CENTRAL VIRGINIA RACEWAY MINISTRIES
Sponsored by Dover and Middle District Baptist Associations & River City Faith Network of the RBA

Ministry Service Opportunities Available
During NASCAR Race Weekend
Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13, 2019
Richmond Raceway (RR)
800 EAST LABURNUM AVENUE

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to minister beside RR guest services by providing race fans an opportunity to worship, enjoy Christian music and arts, discover the message of Christ through media and know His transforming presence.

VOLUNTEERS are asked to work a 5 or 6 hour shift as they serve in a variety of ways in our Hospitality Ministry Sites at the RICHMOND RACEWAY COMPLEX. As ambassadors of goodwill, opportunities for service include: distributing “cups of cold water,” cookies, and Christian driver literature; performing as singers, musical groups or with performing arts (clowns, magicians, mimes, jugglers, balloon artists, etc.); and serving as chaplains, crisis counselors, carnival workers, or logistics and support persons.

VOLUNTEERS are also needed to become residents or minister at a CVRM provided camper/motorhome parked at one of the RV lots with camping race fans during the race weekend. RR track management believes that having CVRM representatives living and ministering at these sites among camping race fans will strengthen the Christian influence throughout the raceway complex. CVRM is SEEKING RVs: If you have a camper or motor home you would like to park at RR for the race weekend either for your own occupancy or for someone else from CVRM to occupy, please call: (804) 601-4463 or e-mail: info@varacewayministries.org

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION & SHIFT SIGN UP

All volunteers or anyone interested in learning more about this ministry ARE REQUIRED to attend the Worker Training Session on Tuesday evening, April 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Richmond Baptist 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 11 - Thursday: SET-UP Main Hospitality Site & Hospitality Sites in RV lots
1 SHIFT: Noon—3:00 pm

April 12 - Friday: KIDS CORNER and Hospitality Ministry for the NASCAR Xfinity RACE:
SHIFTS: 8:30 am—1:00 pm, 12:00—6:00 pm & 6:00—8:00 pm (Lost & Lonely)

April 13- Saturday: KIDS CORNER and Hospitality for the Monster Energy NASCAR RACE:
SHIFTS: 8:30 am—1:00 pm,12:00 - 6:00pm; 6:00—8:00 pm (Lost & Lonely/Tear down site)

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 made available by Central Virginia Raceway Ministries. Cookies may be brought to the RBA (River City) Office, 3111 Moss Side Ave. April 8-11, from 8:30 am. - 4:30 p.m. (329-1701) or the Dover Baptist Assoc. Office, 11006 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland, VA (550-1980)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT WHEN YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER:
PHONE: (804) 601-4463 OR E-MAIL: info@varacewayministries.org
One of the most important events in the life of any church is the annual effort we know as Vacation Bible School. Annually three-fourths of all baptisms in most churches come from among the persons who attend VBS. That makes VBS a strategically significant event that is of eternal value.

LifeWay has placed the following checklist online to help churches prepare for your next VBS. I have copied it for your benefit to help you prepare in the best manner possible.

I am including the preparation countdown checklist from 4-6 months out through the one week mark before your VBS begins. Next month I will add the final steps in the LifeWay checklist. "The planning of VBS is crucial and felt church-wide, but the benefits are lasting.

Although VBS is a week-long event, preparation begins months beforehand. Use this summary as a reminder of the tasks to be completed before, during and after VBS.

Also, don’t forget to provide your VBS leaders with all the resources they need to successfully begin planning at your church.

4-6 Months Before VBS
- Lead your church to begin praying regularly for Vacation Bible School.
- Lead the church to vote on or approve your VBS director.
- Set dates for VBS on the church calendar.
- Determine the audiences for whom you will provide: preschoolers, children, youth, adults, special needs.
- Prepare the budget and submit it to the church for approval.
- Set goals for enrollment, prospects, and offering.
- Begin recruiting VBS directors, leaders, and teachers.
- Begin to develop your promotion strategy.
- Set goals for your Vacation Bible School.

