As the Lord said, “The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them anytime you want…”

Mark 14:7

Let’s help them this Christmas season as we celebrate our LORD’S birth!

CHRISTMAS STORE
(Look inside for the Centers’ inserts)

As the Lord said, “The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them anytime you want…”

Mark 14:7

Let’s help them this Christmas season as we celebrate our LORD’S birth!

Thanksgiving meals

South Richmond Baptist Center

Thanksgiving bags
2 boxes of Stuffing mix
1 Canned Ham
1 Bag of sugar
2 can of Pumpkin mix
2 cans green beans
2 Mash potato mix
1 Jar of Gravy
1 can of cranberry sauce

Thank you for your donations!!
Contact Wesley if you have any questions (232-0174)

Oregon Hill Baptist Center

Please deliver items to the Center on Thursday, November 16th (1:00PM – 3:00PM)
If these times don’t suit then please contact Jennifer Turner to set an appointment to deliver.

Instant Stuffing &/or Potatoes &/or Rice Flavored Rice (Rice-a-Roni, etc.)
Canned Hams (small, non refrigerated)
Yams/Sweet Potatoes (Family Size Cans)
Apple Sauce
Green Beans (Family Size Cans)
Cream of Mushroom or Cream of Chicken Soup
Cans of Fried Onions
Corn (Family Size Cans or 2 smaller cans)
Muffin or Cornbread Mix
Macaroni & Cheese (Family Size Boxes)
Pre-made Pie Crust already in Pie Pan (Graham Cracker)
Instant Puddings to make pies (chocolate or vanilla)

$10 Gift Cards from Kroger (to be used toward purchase of Turkey or other perishable items)

Thank you for your donations!!
Contact Jennifer if you have any questions (648-1353)

Church Hill Christian Wellness Center

Thanksgiving cards
$10.00 Kroger gift cards to be added to Food Bags.
Goal of 80 gift cards.

Thank you for your donations!!
Contact Glinda if you have any questions (780-0053)

Thanksgiving Store
(Look inside for the Centers’ inserts)

As the Lord said, “The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them anytime you want…”

Mark 14:7

Let’s help them this Christmas season as we celebrate our LORD’S birth!
Musings from Mike:

We live in a city of hurting children, 40% of whom live in or on the edge of poverty. Poverty, as many of you well know, is a huge problem for our capital city.

City government and the Greater Richmond Transit Company are trying to help. Have you noticed the disruption on Broad Street as new pulse sites for Bus Rapid Transit are constructed? It is the hope of city planners and GRTC to link areas of the city crushed by poverty and crime to areas at the perimeter of the city where suitable jobs can be found and persons who desire to do so can find employment and a better life because of new access through affordable and reliable transportation. It is a big project but it is well under way!

Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties where jobs reside outside of the city are continuing to study how they can contribute to providing meaningful work opportunities for city dwellers without further entrenching the impoverished within their counties. It is a complex issue but thoughtful progress is being made and there are many within the Richmond area faith community who are promoting and supporting this good work.

Earlier this evening I was thinking of the churches of the River City Faith Network and the good work that you do in the Richmond area! We have just completed the Back-to-School Celebrations at our Community Centers. Backpacks and school supplies along with toiletry bags and socks were given away to children starting a new school year. You can be proud of the contribution you have already made this school year to helping youngsters to “get a good start!”

Though it is only October, staff conversations are already happening regarding the Christmas Stores that we hold each year! Dates have been established and this issue of the “Transformed!” contains information about what items of clothing and toys are preferred as we supply the Centers with helpful Christmas gifts for distribution during the early days of December.

I remember with great fondness the year that Margaret Allen at the South Richmond Baptist Center allowed me the privilege, due to her own battle that year with pneumonia and her need to obey her doctor’s orders to get needed rest in order to recover, of delivering bags of toys and clothing to a half dozen or so of the families who had come to the Center, made their selections for their children, and then, for whatever reason, were unable to return to pick up the gifts they had selected. For several of the families, the deliveries were simple. I had the addresses and when I arrived I found the parent at home and ready to receive, gratefully, the bags of gifts that I delivered. They were all so appreciative!

