

Baptist in  
Heritage,  
Ecumenical  
in Worship  
and Outreach



# The Spire

River Road Church, Baptist

May 27, 2003, Vol. 57, No. 21

**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*

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 1, 2003

11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sanctuary

Service of Holy Communion

Sermon by Dr. Cecil E. Sherman  
Anthems by the Youth and Chancel Bell Choirs

Reception in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service hosted by the Social Committee and the Board of Christian Education honoring our graduates.



## RIVER ROAD CHURCH CONCERT SERIES 2002 - 2003

### SPRING CHORAL CONCERT

Sunday, June 1, 2003

7:30 p.m.

Mass in C  
Frostiana

Ludwig van Beethoven  
Randall Thompson

The River Road Chancel Choir with orchestra

Open to All

## SURVEY DEADLINE NEARS!

If you have not already done so, please get your survey in to the church by **May 31**, and encourage your friends in the church to do the same!

Thank you,  
Pastor Search Committee

# Children's Ministry News

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JUNE 23-27, 2003

**ATTENTION PARENTS:** Due to specific materials and resources that teachers must purchase in advance, it is necessary to know how many children will attend. Please register your child now for Vacation Bible School. **The registration deadline is June 10.** You may register your child in the children's area on Sunday mornings, or call the office of the Minister to Children, 288-1131.

**A "DAD AND ME" EVENT:** The Saturday before Father's Day the RA's will get together for a fun night of Arena Football, as we support our hometown *Speed* as they set out to crush the *Swamp Foxes* of Charleston. We will "blend" our Dad and Me celebration with this event and all go together to the Richmond Coliseum for an evening of fun. We will meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, and carpool to the Coliseum. The game starts at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 per person. For reservations contact either **John Whitty** at 754-1166 or the office of the Minister to Children, 288-1131. **We must have your reservation by June 4.** Children in grades 1-5 (boys and girls!) and dads, don't miss this!

**SUMMER MUSIC CAMP—JULY 14-18, 2003—9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.:** Singing, Orff instruments, creative movement, choir chimes and handbells. For all rising Kindergartners—Fifth Graders. Following Music Camp and brown-bag lunch, there will be recreational activities each afternoon from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Informational brochures are available from the church office, 288-1131.

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# Student Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS—JUNE 1, 2003  
Middle School—**Oliver Way** Senior High—**Ed Pruden**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL & SENIOR HIGH JUNE SCHEDULE

### Coming Events:

June 1

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

**Senior High-Middle School Picnic**, 5:00 p.m., Church Plaza

**Graduates Vesper Service**, 6:00 p.m., Chapel Hall

**Mission Tour Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, **ALL** participants should be present!

**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.

**COLLEGE STUDENT BIBLE STUDY CLASS:** Beginning on June 1, 2003, **Carl Collier** will lead the class. There will be a snack supper at 6:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the class. All college-aged students are invited.

## 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

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

**IN CONVALESCENCE:** Ashie Bass, Our Lady of Hope

**IN HOSPITAL:** Helen Clarke, Henrico Doctors' Forest; Tom Tuggle, St. Mary's



**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is expressed to the family of **Mary Nell Wilson** upon her death, March 18.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is expressed to **Tom Crowder** and **Carrie Camp-Crowder** upon the death of his grandmother and to **Mason, Bennett,** and **West Camp-Crowder** upon the death of their great-grandmother, Rachel Willard Hobson Brockenbrough, on May 21.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Elizabeth Porter** who is the St. Catherine's School recipient of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood Youth Award presented by Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Robert Porter, III** who earned the Eagle Scout award. He is a member of Troup 444 at Reveille United Methodist Church.

## ▶▶ Odds & Ends ▶▶

**NEVER AGAIN!** Elie Wiesel tells his horrifying story of Auschwitz in his first book Night. His subsequent two novels, Dawn and The Accident, search for glimmers of light out of this dark history. **Where is God in all of this?** The **Modern Theologians Discussion Group** will look at all three of Wiesel's short books when it discusses his Night Trilogy at its next meeting on **Thursday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor**. Even if you have not had a chance to read any of Wiesel's works, come and join in an always interesting discussion. **Newcomers are always welcome**. Call **George Davis** at church, 288-1131, for more information.

**THE MORNING BRIDGE GAME** will be played June 19, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., in the Reception Room. The hostess will be **Courtney Bunn**, 740-8334.

**LOOKING FOR SOME FUN? EVENING BRIDGE IS THE PLACE TO BE!** We're always looking for more singles or couples who like to have a good time playing bridge. The next gathering will be on **Tuesday, June 3, 7:30 p.m., in the Reception Room**. Call **George and Kitty Davis** at 285-9782.

**FLOWERING PERENNIALS NEEDED:** The House and Grounds Committee is looking for perennial plants that are now blooming to put in the courtyard garden. Please call **George Davis** at the church, 288-1131, if you have any plants that would not cause you significant mental anguish if you parted with them and donated them to the church.