3-4 Months Before VBS
- Estimate your VBS enrollment and determine class or department organization.
- Enlist directors and leaders for all Bible Study classes and other activities.
- Enlist a VBS Records Team Leader.
- Create a VBS Calendar of Events and place activities on the church calendar. Distribute this information to all VBS volunteers.
- Schedule planning meetings and develop agendas.
- Guide the VBS Promotion Team to present the promotion strategy.
- Plan a VBS kickoff event.
- Plan pre-enrollment activities.

2-3 Months Before VBS
- Order and distribute VBS curriculum.
- Plan the VBS schedule.
- Conduct first planning meeting.
- Lead workers to attend the associational VBS training.
- If you choose, begin VBS musical practice for church kids and their friends.
- Give leaders their supply request forms and a deadline for returning requests.
- Begin promotion efforts.
- Plan Preparation Day.
- Plan Family Night/Day activities.
- Plan decorations for the church’s common areas.

1-2 Months Before VBS
- Continue promotion efforts.
- Continue VBS musical practice.
- Begin making decorations.
- Lead departments to conduct planning meetings.

2-4 Weeks Before VBS
- Conduct the second VBS planning meeting.
- Receive Supply Request forms and gather supplies.
- Continue promotion efforts.
- Conduct pre-enrollment activities.
- Continue VBS musical practice.
- Order your customized VBS postcards and ‘families with children’ mailing list from LifeWay Prospect Services.

Help safeguard your ministry with background checks. LifeWay customers can receive discounts of up to 58 percent on background screenings.

1-2 Weeks Before VBS
- Assign pre-registered participants to Bible Study classes and other age-group departments.
- Distribute Prayer Guides to those who have committed to pray.
- Distribute supplies.
- Finalize room assignments.
- Conduct department planning meetings.
- Read 7 Last-minute Tips for VBS.

Many thanks to LifeWay for supplying this helpful preparation checklist and immense thanks to all of the pastors and church leaders and laity who will support your Vacation Bible School Director and staff during the 2019 VBS season for reaching in and reaching out with the life giving Good News!

Blessings and prayers as you pray and prepare.

With joyful anticipation,

Mike
Silent Dream Walk

On Saturday, January 19, 2019 the Evangelism Ministry of Mount Tabor Baptist Church held a Silent Dream Walk in memory of Martin L. King, Jr., with a gathering of area churches and the residents of the community. In his speech, “I Have a Dream,” Dr. King said “Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope.” This became the driving focus to do a united walk to demonstrate that HOPE does live in our community.

The walk started from Mount Tabor Church at 21st and Fairmount Ave. and proceeded to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge on Mosby Street. We then crossed the bridge to N. 12th Street and returned back to the church. Referring to Exodus 14:14, the participants were encouraged to turn off their cell phones as they walked in order that God’s presence and voice could be felt. The walkers paused on the bridge in front of the MLK mural and shouted Hallelujah 7 times. Since Martin L. King, Jr. Middle School was on the walking route, ribbons of various colors representing hope, unity, love and equality were tied to tree branches on the school grounds. After their return, a moment of sharing provided a wealth of comments and insight. This information will help with more intentional planning for moving forward.

A Special Thanks to Pastor Ponder for his support and participation.

Journey: A Retreat for High School Students
March 8-10, 2019
Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center
Lynchburg, VA

One Day Unlimited GRTC Bus Pass - ($3.50 each) Can be purchased at Kroger Customer Service Counters

COMMUNITY MISSIONARY - REV. JENNIFER TURNER
400 South Pine Street            Richmond, VA 23220
(804-648-1353)

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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. If you, your mission group or church would like to provide lunch it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Glinda.

Start collecting now for the Back to School Celebration – CHCWC will be handing out underwear, socks, and toiletries bags again this year. Because of the duplication of backpacks in her neighborhood, CHCWC is working with the Stop Violence Now group and others.

Food Pantry – Food bags are distributed on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, first-come-first-served for zip code 23223 only.

SAVE your paper grocery bags that have handles. CHCWC’s clients have to carry their groceries down a flight of stairs and then many of them walk home. The handles make it much easier for them to carry.

