2nd Annual Meeting
of the
River City Faith Network
of the
Richmond Baptist Association
Church Hill Christian Wellness Center

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church
2011 Fairmount Ave., VA 23223
Sunday
October 23, 2016
3:00 - 5:00 PM
Theme: “Love Is a Verb”
I John 4:19 - “We love because He first loved us.”

3:00 PM
Worship, Music, Business Session with Ministry Placement Committee Recommendations, 2017 Budget Recommendation, Proposed Bylaw Changes (found on “Transformed!” insert)

3:45 — 5:00 PM
Tour of the Church Hill Christian Wellness Center, On-site Missions Fair, Interactive Missions Emersion Ministry in Action for all ages, Ham Biscuit and Soup Supper!

Supper - $5.00 donation

New Feature: Nursery will be provided for ages 1 through 5 for those who sign up in advance.
Ages 6 and up can participate in Ministry Opportunities as a Family Affair.

MESSENGERS
The voting body of the River City Faith Network shall be composed of the Board of Directors and three (3) elected messengers for each CONNECTOR affiliated church, entity or organization, and five (5) elected messengers for each CHAMPION, or CORE affiliated church, entity or organization, and one (1) additional messenger for each $5,000 or more than half thereof given to the Network and Week of Prayer Offering during the previous calendar year, provided that no church shall be entitled to more than twelve (12) such messengers. Further, each mission church under sponsorship of a Network church shall be entitled to one (1) elected messenger.
Musings from Mike:

What do you aspire to?

Webster’s Handy College Dictionary defines the verb “aspire” this way: “to be ardently desirous, especially for something spiritual.” So then I looked up the word, “ardently” just to be sure that I understood its meaning accurately. Just two pages away I found the word, “ardent.” It is defined twice, first as “fervent in feeling; intense; passionate.” “Ardent” is also pegged as “burning; fiery; glowing.”

Immediately the preaching of several persons came to mind. My mind flashed first to the preaching of John the Baptist as he proclaimed the coming Messiah, “One the latch of whose sandal he did not deem himself worthy to unloose.’ It is hard to imagine this locust-eating, animal skin clad preacher as anything but ardent as he aspired to proclaim his cousin Jesus’ coming to baptize with the Spirit while he only baptized with water! Other preachers like the famed Dr. Gardner Taylor, noted for his eloquence and understanding of Christian faith and theology, and known as "the dean of American preaching," with whom I became acquainted during my seminary days also crossed the roadway of my memory. Dr. Taylor was a passionate preacher who aspired to be the best at whatever he undertook and was one of the few with the capacity to pull it off!

In the River City Faith Network of churches there is an aspirational system of affiliation that serves us well. It is providing us with excellent leadership through committed leaders of Standing Committees, Support Teams and a fine Board of Directors. In just a few weeks we will gather to celebrate the good work of our three Baptist Centers and the rustic Camp Alkulana!

I hope we will have guests and messengers from each of the four Levels of Affiliation: COMMUNITY, CONNECTOR, CHAMPION and CORE. Each Level of Affiliation rewards progressively the investment physically and fiscally that churches make in support of the work of our ministry centers and camp. If your church does not occupy the CORE Level of Affiliation I hope you will set your aspirations in that direction, which provides each CORE affiliate with the greatest participation in the governance of RCFN. CORE affiliates have both hands on the steering wheel, so to speak!

The COMMUNITY Level of Affiliation includes churches who are generally not regularly involved in the physical work of the Network or who contribute $999 or up to 1% of their undesignated receipts in a one year period. Persons from these churches are welcomed to attend our Network meetings but only as guests with NO voting authority and, therefore, no access to governance. There is no eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors, Support Teams or Standing Committees.

Much more desirable is a place on the CONNECTOR Level of Affiliation where there is some physical involvement with the work of the Network through the Centers and Camp Alkulana. These churches, which may or may not be Baptist, contribute at least $1,000 to the work of the Network and are, therefore, awarded THREE (3) messengers positions for Network meetings such as the Annual Meeting. Members of these churches may also serve on the Support Teams for the Centers or Camp Alkulana, though they may not chair the teams.

An even more desirous aspiration for churches is a position as a CHAMPION affiliate, a place earned by regular physical participation in the ministries of the Network as well as monetary contributions equal to or greater than 1% or less than 3% of undesignated offerings or as much as $25,000 for the previous 12 month reporting period. These churches become strong decision making partners with eligibility to provide up to ONE (1) member on the Board of Directors as well as FIVE (5) messengers for Network meetings. Members of CHAMPION Affiliates may serve on or chair Support Teams and may staff Standing Committees.

The strongest decision making partners and those with the greatest access to governance in the River City Faith Network occupy the role of CORE Affiliates. CORE affiliated churches must be Baptist, as must CHAMPION Affiliates. These are churches that are heavily involved in the physical work of the Network and contribute at an investment level equal to or greater than 3% of annual undersigned offerings. These Affiliates are also awarded a minimum of FIVE (5) messengers at Network meetings and are eligible to supply up to TWO (2) members on the RCFN Board of Directors. CORE churches may provide members and chairs of Support Teams and members and chairs of Standing Committees, and are, therefore, the most influential partners within the Levels of Affiliation. The CORE Affiliates represent the highest level of aspiration among the four Levels of Affiliation.

