

Baptist in
Heritage,
Ecumenical
in Worship
and Outreach



The Spire

River Road Church, Baptist

May 6, 2003, Vol. 68, No. 17

**RIVER ROAD CHURCH,
BAPTIST
8000 River Road
Richmond, VA 23229
(804) 288-1131 (office)
(804) 282-9172 (fax)
www.rrcb.org**

**MINISTERS
OF
THE CHURCH**

Every member of River Road Church, Baptist, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry. The following persons have been called by this congregation to serve as enablers in such ministry.

E. Carl Freeman
Music

Robert L. Dibble
Adults

Chester L. Phelps, Jr.
Students

Barbara J. Massey
Children

George S. Davis
Church Administrator

Margaret S. Collins
Preschool Director

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2003

11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sanctuary

Parent – Child Dedication

Sermon by Dr. Cecil E. Sherman

Music by the Chancel Choir, the Youth Choir,
and the River Road Ringers

Reception in the Fellowship Hall following
the worship service hosted by the deacons



WEDNESDAY DINNER PROGRAMS

May 14, 2003

5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Programs

Endowment Board Presentation

Ransone Hartz, *et al.*

What is the River Road Church, Baptist Endowment Board? How does it work? Who are its members? What are its assets? If you would like to know the answers to these questions and learn even more about the Endowment Fund, plan to attend this Wednesday night dinner program.

also offered

DEALING WITH LEARNING AND BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES

Play and Social Skills Groups and Camps for Children

Geri P. Allen
Gina Dwyer-Urban

The final week of this special series is led by Geri Allen and Gina Dwyer-Urban. Geri P. Allen, OTR/L, graduated from VCU/MCV in 1974 and has worked as a registered occupational therapist for twenty-seven years. She is the owner of Integrated Therapy Services where they use a holistic approach to therapy. Gina Dwyer-Urban, M.A. CCC/SLP, worked as a speech/language pathologist for more than twenty years. Presently she works at the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center at Richmond, where she provides diagnostic and therapy services for preschool and elementary school aged children and their families.



SUNDAY, MAY 18
4:00-8:00 P.M.
CHESTNUT OAKS RECREATION ASSOCIATION
AND
ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Horseshoes ★ Volleyball ★ Fun for All!
Hamburgers ★ Hotdogs ★ And all the fixin's

Pull out the lawn chairs and picnic blankets, limber up your muscles and plan to join us for good food, recreation, fun and fellowship. See you there!

Adult Sunday School Classes are asked to bring the side dishes

Update On Contributions

As of April 30, 2003

Contributions budgeted	\$404,833
Contributions received*	\$318,435
Current ratio of received to budgeted contributions	79%

*Received contributions included pro rata collections paid prior to January 1, 2003.

The Chairman of the Board of Administration, in a letter to the congregation dated February 6, 2003, pointed out the problem caused by so many of our members waiting until the end of the year to fulfill their pledges. The above figures illustrate where we stand at present. Fortunately a number of members paid their pledges in full before the year began. To accurately reflect our current income, the above table shows those prepaid pledges adjusted as if they were being paid monthly.

As you can see, we are behind in the level of current contributions needed to fulfill our budgeted commitments throughout the year. Continuation of this trend will again cause us to run a deficit by the summer, when attendance and contributions always decline. Thus, we urge payment of your pledges on a regular basis if at all possible.

Children's Ministry News

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 23-27, 2003

Needed:

- 1 person to lead our music
- 3 people to volunteer as teachers in grades 1-5

Please call **Barbara Massey**, 288-1131, if you are willing to volunteer.

Parents, we are pre-registering preschoolers and children for Vacation Bible School. You may register your child in the Children's Suite on Sunday morning or get a registration form from the office of the Minister to Children. *The deadline for registration is June 10.*

Student Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS—MAY 11, 2003

Middle School—**Chester Phelps**

Senior High—**Deb and Bill Gray**

MIDDLE SCHOOL & SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP MAY-JUNE SCHEDULE

Coming Events:

May 11

Mother's Day Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

May 17-18

Retreat - Methodist Conference Center, Blackstone, VA

Group will depart on Saturday, May 17 at 9:00 a.m.

Group will return on Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35.00 per person

(Reservations due by May 11, 2003)

June 1

Graduates Recognition - Reception, 11:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning

Graduates Vesper Service - Recognition, 6:00 p.m., Courtyard

UKROP'S GOLDEN RECEIPT CAMPAIGN: The May flyer from Ukrop's contains the Golden Receipt which gives funds to nonprofit groups. Please turn your receipt in to the church office or your Sunday School class. During the past fourteen years \$21,025.00 has been given for Summer Mission Projects. Thanks for your support.