Scholarships

Through Cooperative Missions offerings, the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) provides scholarships and ministerial education funds for eligible Virginia Baptist students who need aid in financing their education. BGAV Scholarships and Ministerial Education Funds can help students earn an undergraduate degree, pursue undergraduate or graduate education in preparation for vocational ministry, or access training and continuing education opportunities.

Deadline: College Scholarships, Ministerial Education Funds, Church Internship Grants, and Nontraditional Ministry Education Scholarships are currently open.

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

WRITERS’ BLOCK

Dr. William Powell Tuck has added another book to his collection of contributions to the thoughts and contemplations of the Christian community. The title of this book is *The Difficult Sayings of Jesus* pictured below.

John Killinger, former professor at Vanderbilt Divinity School, pastor and author of many books, including *The Tender Shepherd* and *The Fundamentals of Preaching* writes of Dr. Tuck’s book: “What could be more timely in this age of feel-good religious books than William Tuck’s *The Difficult Sayings of Jesus*? With his usual gift for clarity and insight, Tuck explores this fascinating topic in a manner that challenges our too-comfortable views of the spiritual life by reminding us of Christ’s gritty way of overturning everybody’s most common assumptions about God, sin, and salvation. This is a must-read for all of us who are floundering in a sea of self-congratulatory beliefs. Buy it, read it, and pass it on to your minister!”

Tom Graves, President Emeritus of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond writes: “Any serious student of the New Testament, laity or clergy, raises questions about some of the teachings of Jesus. Is the resurrection believable? Why should I pray to an all-knowing God? There are also issues just begging for explanation. What is the unpardonable sin? What is Jesus’ teaching on divorce? This is a must-read for the minister seeking to preach on difficult texts in the Gospels. This book is also a very accessible and readable guide for the laity as they seek to understand the troubling teachings of Jesus. Tuck blends his scholarship with an ease of understanding that communicates well to a wide audience of believers and unbelievers alike.”

“While all Christians would acknowledge the importance of Jesus’ teachings, if we are honest with ourselves, few of us give every teaching the same weight. Some are simply too hard to bear and others too challenging to understand, or so we think. It may well be that the more trying sayings of Jesus are the ones we most (continued on the next page)
need to hear because of how they allow God’s truth to soften the hardest places in our souls. In The Difficult Sayings of Jesus, Bill Tuck expounds on some of these teachings and shows us how they can strengthen our devotion and give credibility to our witness, particularly in a day when many would characterize such sayings as irrelevant or unrealistic.

This book is neither for the faint-hearted nor the faint-minded. But for those who desire a “red-letter” life, it will be more than worth the effort as Tuck’s treatment of these difficult teachings reclaims sayings we may have ignored for too long, the very ones which despite their complexity hold the most promise for our spiritual growth.” This review and endorsement is from Doug Dortch, Pastor, Mountain Brook Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama.

Ronald Allen, Professor of Preaching, at Christian Theological Seminary encourages the reading of Dr. Tuck’s The Difficult Sayings of Jesus with these words: “Every Christian has the experience of reading along in the Gospels and coming to a saying of Jesus that brings a person up short. Sometimes we puzzle over the clarity of the verse. Sometimes we puzzle over the meaning. Sometimes, a saying seems to have a hard edge that is out of character for how we think of Jesus. Noted preacher and scholar of preaching, William Powell Tuck, looks at 15 such sermons ranging from whether Jesus was serious about cutting off a hand that offends you through Jesus’ seemingly intractable teaching on divorce to what Jesus might mean by eating Jesus’ flesh and drinking his blood. In each case, Tuck is exegetically careful to place the text in its historical and literary context so as to identify what the text really means. He is astute in thinking about the theological claims of the text. And he is hermeneutically pastoral in finding illuminating, practical, and compassionate interpretations. The sermons are lively. They move well. And the stories are worth the price of the book. Preachers and other readers will discover that if they face into these hard sayings in the company of wise guide William Powell Tuck, they will come away ever more impressed with the wisdom of Jesus.