Regardless of your church’s current Level of Affiliation, I hope you will aspire to elevate your level until you reach the CORE Level of Affiliation with the greatest potential for positively influencing and contributing to the vital work that the River City Faith Network accomplishes within our city. Through your participation, and your engagement alone, we will be able to expand our impact to do even more than ever before for the under resourced of our city.

Despite your church’s Level of Affiliation, I also hope that you will strongly consider being a part of the 2nd Annual Meeting of the River City Faith Network being held at Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, 2011 Fairmount Avenue, 23223, at 3:00 PM on Sunday afternoon, October 23, 2016. It will be a time of missions engagement that you will treasure! Mark your calendar!

Expectantly,

Mike
2016 CHRISTMAS STORE

Think of what you and your family received last year. Can you help other families less fortunate than you with their Christmas this year?

Gifts are needed for children ages birth through 12 years old (Shortages reported for the 7 to 10 year olds). Suggestions: Clothing (jeans, sweaters, sweatshirts, sleepwear, socks, underwear, coats, hats, and gloves in regular and large sizes); Games; Toys; Books; Bicycles (and helmets). Please go easy on stuffed animals, Barbie dolls, Candy Land and Chutes and Ladders Board Games. Please purchase gifts that you would want your own children or grandchildren to receive. Please do not wrap anything; parents need to see what they are selecting. (Donations of small amounts of wrapping paper will be appreciated.) Please leave price tags on items so that less expensive items can be distinguished from more expensive ones.

Questions? Contact WMU Mission Involvement Consultant, Wyatt Heisler, (804-741-9320), wyattsweeds@aol.com.

2016 BACKPACK MINISTRY

11 churches donated a total of 219 backpacks. Oregon Hill donated 21 empty backpacks that we filled making our total 240 backpacks. I distributed 205 backpacks, gave 25 to South Richmond Center and 10 to Community Mission.

I also received extra school supplies, underwear, socks, toiletries bags, toys and a gift card for toiletries. Due to the limited number of underwear, socks and toiletries bags, I will give toiletries bags out during the Clothes Closet and underwear, socks and toys at the Christmas Store.

13 volunteers showed up for Friday, 8/19/16 and 42 volunteers on Saturday, 8/20/16.

Thank you very much!!!

GOLFER, SIGN UP NOW!

October 7, 2016
to help Richmond kids go to camp!

12th Annual
Alkulana Golf Tournament
Belmont Golf Course
1600 Hilliard Road, Henrico, VA 23228

Lunch @ 12 noon, Shot Gun start @ 1 pm.

All proceeds to fund Camp Alkulana.

For more information and to register on-line visit the Alkulana website: www.alkulana.org or call the RCFN at 804-329-1701, ext. 112.
2016 BACKPACK MINISTRY

Churches donated a total of 167 backpacks. Oregon Hill donated 21 empty backpacks and supplies and Church Hill Christian Wellness Center donated 25 backpacks making our total 213 backpacks. All the backpacks have been distributed. Most were distributed on the day of the store (August 26th) but a few were given out on the following days.

I also received extra school supplies, which I will be able to distribute during the Christmas Store and as needed throughout the year.

Thank you very much!!!
The Virginia Baptist Foundation is pleased to present a Stewardship Workshop

Thursday, October 6 at the Virginia Baptist Resource Center
10:00am to 12:30pm ~ Lunch provided

Although this is a free workshop offered and facilitated by the Virginia Baptist Foundation, registration is required. You can register for one or both sessions.

Go to www.richmondbaptist.org (News and Events tab) for the hyperlink to the registration form.

Endowments and Planned Gifts are the Most Effective Tools for Encouraging Legacy Giving

**Session 1** 10:00AM TO 11:00AM

**Endowment Basics**
- Why an endowment?
- How does an endowment assist a church?
- What steps are needed to establish an endowment?
- Should parameters be built into an endowment?
- When does a church promote an endowment?
- How does a church grow an endowment?

**Session 2** 11:15AM TO 12:30PM

**Planned Giving Programs**
- Biblical basis
- Charitable estate planning
- Affordable gifts
- Income generating gifts
- Asset protecting gifts
- Planned giving is legacy giving

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**Gloria Deo: Virginia Baptist Church Music Conference**
October 6, 2016 - October 8, 2016
All Day

**Derbyshire Baptist Church**
8800 Derbyshire Road
Richmond, VA, 23229

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**Virginia Baptist Women’s Chorale:**
“On My Journey Home”
October 22, 2016
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Winfree Memorial Baptist Church**
13617 Midlothian Turnpike
Midlothian, VA 23113

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**IGNITE: A Retreat for Middle School Students**
October 14—16, 2016
All Day

**Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center**
1 Eagle Eyrie Drive
Lynchburg, VA 24503
Thank you so much!