But none were more appreciative than the families whose deliveries proved much more difficult. I had their addresses, too! But of course they did not have phone numbers that were in service and several delivery attempts passed by with no one being at home. The bags of toys and clothing spent days riding in my van between repeated attempts to make the deliveries. Day after day, well into the evening, I would stop by at varying times to complete the task….but with no success. No success, and Christmas was coming….FAST! Time was running out!

One last day and one last attempt…..Christmas Eve about 6:30 in the evening and the knock at the door! Once, twice, three times!

There seemed to be sounds from inside but, at first, no one came! Then...as I was about to turn to go, the door opened and a young lady in her late twenties or early thirties came to the door! She seemed a bit mystified at first by some Caucasian male standing on her doorstep on Christmas Eve. I didn’t look like Santa but I did have a sack! And an explanation. Besides, in the dim light coming from inside she suddenly recognized me from when we had met during her visit to the Christmas Store. She welcomed me in and she could not have been more grateful for the visit. She had all but given up on receiving the gifts she had selected at the Center’s Christmas Store for her children and had resigned herself to the bleakness of the Christmas morning they would face. Until………!

What a privilege Margaret had allowed me! What a Christmas gift she had given to ME!

I want to thank you in advance for all of the gifts you and your church will help to make available to impoverished Richmond area children this year! I can tell you from rich experiences of my own that your efforts and expenditures are GREATLY appreciated! You make Christmas a positive experience for so many! You demonstrate Christ’s love so well.

I took a nostalgic moment to review some of the pictures that I snapped at the Christmas Stores last year and was reminded of something that I shared with the folks at the RCFN WMU Fall Celebration on September 19th at First, Richmond. “We need more toys and clothing this year!”

That’s right! Last year generous as we were, there was still a shortage of toys and clothing. Larger toys were really scarce and larger bicycles were at a premium. Even table games were not as abundant as in other years. You’ll see from the pictures below that there was far too much table space! Boys and girls, moms and dads from all around our city are counting on us and so are our faithful Community Missionaries, Glinda, Jennifer and Wesley! Let’s do all we can!

Toys and clothing are NOT the reason for the season, but Jesus IS, so let’s do Him proud with the generosity that we display to those who need desperately to know that He really cares for each of them. Thank you in advance!

Gratefully,

Mike
THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRESENTED FOR ADOPTION BY THE VOTING BODY OF THE 3RD RFCN ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 22, 2017 IN BUSINESS SESSION AT 3:00 PM:

3RD RFCN ANNUAL MEETING
MINISTRY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION – ELECTION OF NETWORK LEADERS:
The Ministry Placement Committee recommends the election of the persons listed below to the following positions of service and leadership within the Network to begin service at the close of this 3rd Annual Fall Meeting:

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:
Dr. Bob Thompson, Chair, 3-year term Lakeside; Mr. Brad Earley, Mbr., 3-year term First

FACILITIES COMMITTEE:
Rev. Doug Watson, Mbr., 3-year term Stockton Memorial
Mrs. Toni Meyers, Mbr., 3-year term First; Mrs. Nancy King, Mbr., 3-year term Carlisle Avenue
Mrs. Diane Shoemake, Mbr., 3-year term River Road

MINISTRY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE:
Mrs. Gayle Bradley, Mbr., 3-year term Huguenot Road; Mrs. Eleanor Dodson, Mbr., 3-year term First
Rev. Louis Jones, Mbr., 3-year term Gravel Hill; Rev. Howard Germany, Mbr., 3-year term Carlisle Avenue

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Guill, Ministry Placement Committee Chair

3RD RFCN ANNUAL MEETING
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

The Stewardship Committee recommends the adoption of the 2018 Proposed Budget as printed. It will be noted that the 2018 Proposed Budget is essentially the same as the 2017 Adjusted Budget except for a modest 2.1% COLA increase for all RFCN employees.