Plan to come to camp on Saturdays, May 18th and June 1st to help us ready the facilities for our summer season. Painting, cleaning, yard work and light construction are all tasks on these volunteer days.
The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9

South Richmond Center is in need of Easter supplies: Easter Baskets, basket grass, candy and the eggs are all needed for the children at the center. Will you help us make at least 20 baskets to be given away the week (APRIL 15-20) prior to Resurrection Sunday on APRIL 21. The Seniors of our center help make the baskets during their fellowship time at the center. (Also after most holidays candy is reduced, so if you see sales of this type, pick up a bag or two for the after-school programs all year long). Men’s suits of all sizes, shoes, belts and ties are also needed this month. Many feel out of place when they want to attend church on Easter morning. These suits will also be helpful for job interviews as well.

Dr. Roberta Damon Reviews Several of Her Books

On Tuesday, February 12, Dr. Roberta Damon reviewed one of her books, Dear Abishag. The book review was held at the South Richmond Baptist Center’s Satellite location at 5500 Germain Road, 23224.

Dr. Damon will review two more of her books at the same location at noon on the following dates:

Tuesday
March 12, 2019
Noon
A Voice Beyond Weeping

Tuesday
May 14, 2019
Noon
Theirs Is the Kingdom

These book reviews are open to the public. Everyone is welcomed! Enter the Satellite’s parking lot from Bryce Lane via Hull Street Road. The parking lot is located on the right in the same block with The Life Church.

Dr. Roberta Damon holds a doctorate in marriage and family counseling from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Her career includes missionary service in South Brazil, thirty years of counseling at First Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia, and a time of serving on staff at the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. During these years she has written for various denominational publications both in English and Portuguese. She is the author of Relationship Skills, A Measure of Success, A Voice Beyond Weeping, and Theirs is the Kingdom. She is the wife of one, the mother of two and the grandmother of three.

For additional information regarding these book reviews, please contact Mrs. Ruth Guill at 745-1655.
GRAVEL HILL: (South Richmond) will be celebrating their 73rd Annual Women's Day on Sunday, March 17, during our 11 am worship service.

BETHELHEM (Penick): Seeking permanent part-time Church Administrative Assistant. Job requirements – general office duties; financial bookkeeping, record weekly postings and taxes. Familiar with ACS financial software. Work schedule 3 days week — 4 hours/day. Send resume to Personnel Committee Chair at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 4210 Penick Road, Henrico, VA 23228

FIRST BAPTIST: is looking for a highly motivated and skilled individual to work in the areas of video production and social media. This full-time position requires an individual with experience in the creation of short storytelling video features to be used on the church’s television broadcast, website and social media platforms. In addition, this individual will coordinate and oversee the church’s social media efforts. https://www.fbcrichmond.org/our-jobs

HUGUENOT ROAD: Church Office Manager/Administrator Huguenot Road Baptist Church, located at 10525 W. Huguenot Road, Richmond, Virginia is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Office Manager/Administrator. https://hrbcrichmond.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Church-Office-Manager_Administrator.pdf

RIVER ROAD: Director of the River Road Church Preschool Development Center, Resumes should be received by March 1, 2019. https://rrcb.org/preschool-director/

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters…

Colossians 3:23
Deaf Mission, First, Richmond
Derbyshire Cambodian
Friendship Memorial
Hatcher Memorial
The Mount Carmel
Woodland Heights

Pray for the RCFN Church of the Week
MARCH 3 ............ Bethlehem (Fairmount)
MARCH 10 ............ Bethlehem (Penick)
MARCH 17 ............ Carlisle Avenue
MARCH 24 ............ Chamberlayne
MARCH 31 ............ Community Mission
She extends her hand to the poor, and she stretches out her hands to the needy. (Proverbs 31:20) NASB

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 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 Churches seeking a PASTOR

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 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support of RCFN

2019 January RCFN Budget Report
RCFN Monthly Budget Amount: $45,245.00
JANUARY Budget Receipts: $14,131.00
JANUARY Budget Expenses: $43,935.00

RCFN YTD Budget Amount: $42,245.00
RCFN YTD Budget Receipts: $14,131.00
RCFN YTD Budget Expenses: $43,935.00

Camp Alkulana Offering $161,000.00
YTD Budget Amount: $16,416.00
YTD Receipts: $1,308.59
YTD Expenses: $9,406.24

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)