THE PRAYER GUIDE highlights a different network mission emphasis for each day of the week with a photo of the RCFN staff member and 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 13-20, 2018.

The promotional materials for the 2018 Camp Alkulana Offering and Week of Prayer for Associational/Network Missions will be available the week of April 23rd at the RCFN Office. We will have available: Offering Envelopes, an 8 1/2 x 11 Flier for the Camp Offering, and the Prayer Guide for the Week of Prayer. Other promo items that will be 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/Network Missions. To download the order form, visit the Camp Offering section of the RBA website at www.richmondbaptist.org. To place an order contact Danette Moen at 804-329-1701 ext. 101 or office@rbaonline.org.

CAMP ALKULANA ‘S SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 6—16 Staff Training; June 20—July 1 1st Session: Older Boys; July 5—12 2nd Session: Younger Boys; July 17—18 Staff In Service Training; July 19—30 3rd Session: Older Girls; August 3—10 4th Session: Younger Girls; August 11 Staff Wrap Up

Camp Alkulana is still seeking male counselors for their summer staff! Applicants (18 years and older) can apply on the camp website: http://alkulana.org/
In Fond Remembrance

Don Sage  
Chair, RCFN Board of Directors

The River City Faith Network gives thanks to God for sharing Don Sage with us as a beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather and great-grandfather, who passed away on April 4, 2018. Don was born in Palm Beach, Florida, but was raised, along with his older brother George, by the indomitable Virginia Beazley Sage on Stuart Circle in the Fan. Don met the love of his life, Mary Etta Glenn Sage, on a fortuitous blind date in 1954 and they would go on to marry in 1956 and have three wonderful children, Beth, David and Donna.

Don was a dedicated Hokie who attended Virginia Tech's College of Engineering and graduated with a degree in industrial engineering. After a distinguished 38-year career with AT&T that earned him numerous professional accolades, including the Society of Manufacturing Engineers' LEAD Award for Integrated Manufacturing, Don retired in 1994, but was far from idle. During both his professional career and his retirement, he gave generously of his time and talents to multiple organizations and causes, including the Telephone Pioneers and Virginia Tech.

We will gratefully remember Don as a long-time member of Derbyshire Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon. He was also a dedicated supporter of the Richmond Baptist Association and the River City Faith Network, serving until his death as only the second Chairman of the RCFN Board of Directors following Dr. Cecil Chambers, during whose term as RCFN’s first Board Chair he served as the Vice-Chair. Don was instrumental in initiating several grants for Camp Alkulana from the Telephone Pioneers and expanded involvement at Camp Alkulana Work Days through the enlistment of leadership and transportation from the Lakewood Retirement Community as well as friends from the Telecommunication Worker’s Pioneers organization.

Don was a hard worker and thoughtful leader who exemplified the best of Christlike values, a willingness to invest fully in all that he undertook and who lived as one who was young at heart. We will miss him tremendously. Our hearts are filled with compassionate sympathy for his beloved wife Mary Etta, in addition to his children, Beth Newell (Bill), David Sage (Marla) and Donna Earley (Brad) along with the remainder of Don’s extended family and many friends.

Rev. Steve Blanchard and ReEstablish Richmond are trying to help refugees succeed at life in Richmond!

Imagine with me for a moment what it would be like to leave the country of your origin to move to a new land where you do not know the language, understand the culture, know how to use the currency of that country and you are without transportation of your own. To make matters worse you are even without the means to purchase a vehicle. Think, as well, what it would be like to have no home nor furniture and the one bank account that you had was seized before you left your previous home. You are arriving virtually penniless with four children and a wife to feed and clothe. The only spare clothes for the family are those you are wearing along with a few mismatched pieces you hurriedly gathered as you took flight from the dangers you left behind. You are finally in the United States, but only after passing through three other countries along the way!

This is not every refugee’s story, but elements of it are true for all too many who arrive on our shores. ReEstablish Richmond is a nonprofit founded in 2010 by Patrick Braford who noticed a gap in Richmond’s services for refugees. Government programs assigned families to Richmond upon entering the U.S., but once they arrived, they often didn’t have the resources or skills to secure adequate housing. Patrick’s passion for their inclusion in the wider community led him to start ReEstablish Richmond focused on helping refugees settle into Richmond while maintaining ties to their home culture. As Patrick shared his vision with others, people from across the Richmond community were drawn to join the team. Services provided have shifted over the years to meet the ever-changing needs of the Richmond refugee population, but the focus of helping our newest community members make a life of their own in the River City has not wavered.

Steve Blanchard, Minister of Compassion, at First Baptist Church, Richmond, works closely with ReEstablish Richmond to assist in this important work. He knows that meeting transportation needs of refugees is critical if they are to make their way successfully. They need to be able to meet medical appointments, attend trainings of various types, be on time for job interviews, and the list goes on and on.