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<th>River City Faith Network, 2018 Proposed Budget</th>
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Respectfully submitted, Philip Turner, Stewardship Committee Chair
The Church Hill Wellness Center

CHRISTMAS STORE

Christmas Store @ Bethlehem Baptist Church,
1920 Fairmount Ave. (on the opposite side of Fairmount Ave. from the Wellness Center in Mount Tabor Church)

Saturday ♦ December 9            8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Gifts are needed for children ages birth through 10 years old (Shortages reported for the 7 to 12 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.

Deliver your gifts to Bethlehem Baptist Church, 1920 Fairmount Avenue, across the street from Mount Tabor; December 6 and December 7 (Wednesday and Thursday), between 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up on Friday, December 8, starting at 10:00 a.m.; help as shopping assistants on December 9, and to assist with clean-up on Dec. 9 from 2 p.m. until. If you can volunteer, call Glinda Ford at 780-0053.

South Richmond Baptist Center & Oregon Hill Baptist Centers’

CHRISTMAS STORE

Christmas store in South Richmond Center, Saint Paul’s Belt Campus, 700 East Belt Blvd.

Thursday & Friday ♦ December 7 & 8
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Gifts are needed for children ages birth through 10 years old (Shortages reported for the 7 to 12 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.

Deliver your gifts: Monday, December 4 and Tuesday, December 5 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, December 6 between 9:00a.m. and noon. Bring gifts to the rear of the gymnasium at Saint Paul’s Belt Campus. Volunteers are needed to help sort and set-up each delivery day; help as shopping assistants on Store days; be interpreters for Spanish speaking shoppers; and help pack-up leftover items on Friday, December 8. If you can volunteer, call Wesley Garrett, SRBC, at 232-0174 or Jennifer Turner, OHBC, at 648-1353.
Lord, Prepare Me
by Alexan Bailey

Alexan, a student at Meredith College, just spent her first summer on staff at Camp Alkulana. Alexan came to us through CBF’s Student.Go partnership.

“Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving I’ll be a living sanctuary for you”

Any of the camp counselors this summer at Camp Alkulana could tell of my mini-breakdown during staff training. I was feeling wholly unprepared to be a counselor and didn’t know anything other than I felt like I needed to be there this summer. I am not a hiker or a caver and my upper body strength is virtually nonexistent. Luckily, as the summer pushed forward I grew. The physical tasks became easier. I adjusted (albeit slowly) to the outdoor camp life. These changes were welcome and expected. The most meaningful moment I experienced at camp however was not that my knees quit hurting or that I felt less nervous about making it up a long hike. My “aha” moment happened around the last campfire of the younger boys’ session.

Gathered around the campfire, campers began to notice the nightly emergence of the fireflies from the bushes and the anticipation built of where their small bodies will light up next. As young boys began to reach their hands up to catch these small creatures, the child beside me didn’t move. Swaying to the slow song we were singing, he was not trying to catch them but only wanted to watch them. “Miss Alexan, look over there,” he whispered excitedly as he pointed to the field behind the campfire logs. “I see them! They’re so pretty,” I replied. “Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy...”, the campers and counselors sang. The young boy leaned over to me and whispered, in awe, “Miss Alexan! Look at my hand!” There, perched in his outstretched palm, was a firefly and on his face an indescribable wonder. He handled the fragile creature with a fierce gentleness I hadn’t yet witnessed in the session of rambunctious little boys. “Miss Alexan, I think he loves me. I hope he doesn’t fly away,” he whispered, “I don’t want to scare him”, “With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you...”. The voices around us floated up. I wiped the tears back that were threatening to overflow. As the child whispered to it, the firefly stayed put. He had found his sanctuary in the hands of the young boy.

**COMMUNITY MISSIONARY**
**REV. JENNIFER TURNER**

400 South Pine Street
Richmond, VA 23224

(804) 648-1353

(Located in Pine Street Baptist Church)

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**Oregon Hill Baptist Center & South Richmond Baptist Centers’**

**CHRISTMAS STORE**

Christmas store is in South Richmond Center, Saint Paul’s Belt Campus, 700 East Belt Blvd.  