ISH EASTER BASKET CAMPAIGN A HUGE SUCCESS! This year 240 Ester baskets were delivered to Interfaith Services of Henrico County. Once again our church was the largest contributor to this campaign. During the past five years, our church has given 1,324 baskets. Thanks for supporting this program in such a magnificent way!

SUMMER CALENDAR

June 15 - 21

Mission Tour, Jekyll Island, GA

July 7 - 12

Crosspoint, Bluefield, VA

June 23 - 27

Vacation Bible School

July 14 - 18

Music Camp

June 29 - July 5

Passport, Louisville, KY

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES

The church will have a reception Sunday, June 1, to recognize the graduates of high school, college, technical institutes and graduate school. Contact the church office at 288-1131, as soon as possible, giving your full name, school and/or specialty.

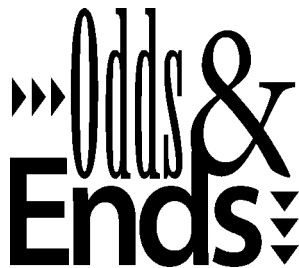
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS: The 2003 Week of Prayer for Associational Missions is May 18-25. This offering is collected to support ministries of the Richmond Baptist Association (RBA). **Camp Alkulana**, the primary beneficiary of the offering, is a residential summer camp for inner city children served by the four Baptist centers. It has been in continuous operation since 1915 and has been at its present location in Millboro Springs since 1917. In recent years, largely through the efforts of **Bill Rusher**, River Road has enjoyed a close relationship with **Camp Alkulana**. Envelopes for this offering can be found in the sanctuary pew racks and in members' offering envelope packets.



EASTER OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS: \$2,397 was collected in the Easter Offering for Global Missions. Our goal was \$3,000. Thank you to all who contributed to the offering!

WMU DAY GROUP: The Day Group will meet on Tuesday, May 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the Reception Room. **Gracie Kirkpatrick**, RBA Community Missionary and director of **Camp Alkulana**, will be the speaker. Coffee and refreshments will be served. Members are reminded to bring canned goods and nonperishable food items for the Baptist centers' food pantries. Visitors are welcome!

DIAPERS AND EMERGENCY CERTIFICATES FOR ISH: The next local missions project of the Shepherd-Simpson Bible study class will be a diapers and Wal-Mart \$10 emergency certificate campaign May 1-31 to benefit ISH. These items continue to be major needs of the ISH program and River Road Church has become a leading supplier of them. If you would like to participate, but don't have the time to shop for the items, you may call **Charlotte** and **Bill Simpson** at 285-3185 and they will use your contribution to shop for you.



THE MORNING BRIDGE GAME will be played May 15, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., in the Reception Room. The hostess will be **Mary Gauldin**, 740-8199.

THE BOOK LOVERS' GROUP will meet on Thursday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Reception Room. This month's selection, *Scorched Earth* by local author David L. Robbins, has been described as "part mystery, part legal thriller." **Peggy Stevens** will moderate the discussion. For more information, call **Kitty Davis**, 285-9782. Everyone is welcome!

CAMP ALKULANA WORK DAY - MAY 31: Camp Alkulana is a summer camp sponsored by the Richmond Baptist Association. For lots of kids who come to camp, it's their first chance to paddle a canoe, or rappel down a tower, or learn to swim, or go caving, or walk barefoot through a creek looking for salamanders. But mostly, as Gracie Kirkpatrick, the camp's director, wrote this month for the *Religious Herald*, "In a world where so many of the children who come to Camp Alkulana are not sure of their value, it is important to create a climate in which every child can know he is valued and loved." Our chance to help "create a climate" will be on Saturday, May 31. We'll leave early in the morning, and it will be a full day. But we'll eat well, see beautiful country on the way, and do some good. If you are interested, call **Bill Rusher** at 285-1087.

LOOKING FOR CHILDREN'S COSTUMES FOR SPRING MUSIC DRAMA: We need your help in gathering costumes for our Spring Music Drama. The drama includes a donkey, kangaroo, elephant, armadillo, lion, chicken, rooster, turtle, swan, dinosaurs. Also help is needed to coordinate costumes for: news boy, hunter, farmer, fisherman, and archeologists. If you can help, please call the church office at 288-1131.

FROM THE HISTORY COMMITTEE: Remember the Church Archives when cleaning out closets and attics and old papers. We want anything related to River Road Church or to RRC members. We especially would like minutes from committees and boards. Also, we welcome newspaper clippings featuring RRC members.

WEDNESDAY DINNER MENU FOR MAY 14: The adults will have roast beef, baked potato, green beans, salad bar, rolls, brownies with ice cream. The children will have hamburgers, hotdogs, potato chips, salad bar, and brownies.