Many Baptists have vehicles they could use to shuttle refugees to essential destinations and many churches have vans or busses that sit for unused of the week, vehicle that could be utilized to take larger groups where they need to go. I hope you will read on page 7 about Steve’s proposal to help with transportation needs. Then go to our website www.richmondbaptist.org for more details including his contact information. Pray and talk to your church leadership about how you might assist in this important ministry. This is an at-home missionary opportunity to show the love of Christ to parts of the world that have moved right to our city.

Rejoicingly, Mike
Writers’ Block:

PRIVILEGE, RISK, AND SOLIDARITY!

The issue of undocumented immigration cannot be described as either a problem or a possibility in the current political climate – it simply is a reality, and how individual Christians and churches respond to it relies heavily on their theological understanding of what it means to be an immigrant and what it means to be privileged. Taking a combined approach of scriptural exegesis and feminist thought/ theology, this book provides new ways to approach the pressing issue of undocumented immigration. Rich in immigration law and history, along with purposeful looks into the work of feminist scholarship and the stories of immigrants themselves, this book asks hard questions of those with privilege about taking risks to stand in solidarity with some of the most marginalized in U.S. society – our undocumented immigrant neighbors.

Rev. Libby Mae Grammer is an ordained minister in the moderate Baptist tradition serving as a minister on staff at River Road Church, Baptist in Richmond, VA. She is a Doctor of Ministry student at McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University and has almost a decade of experience as an Immigration Legal Assistant at a large law firm in the Southeast. She also holds a Master’s degree in Theology, Ethics, and Culture from the University of Virginia as well as a Master of Divinity degree from McAfee School of Theology.

Endorsements & Reviews

"An important, well-informed debut from a promising young scholar-minister. Highly recommended."
-David Gushee, Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics, Mercer University; Author of Kingdom Ethics

"Privilege, Risk, and Solidarity weaves diverse threads into a singular ethical challenge for today’s Christians. Blending migration law and feminist theology, Libby tells the stories of, and for, marginalized persons, giving a voice to the undocumented immigrants in our midst. How can we redeem a culture that leaves more people out than it invites in? Read, learn, discern, and respond in faith."
--Bob Dale, PhD, leader coach, Richmond, VA

"This book offers a timely and provocative look at the US immigration system that is rich with stories from scripture, theology, and lived experience. Written in a way that is accessible for use in the classroom or the congregation, Grammer invites her readers on a journey where they will learn how to stand in solidarity with those who are undocumented while simultaneously working to create a more just system."
--Melissa Browning, PhD, McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University

Order your signed copy from the author today! libbygrammer@rrcb.org; unsigned http://wipfandstock.com/privilege-risk-and-solidarity.html

Faith & Family Nights 2018 at the Diamond:

Saturday May 12: Gates open @ 5:00pm—Game Time @ 6:05pm;

SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, August 9 Gates open @ 5:30pm—Game Time @ 6:35pm

Join the Flying Squirrels in a celebration of faith and family. These two nights include special pre-game concerts by national recording artist as well as player testimonials. Special group rates are available!

For more details go to https://www.richmondbaptist.org/news-events/
YARD SALE hosted by the SRBC Support Team. 🍔 Free Hot dogs and drinks for the community. April 21st starting at 9 AM - 1:00 PM.

We would love to have donations of items to sale. Volunteers are needed to man the tables and the grill. Deliveries can be made the week of April 15th to the Satellite Bldg. from 9:00AM—1:00 PM each day. Location is 5500 Germain Road, Southside.

Listed below are the items that should be included in the toiletries bags for our Back-To-School Celebration. Please send regular sizes for these bags. Fill the bags or put as many of these items in the bag as you can.

- Deodorant
- Soap
- Wash cloth
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Floss

Please provide the family size bottles not the huge ones nor the tiny ones.

Thank you so much.

Don’t forget to collect underwear for boys and girls of all ages. August will be here before we know it.

Hours: Monday 9:00am–5:00 pm; Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am–6:00 pm; Friday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

COMMUNITY MISSIONARY - REV. WESLEY GARRETT
700 East Belt Blvd. Richmond, VA 23224
(Located in St. Paul’s Baptist Church—Belt Campus)
wesley.garrett@rbaonline.org
(804-232-0174)

COMMUNITY MISSIONARY - REV. GLINDA F. FORD
2011 Fairmount Avenue, Richmond, VA 23223
(Located in Mount Tabor Baptist Church)
glinda.ford@rbaonline.org
(804-780-0053)
Annual Fix-up and Clean-up Days
at Camp Alkulana

Help us get ready for the summer season! Plenty to do: *Yard work  *Light carpentry  *Spring Cleaning and  *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.

To sign up as an individual or group, email Beth Wright  
at campalkulana@gmail.com

Oregon Hill
Baptist Center

THANK YOU SO MUCH for “Sharing the Light of Christ” with those less fortunate.

MEN’S
Warm Weather Clothes NEEDED

T-shirts
Jeans
Khakis
Shorts
Tennis Shoes

NEW! Men’s Underwear

Please, NO CHILDREN’S or WOMEN’S Clothes at this time.