**Thursday & Friday ♦ December 7 & 8**

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Gifts are needed for children ages birth through 10 years old (Shortages reported for the 7 to 12 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.

**Deliver your gifts:** Monday, December 4 and Tuesday, December 5 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, December 6 between 9:00 a.m. and noon. Bring gifts to the rear of the gymnasium at Saint Paul’s Belt Campus. Volunteers are needed to help sort and set-up each delivery day; help as shopping assistants on Store days; be interpreters for Spanish speaking shoppers; and help pack-up leftover items on Friday, December 8. If you can volunteer, call Jennifer Turner, OHBC, at 648-1353. or Wesley Garrett, SRBC, at 232-0174.

**Suggestions:**

- Board Games.
- Toys; Books; Bicycles (and helmets).
- Please go easy on stuffed animals, Barbie dolls, Candy Land and Chutes and Ladders Board Games.
- Gifts are needed for children ages birth through 10 years old (Shortages reported for the 7 to 12 year olds).
- 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.

**Community of Grace**
- Derbyshire
- First
- First Union
- Friendship Memorial
- Gayton
- Ginter Park

**Grace**
- Gravel Hill
- Hatcher Memorial
- Huguenot Road
- Korean of Richmond
- Lakeside
- Lighthouse of Hope

**Morning Star**
- New Canaan
- New Life
- Pine Street
- Rising Liberty
- Saint Paul’s
- Stockton Memorial

**Shalom Fellowship**
- Skipwith
- Southampton
- Swift Creek
- The Light Community
- Trinity
- United For Christ

**Weatherford Mission**
- Group
- Westover
- Woodland Heights

For more CAMP ALKULANA stories and pictures go to www.alkulana.org
The Virginia Baptist Historical Society

13TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

WINNERS ARE:

1st – OHBC – Bobby Carrington, Kenny Glenn, John Bochman, Al Mittlestater

2nd – Little Sisters – C. J. Meade, Barry Tudor, Ashton Tudor, Jim Crinkley

3rd – RRCB – Tim Carpenter, Joe Teefey, Ryan McCarthy

Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive – both won by Ty Corbin – IBEW team

CAMP ALKULANA

13TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive – both won by Ty Corbin – IBEW team

Writer’s Block

Beth Reddish Wright is the director of Camp Alkulana. She came to the directorship on February 16, 2008, so she is coming up on a 10th anniversary in four months. As a part of the 100th Camp Alkulana Anniversary celebration she authored a book called “Come Along, Join Our Song” that is full of pictures, historical narrative and testimonies of the camp which began in 1915. Camp Alkulana is the oldest surviving summer camp in Virginia and one of the oldest camps on the eastern seaboard, probably only predated by the first summer camps founded in New England in the 1880’s.

Beth has captured the rich history of our camp in a very beautiful way. In many respects, the history of Camp Alkulana is also the history of Richmond Woman’s Missionary Union for the two have been inextricably intertwined throughout these more than ten decades. No one can be more highly credited as having faithfully supported Camp Alkulana than RBA WMU through the churches of the River City Faith Network of the RBA!

As Fred Anderson wrote in the foreward, Beth invited campers and leaders to share their remembrances of the camp’s past that “captures the spirit of Camp Alkulana, holding up its magical presence for the thousands of “Bright Eyes” who have played on its grounds, splashed in its stream, etc.”

To receive a copy of “Come Along, Join Our Song” plan to attend the 3rd RCFN Annual Meeting on October 22nd where Beth will be part of our Book Signing and her book will be available for purchase. It is a delightfully interesting and inspiring read!
CHURCH NEWS

HUGUENOT ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH _ Says goodbye to Jon Greenhill, Associate Pastor of Youth, after nine faithful years of service to God.