AT HOME: **Dick Harwood, D'Este Richardson** (home of friend Brenda Riel)

AT HOSPITAL: **Ashie Bass**, St. Mary's
Lois Briggs, St. Mary's
Irene Hart, Henrico Doctors' Forest
Tom Tuggle, St. Mary's



CONGRATULATIONS to **Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott Street, III** on the birth of their grandson, Shaun Paul Gualdoni, on April 16, in Boston, Massachusetts. Lisa Street Gualdoni and Paul Gualdoni are the parents. **Mr. and Mrs. Edgar L. Robbins** are his great-grandparents.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Cabell and Catherine Jones** upon the birth of their son, Gavin Hill Jones, on April 22. **Ronnie and Mary Iva Jones** are his grandparents.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Scott Fortune** who were married on May 3. **Mrs. Fortune**, the former **Barbara Anne Bischoff**, is the daughter of **Priscilla and Edwin Bischoff**.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Harry Boyd** for receiving the Leslie T. Sheppard Award for significant contributions to the Henrico Police Department as a member of the Civil Disturbance Team.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Emily Phillips and Sydney Schreiner** who were baptized and united with River Road Church on April 27.

A **WARM WELCOME** is extended to **Catherine and Tom Franck** who united with River Road Church on April 27.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is expressed to **Wayland Andrews** upon the death of his sister Miriam Hutchison Andrews on May 6.



ARENA FOOTBALL WITH THE ROYAL AMBASSADORS SATURDAY, JUNE 14 RICHMOND COLISEUM

The Royal Ambassadors invite everyone to join them as they celebrate the end of the school year and get together for a fun night to support our hometown *Speed* when they set out to **CRUSH** the *Swamp Foxes*! Dads, moms, sisters, brothers—all are welcome or bring a friend if you like! We will meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 p.m. and carpool to the Coliseum. The game starts at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 per person and we need a minimum of ten people. For further details and reservations contact **John Whitty**, J.T.'s dad, at 754-1166 no later than June 4, 2003. Hope to see you there!



RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST THIRTEENTH ANNUAL **Founders Cup** OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

CONGRATULATIONS to **Craig Carlock, Ted Gary, Bobby Gary, and Oliver Way** who finished in first place in the Thirteenth Annual Open Golf Tournament held at Independence Golf Club this past Saturday. Their success in the Captain's Choice format claimed for their team the coveted **Founders Cup** trophy. Additional prizes were awarded to **Craig Carlock** and **John Hays** for closest-to-the-pin; and to **Ken Dibble** for the longest drive. It was a gorgeous day for golf, and appreciation is expressed to all who participated in making this year's tournament another success.

Sunday Responsibilities

Acolyte: Josh Newsome

Deacons' Coffee: Betty Balentine, Scott Collins, Clarice Dibble, John Heisler

Flower Distribution: Betty Rose Sexton, Liz Seward

Greeters: Nancy Gary, Chris Gobble, Lloyd Jackson, Joan Hines, Bess Price

Sound: Ed Pruden

Tellers: Vara Bottoms, Jean Cauble, Carol Decker, Pat Dickinson, Ann Domyan, Holly Smith, Jeanne Wood

Ushers: Jule Bolio, Ron Clevenger, Dave Fairchild, Skip King, Jon Williams

Worship Care: Infants—Susan Vaughan; **Toddlers**—Clarice Dibble, Joan and Mac Hines; **Two-Year-Olds**—Catherine Carlock, Tyler Hays; **Three-Year-Olds**—Dexter Gulick, Katie Ludvigsen, Emily Mathews; **Fours and Fives**—Robbie Ludvigsen, David Newsome

Minister On Call

Weekend: May 10–11

Barbara Massey
673-9156

If you are unable to reach this minister immediately, please leave a message on the church office voicemail at 288-1131. The voicemail will be monitored by the on-call minister.

Adult Sunday School News

Formations Sunday School literature continues a five-lesson unit of study entitled “*The Household of God: 1 & 2 Timothy.*” The instructions given in 1 and 2 Timothy are urgent and practical. Paul’s primary concern was the church at Ephesus, where Timothy was on mission. Even so, the principles and guidelines Paul shared with Timothy are relevant to people in any time or place who need to know “how to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God” (1 Tim 3:15). Indeed, 1 and 2 Timothy offer many lessons for churches like ours and people like us. Session 1 begins the study of Timothy with an exploration of the vital relationships and “family” language that are so important to these letters and to Paul’s gospel. The second session treats one of the major focuses in 1 and 2 Timothy, the characteristics of sound doctrine. In response to contemporary debates, session 3 has a tighter focus, addressing the specific questions that emerge in 1 Timothy regarding women and church teaching roles. Session 4 explores the more general church leadership issues that Timothy raised. The last study highlights a phrase important in both letters—“the good fight”—and assesses Paul’s unique way of conceptualizing the Christian life. This week’s lesson, entitled “*Healthy Teaching*” is based on 1 Timothy 1:3-11; 2 Timothy 2:14-19 and is studied in the following classes:

Fellowship Class will be taught by **Tom Warrington.**

Friendship Class will be taught by **Connie Showalter.**

Lydia Class will be taught by **Emily Tuck.**

Reuben Alley Class will be taught by **Henry Langford.**

Robert Smart Class will be taught by **Bob Shoemake.**

Seekers Class will be taught by **Linda Schreiner.** The Seeker’s Class spring social will be held on Saturday, May 17, at the home of **Tim and Kathryn Norman**, 7 Broad Run Circle, Manakin-Sabot, 23103.

Discussion Class—**William Shirah** will lead a discussion on “Things that God Gets Blamed For.”

Explorers Class will be taught by **Don Retzer.**

Journey Class—

Life Class—The class will hold a brunch in honor of Mother’s Day with food being prepared by the men in the class. If there are any questions, call **Gene Harris** at 282-7314.

Phoenix Class—The class will watch and discuss the first part of “Peter and Paul and the Christian Revolution.”

Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class will celebrate Mother’s Day with a brunch from 9:30-10:45 a.m. in their classroom.

RIVER ROADSTERS

Come and tour Virginia’s Wine Country with the River Roadsters on Thursday, May 22. We will be traveling north to Middleburg, Virginia, a historic small town that lies in the shadow of the Blue Ridge and Bull Run mountains. Our stops will include a tour and tastings at the Swedenburg Estate Vineyards, lunch at the Red Fox Inn and Tavern and a tour of the Oatlands Plantation. The cost per person is \$76.00, which includes round trip motor coach transportation, lunch, refreshments served aboard the coach, tours and tastings and driver gratuity, tax and gratuity for lunch, and is payable to River Road Church. **Checks should be mailed to Eunice Wolford at 12001 Wexwood Drive, Richmond, VA 23236.** Please call Eunice for reservations at 794-4651.

May

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Friday, May 9
Sunday, May 11

Monday, May 12
Tuesday, May 13

Wednesday, May 14

Thursday, May 15
Saturday, May 17
Sunday, May 18

Monday, May 19
Tuesday, May 20
Wednesday, May 21

Thursday, May 22

Mom and Me (grades 1-5), 6:30 p.m., Assembly Room
Parent-Child Dedication, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Mother's Day Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Adult Bible Study, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room
Board of Christian Education, 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Civil War Forum, 7:00 p.m., Journey classroom
WMU Day Group, 10:00 a.m., Reception Room
Men's Softball, 6:30 p.m., Complex #4
Stephen Ministers' Supervision, 4:00 p.m., Archives Room
Endowment Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Arts Festival Chairs Committee, 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Morning Bridge, 10:00 a.m., Reception Room
Youth Tour Retreat—Blackstone, Virginia, 9:00 a.m.
Annual Church Picnic, 4:00 p.m., Chestnut Oaks
Board of Administration, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room
Children's Pageant Dress Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Men's Softball, 8:00 p.m., Short Pump
Children's Pageant, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Personnel Committee, 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
River Roadsters to Middleburg/Leesburg
Book Lovers' Group, 7:30 p.m., Reception Room

Civil War Forum

On February 21, 1861, the Confederate Congress appointed Stephen R. Mallory as Secretary, Department of the Navy. He was in all probability one of the most well-qualified appointees to the Confederate cabinet. Mallory was experienced as an admiralty lawyer in his home state of Florida, and he served for a time as the chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee while he was a United States senator. Thus the Confederate Navy gained a man who was capable of building the Southern Navy.

The Confederate Navy's responsibility was the protection of the harbors and coast lines from blockade, and, hopefully, the establishment of a local superiority over the Federal Navy. The Confederate Navy was left with a blank check on methods and means to accomplish these aims. In February, 1861, the Confederate "Navy" amounted to some ten ships carrying fifteen guns.

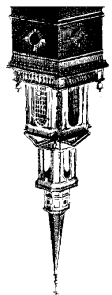
The Confederate Navy is the subject of the next Civil War Forum on Monday, May 12, 7:00 p.m., in the Journey classroom. Participants are encouraged to share from their own study and raise their own questions or comments in the course of our discussion. If you are looking for a fun, yet serious, venue for developing your interest in the Civil War, you are welcome to join us.

The Spire is published weekly, except the week of December 25, by River Road Church, Baptist, 8000 River Road, Richmond, VA 23229-8415, (804) 288-1131. Information for any newsletter may be brought to the church office or faxed to us at (804) 282-9172. Copy deadline is Monday, noon. Editors: Robert Dibble and Barbara Massey.

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Address Services Requested

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