A big thank you for all who prepared and/or served lunches for the summer program at the Lighthouse International Church (formally ACCC) during the month of July. The workers and children at the Lighthouse International Church were very grateful and enjoyed the food—thank you, thank you, thank you to the following folks:

Phyllis Johnson - Hatcher Memorial B.C.
Rebecca Baker - Bethlehem B.C. - Penick
Brenda Boggs - Powhatan Community Church (PCC)
Carol Jones - Lakeside B.C.
Bunny Fernald - Second B.C.
Shirley Harvey - Westover B.C.
Amber Ryan - River Road Church, B.
Nancy Williams - Ginter Park B.C.
Carolyn Keller - Southampton B.C.
Jane Kaufelt - Jahnke Road B.C.
Mary Palmer - First B.C.
Christi Stanfield - Winfree Mem. B.C.
Lucy Lewis - Oak Forest B.C.

Very gratefully,
Ruth Guill,
Huguenot Road B.C.

Applications are being accepted for the 22nd Citizens Police Academy

September 20—October 13
(Tuesday & Thursday Evenings
6:00—8:00PM)

www.richmondbaptist.org/news-events/ for more information

The current transition in presidential leadership at BTSR is being handled with care and purpose. Dr. Ron Crawford announced his retirement on February 19, 2016, effective June 30, 2017. Dr. Crawford has served as President of BTSR since July 1, 2007. In March 2016, BTSR Trustees named a Presidential Search Committee to assume the task of searching for a dynamic and competent individual to assume the leadership of BTSR. (See the complete article at http://www.btsr.edu/about/president/)
**CHURCH NEWS**

Oct 1: **River Road**, 9:30—11:30 AM, Stop Hunger Now packaging 10,000 nutritionally sound meals

Oct 2: **Second**, Piano Recital, 3:00 PM, Pianist Russell Wilson

16: **Woodland Heights Baptist Church** is having their Fall Festival from 3:00PM to 6:00 PM.

Nov. 19: **Southampton Baptist Church** will be hosting their 7th Annual “Browse the Bazaar” from 9:00AM TO 12:00PM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE “CHURCH NEWS”
River City Faith Network website  ([www.richmondbaptist.org](http://www.richmondbaptist.org))
Pick the church from our Church Directories or go to the church’s website in parenthesis.

Special Thank You for the Cookies.
Thank you to each of the churches and their wonderful cooks for fixing so many great cookies. Every cookie was given away! It was a joy to see how grateful the fans were for all of the different cookies.

There were so many creative labels on the packages. Some with scripture verses on them; one label was inviting the fans to visit their church. What a great witness! The cookies always open doors to share God’s love. “Why are you doing this, giving away cookies and lemonade?” fans ask! What a joy to say, “Because God loves us so much we want to share His love.

Thank you again, for sharing in this ministry and making it possible for us to share the true gospel story.

Central Virginia Raceway Ministries

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**CALENDAR**

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**RCFN WMU Fall Celebration & Lunch**
Pattern Avenue Baptist Church

**BMAV Conference** - Eagle Eyrie

**LDC16:CVBM** - Derbyshire Baptist Church
8800 Derbyshire Rd., Richmond VA

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE “CHURCH NEWS”**
Visit us at the

**RCFN of the RBA FACEBOOK page**
www.facebook.com/RichmondBaptistAssociation/

See the INSERT for PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES for adoption
2nd Annual Meeting, RCFN
October 23, 2016!

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The **Insert Pages** are designed with sections that can be used as bulletin inserts, bulletin board notices or Prayer Guides for Sunday School classes, Small groups, Mission groups, etc.

**NOTE:** The email finance@rbaonline.org is no longer active.
Please use office@rbaonline.org.

Links for most every ad can be found on the RCFN website:

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ACP's are due
The Annual Mtg. is Oct. 23rd and in order to have accurate info in your packets we need your help.

Thank you so much!
ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Transformed! is published monthly by the River City Faith Network of the Richmond Baptist Association

Contact: Danette Moen via phone (804) 329-1701 ext.101, 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, or
- 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 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support of RCFN

2016 RCFN Budget Report
AUGUST Budget Amount: $ 43,669.00
AUGUST Budget Receipts: $ 19,509.00
AUGUST Budget Expenses: $ 38,881.00
YTD Budget Amount: $ 351,352.00
YTD Budget Receipts: $ 253,109.00

Camp Alkulana Offering
Offering Goal: $ 150,696.00
YTD Receipts: $ 87,908.00
YTD Expenses: $ 145,549.00

Visit www.richmondbaptist.org for Employment Opportunities,
*RCFN Remittance forms, *Information on our Associational Churches (church websites are linked to the individual churches), etc.

We are working hard to update the website. Let us know if you would like anything updated or added. It is our goal to make the website user friendly as your “go to” place for information about the RCFN and its Affiliates.

Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week
October 2 RISING LIBERTY
October 9 RIVER ROAD
October 16 SAINT PAUL’S (Creighton)
October 23 SAINT PAUL’S (Belt)
October 30 SAINT PAUL’S (Elm)
The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much! (James 5:16)

RCFN Board of Directors’ Meeting
SEPTEMBER 27, 2016
7:00 PM
Richmond Baptist Bldg., Large Conf. Room