a step up.

The Food Ministry

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

Rev. Wesley R. Garrett (Located in The Saint Paul’s Baptist Church South)
700 East Belt Boulevard, VA 23224 (804) 232-0174

Hours: Monday 9:00am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-6:00 pm
Friday - 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Oregon Hill Baptist Center
“Sharing the Light of Christ”

Want to do Something BIG?

Annual Fix-up and Clean-up Days at Camp Alkulana
May 21 and June 4, 2016

Help us get ready for the summer season! Plenty to do:
⇒ Yard work
⇒ Light carpentry
⇒ Spring Cleaning
⇒ General repair

*Great bonding opportunity for groups*

Leave Richmond early, eat breakfast on the way.

Arrive at camp by 10:00 and work until 4:00 with a lunch break around 1:00. (Bring a bag lunch!) 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 Reddish Wright, Camp Director: 329-1701, ext. 114 or
campalkulana@gmail.com.

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 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).
• Volunteer with experience in Excel spreadsheets to update food pantry records, locker room records, Food Bank report, etc. (Once a month)
• Spring & Summer clothes donations for our Homeless ministry: Men’s blue jeans (sizes: 32-36), shorts, short sleeved shirts & t-shirts, socks, boxer type underwear, tennis shoes, belts, light weight jackets.
• Disposable razors, deodorant, & feminine hygiene items
• Scholarship assistance in helping a teenager attend a week of summer camp with our youth group.

Rev. Jennifer M. Turner jennifer.turner@rbaonline.org
(Located in Pine Street Baptist Church)
400 South Pine Street (804) 648-1353
http://www.richmondbaptist.org/ministries/oregon-hill-baptist-center/

Some current needs at the Center:

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campalkulana@gmail.com.
At its February meeting the RCFN Board received a report that the Manchester Community Center Board has voted to transfer ownership of the Manchester Community Center to RCFN. The structures on .7 of an acre at 5500 Germain Road will be given to RCFN during the next several weeks along with Manchester’s gift of $8,000 to help with deferred maintenance. A Transition/Ministry Readiness Team will be appointed to deal with the details of transfer and preparation of the facility as a satellite location for the South Richmond Baptist Center.

The Ministry Placement Committee brought several recommendations for revising the RCFN Policies and Procedures to better conform to the needs of the Network at this time. These changes can be found under the DOCUMENTS tab on the River City Faith Network website at www.richmondbaptist.org.

Scholarships Are Now Open!

Do you know a student who is a member of a BGAV church that could use some help with tuition for college or theological training? The BGAV Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for College and Ministerial Education Funds, and the deadline is April 1.

Please note that the online application will need to be completed in one sitting.

http://bgav.org/financial-resources/scholarships/

CALENDAR

April 4 @ 7:00 PM
RCFN Staff Meeting

April 5 @ 9:00 AM
Raceway Core Team Meeting—SCR

April 5 @ 6:00 PM
Oregon Hill Support Team Meeting, OHBC

April 5 @ 6:30 PM
C.A.S.T. Meeting, 3111 Moss Side Ave., SCR

April 8-9
SHINE for teen girls
Eagle Eyrie

April 14 @ 7:00 PM
Raceway Volunteers Orientation Meeting, 3111 Moss Side, LCR

April 19 @ 6:00 PM
RBA WMU Annual Celebration & Dinner
First Baptist Church

April 22—23
RIR Raceway Weekend

April 22–23
WMU Mom & Me I, Eagle Eyrie

April 23–24
WMU Mom & Me II, Eagle Eyrie

April 23 @2:00PM
South Richmond Support Team Meeting -SRBC

April 26 @ 7:00PM
Board of Directors Meeting, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, LCR

WMUV welcomes Ashley to the Team! As WMUV Adult Missions Consultant, Ashley will coordinate the state work related to myMission, maintain contact with our associational WMU directors, and expand our social media efforts to include the most common technologies used by those under 30 such as Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter. Along with the other staff and consultants, Ashley will help coordinate the WMUV associational leadership training annual event, Come to the Table.

Alexandria, VA April 7-9, 2016

Fresh Expressions US National Gathering

TICKETS ON SALE NOW freshexpressionsus.org

River City Faith Network WMU Annual Spring Celebration and Dinner
April 19, 2016 6:00 pm
First Baptist Church 2709 Monument Avenue

Please let your WMU director know if you wish to come. All spouses are invited. Dinner is $7.00. The speaker is Dr. Fred Anderson, VA Baptist Historical Society. If you have questions or need to make a reservation call Mary Palmer at 338-7416 RCFN WMU director. See RCFN website, www.richmondbaptist.org

Women’s Missionary Union blue tab for more information.
Transformed! is published monthly by the
River City Faith Network
of the Richmond Baptist Association

Contact: Danette Moen via email or snail mail at the addresses listed above:
· To submit an article: it 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.

Pray for the RCFN of the RBA Churches seeking a PASTOR

Chamberlayne
Gayton
River Road
Westhampton

Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week

April 3........Derbyshire Cambodian
April 10.......Disciples for Christ
April 17 .......First Baptist Church
April 24.......First Union
The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much! (James 5:16)

Next RCFN Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 26, 2016 @ 7:00 PM
Richmond Baptist Building, Large Conf. Room
Please note: There will be NO March meeting

February 2016 RCFN Budget Report
FEB. Budget Amount: $43,169.00
FEB. Budget Receipts: $21,806.00
FEB. Budget Expenses: $39,235.00

YTD Budget Amount: $31,904.00
YTD Budget Receipts: $86,338.00

Camp Alkulana Offering

Offering Goal: $150,696.00
YTD Receipts: $6,367.00
YTD Expenses: $24,836.00

Administrative Professional's Day
Hosted by Gospel Music Workshop of America, Richmond Chapter
Wednesday, April 27th, 2016

10:00 AM-3:00PM
Cost: $45 per person

Registration/Networking/Light Refreshments: 9:30AM
Registration Deadline – Monday, April 18, 2016

Registration Contact: Sally Ferrell
sferrell.msbc@gmail.com or (804) 852-1630