Other Items needed are Men’s Razors and travel size shaving cream cans

ONE DAY Unlimited bus Passes are always nice to have on hand.

Oregon Hill Baptist Center  

400 South Pine Street  Richmond, VA 23224  
(Located in Pine Street Baptist Church)

jennifer.turner@rbaonline.org  
(804-648-1353)

Thank you so much for “Sharing the Light of Christ” with those less fortunate.

You can also call Beth Wright, Camp Director: 329-1701, ext. 114.
April 21, 2018: 9:00am – 12:00pm: New Volunteer & Orientation Virginia Baptist Resource Center, Richmond

• 1:00pm – 4:00pm: All volunteers, Virginia Baptist Resource Center, Richmond

Items to collect for 2018

• New shoes for children and teens (athletic/tennis shoes)
• Underwear for girls and boys (boys prefer boxers; girls love the ones with designs, not all-white)
• Socks for children and teens, preferably colored and no show, no white)
• Walmart Gift Cards
• Sweet Dreams Pillow Fund – Pillows will be given to everyone at the sites this summer.

WMU—Standing Rock Mission Team

WMU Week at Standing Rock Indian Reservation, North and South Dakota July 22—27, 2018

Leaders: Laura Davis, Cathy Banton

Mission: To work alongside Pastor Boots Marsh, building loving relationships with our Native American friends in the name of Christ; working hand in hand and heart to heart to bring hope to Native Americans living on the Standing Rock Reservation.

Ministry Partner: Tipi Wakan Church

Volunteers Needed: Women, Men, Families

**CHURCH NEWS**

**CARLISLE**
Outdoor Movie Nights start back Friday, April 20 at 8:00 PM.

**PINE STREET**
April 21st from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, we will be having a yard sale in Pleasants Park and we are also having a free music gleaning. We have lots of sheet music, book music, children's music literature and other music related supplies that we would like to pass along to those who can use it. Pine Street Baptist Church, 400 S. Pine Street, Richmond VA 23220.

**WESTOVER**
April 28th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Church Yard Sale and Bake Sale.

**DERBYSHIRE**
Now enrolling for 2018—2019 school year. 6 months—Prekindergarten. www.dbcrichmond.org/dps

**SECOND**
Congratulations to Dr. Mary Beth Bennett, as she started her new ministry as the organist for Second Baptist on April 8th

**FIRST**
May 5, 2018 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon Compassion Yard Sale; Gym, Mulberry Parking along the gym end.

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WMUV welcomes Kenny Lane as the new director of CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center.

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**CALENDAR EVENTS**

**April 17 @ 10:30 AM**
WMU ANNUAL CELEBRATION AND LUNCH
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond VA 23222

**April 19, noon—3:00 PM**
Raceway Set Up
600 East Laburnum Ave., Richmond VA

**April 20—21**
RIR Raceway Weekend
For cookie & volunteer times see the TRANSFORMED! frontpage.

**April 27—28; April 28—29**
WMU Mom & Me I AND ii, Eagle Eyrie

**April 30 @ 9:30 AM**
RCFN Staff Mtg., SCR
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond VA 23222

**May 1 @ 6:30 PM**
C.A.S.T. Mtg., SCR
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond VA 23222

**May 13**
MOTHER’S DAY

**May 15 @ 9:00 AM**
Raceway Ministry Core Team Meeting, SCR
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond VA 23222

**May 15 @ 10:00 AM**
WMU Leadership Mtg, LCR
3111 Moss Side Ave, Richmond VA 23222

**May 13-20**
Official Week of Prayer for Associational/Network Missions

**May 19 & June 2, 2018**
Annual Fix-Up Clean-up Days at Camp Alkulana

**May 22 @ 7:00 PM**
Board of Directors Meeting
3111 Moss Side Ave., LCR

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VBS IS COMING SOON.
Please send your VBS schedule and the Theme of your church’s VBS to Danette. We will put it in the next TRANSFORMED!

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**MEMORIAL DAY**
MAY 28, 2018

**RCFN OFFICE IS CLOSED**
Pray for the RCFN Churches seeking a PASTOR

Derbyshire Cambodian
Hatcher Memorial
The Mount Carmel
Woodland Heights

Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week

May 6……………..Friendship Memorial
May 13…………..Gayton
May 20…………..Ginter Park
May 27…………..Grace

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12) NIV

RCFN Board of Directors’ Meeting
May 22, 2018
7:00 PM
3111 Moss Side Ave. Richmond, VA 23222

THANK YOU for your continued support of RCFN

2018 MARCH RCFN Budget Report

RCFN Monthly Budget Amount: $44,363.00
MARCH Budget Receipts: $26,122.00
MARCH Budget Expenses: $46,388.00

RCFN YTD Budget Amount: $133,089.00
RCFN YTD Budget Receipts: $79,648.00
RCFN YTD Budget Expenses: $145,814.00

Camp Alkulana Offering $158,850.00
YTD Budget Amount: $39,712.50
YTD Receipts: $24,346.00
YTD Expenses: $27,971.00

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)