LEIGH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH _ Nov. 12th 96th annual Harvest Home Day

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST _ YOUTH CHOIR JAM 2017—Nov. 17—18. Cost $35.00 Contact Bob at bobgallagher@rrcb.org for more information.

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST _ Sunday, Nov. 12th, 7:00—8:00pm. Organ Voluntary Series with Robert Gallagher, Organist.

SKIPWITH BAPTIST CHURCH _ Oct. 14th at 3:30PM _ The Dixie Melody Boys will present a concert on the church lawn. An offering will be taken. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy good music and fellowship. Come early a large crowd is expected.

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH _ is actively seeking an experienced and dynamic leader to become the next Director of their vibrant child care development program. Please send a copy of your resume to DirectorSearchTeam@tbcrichmond.org

WOODLAND HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH _ October 22, 3:00—6:00 PM  Fall Festival 2017

WEBBER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH _ November 5th, 3:00—6:00 PM Women of Worship presents “Harvest Gathering” Guest Speaker: Dr. Charles B. Nunn, cost $5.00, contact the Church Office at 804-271-4018. Reservations are due by October 29, 2017.

CALENDAR EVENTS

October 20–22, 2017
Special Needs Retreat
Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center Lynchburg, VA

October 22, 2017 @ 3:00–5:00PM
RCFN 3rd Annual Meeting
The Saint Paul’s Baptist Church
700 East Belt Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23224

November 3–4, 2017
Women’s Get Away “Joy In The Journey”
Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center Lynchburg, VA

November 6, 2017
Deadline for TRANSFORMED! information

November 6, 2017 @ 10:30AM Social; 11:00AM Prayer
WMU World Day of Prayer
Second Baptist Church,
9614 River Road, Richmond, VA 23229

November 7, 2017 @ 6:30PM, RCFN CAST, SCR
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond, VA 23222

November 7, 2017, 6:00 AM–7:00 PM
ELECTION DAY

November 11, 2017
Veteran’s Day

November 13, 2017 @ 9:30AM
RCFN Staff Meeting, SCR

November 13–15, 2017
BGAV Annual Meeting
Hampton Roads Convention Center Hampton, VA

November 18, 2017 @ 2:00PM
SRST
South Richmond Baptist Center “Satellite”

November 21, 2017 @ 10:00AM, RCFN
RCFN WMU Leadership Team
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond, VA 23222

November 23–24, 2017
Thanksgiving Holiday
(RCFN office closed)

November 28, 2017 @ 7:00PM, RCFN
RCFN Board of Directors’ Meeting
3111 Moss Side Ave., Richmond, VA 23222

December 3–10, 2017
Week of Prayer for International Missions
(Lottie Moon Christmas Offering)

Visit us at the RCFN of the RBA Website page
www.richmondbaptist.org

We are working on keeping this website active. Please check us out! Let Danette know of anything your church would like to have on the website. (Job Opportunities, Events, etc.) Also let Danette know when to remove the Job Opportunity information.

Thank you so much!
**DEADLINE MATERIAL — DO NOT DELAY**

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**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 USPS mail at the addresses listed above:

- To submit an article: it must be received by the 4th 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.

---

**Pray for the RCFN of the RBA Churches seeking a PASTOR**

Deaf Mission Chapel - FBC
Derbyshire Cambodian
Hatcher Memorial
The Mount Carmel
Woodland Heights

Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week

Nov. 5.....Shalom Fellowship
Nov. 12.....Skipwith
Nov. 19.....Southampton
Nov. 26.....Stockton Memorial

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective! (James 5:16) NIV

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**2017 RCFN Budget Report**

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**Camp Alkulana Offering**

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**Writers’ Block** is a new periodic feature in the “TRANSFORMED!”.

It is designed to give exposure to Christian authors related to the RCFN whose work sometimes goes virtually unknown. Inclusion in this column is in no way an endorsement of the viewpoints or opinions expressed by the author. Authors are encouraged to submit their information.

(See the RCFN website: [www.richmondbaptist.org](http://www.richmondbaptist.org))