## Lost and Found Items To Be Discarded

The Lost and Found, located in the church office, is overflowing with items including: **Umbrellas, Glasses, Bibles, Jewelry, Gloves, Scarves**. If you have misplaced any of the above items, please stop by the church office and check out our collection. All of the unclaimed items will be discarded **Friday, June 6**. The unclaimed Bibles will be placed in various Sunday School classes, as needed.

**FIRST SUNDAY FOOD SHARE:** Thank you for your support of **First Sunday Food Share**. Sunday, **June 1**, is the date of the next collection of canned and nonperishable foods for the Baptist centers' food pantries. Some suggested foods for donation include canned fruit and applesauce, macaroni products, peanut butter, soups and stews.



**DIAPERS AND EMERGENCY CERTIFICATES FOR ISH:** The Shepherd-Simpson Bible study class are collecting diapers and Wal-Mart \$10 emergency certificates from 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.

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## RIVER ROAD CHURCH WELCOMES THE NORTH CAROLINA BOYS CHOIR

On Wednesday, June 25, our church will host for a concert the 42-voice North Carolina Boys Choir. This renowned group, directed by William Graham, will sing a varied program of choral music starting at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be preceded by buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m. and reservations for the dinner may be made by filling out the reservation card found in the pew rack and dropping it in the offering plate or by calling the church office, 288-1131, by noon on Tuesday, June 24.

We also have been asked to provide housing for members of the choir. If you would be willing to provide a night's lodging for 2 or more boys on Wednesday, June 25, and breakfast Thursday morning, please call the church office at 288-1131.

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## YOU ARE INVITED TO "WELCOME HOME THE TROOPS" WITH THE RIVER ROADSTERS

**Hampton . . . In, On and Under Water! Thursday, June 12, 2003**, our first stop is at the **Mariner's Museum**, for a tour of their newest and most distinguished exhibit! A delicious lunch follows at the **Magnolia House**, a beautiful turn-of-the-century home listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The highlight of our day will be as we set sail aboard the 65-foot "**Miss Hampton II**," Virginia's favorite harbor tour! Points of interest on our three-hour narrated tour will include: Norfolk Naval Base and the chance to welcome home several of the ships recently deployed to the Middle East; Blackbeard's Point; Fort Monroe and more! Also included is a 45-minute walking tour of Fort Wool. The cost of the tour is \$72.00 per person and includes all of the above plus transportation and refreshments served aboard the Coach. Please contact **Eunice Wolford**, 794-4651, *no later than June 3* to make your reservations. We will depart River Road Church at 8:00 a.m. and return approximately 6:30 p.m.

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## ATTENTION ADULTS AND YOUTH! CO-ED VOLLEYBALL EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT! ALL ARE INVITED!



Every Wednesday night during the summer, beginning June 4, we'll be playing volleyball in the **Fellowship Hall** from **7:00—8:30 p.m.** It's co-ed (no spiking), good exercise, and lots of fun. No experience needed (or expected!) Contact **Bob Dibble** or **George Davis** at the church, 288-1131, for more information.

# Sunday Responsibilities

**Acolyte:** Josh Newsome

**Flower Distribution:** Ann Bagwell, Vivian Mathews

**Greeters:** Paula Brown, Cathy Carlock, Ed Douglas, Bob Musick, Sandra Sizemore

**Sound:** Barry Harmon

**Tellers:** Elsie Fusco, Jody Gordon, George Harding, Ann Loxterman, Bertie O'Neal, Robbie Williams

**Ushers:** Norvell Camden, Carl Collier, Sid Hays, Ken Lantz

**Worship Care: Infants**—Scott and Sandy Rooney; **Toddlers**—Amy Hubbard; **Two-Year-Olds**—Catherine Carlock, Caroline Heggie; **Three-Year-Olds**—Lauren Balentine, Dexter Gulick, Emily Mathews; **Fours and Fives**—David Newsome, Scott Smith

## Ministers On Call

Weekend: May 31

Barbara Massey  
673-9156

Weekend: June 1

Chester Phelps  
755-6464

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

## Adult Sunday School News

**Formations** Sunday School literature concludes 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. 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 “*The Good Fight*” is based on 1 Timothy 1:18-20; 6:2b-12 and 2 Timothy 4:6-8 and is studied in the following classes:

**Fellowship Class** will be taught by **Doris Curtis.**

**Lydia Class** will be taught by **Mary Lib Grizzard.**

**Reuben Alley Class** will be taught by **Lynn Dickerson.**

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

**Seekers Class** will be taught by **Linda Schreiner.**

**Discussion Class**—From the book Listening for God, **Don Powell** will lead the class in a exploration of Annie Dillard’s story “The Deer at Providencia.”

**Explorers Class**—

**Friendship Class**—

**Journey Class**—**Bob Smith** will facilitate a discussion on the “Great Preacher Series,” focusing on Fred Craddock. The next class social will be a family get-together at Waterview, June 28.

**Life Class**—**Ken Lantz** will lead the class in discussing “Actions Speak Louder Than Words” from the course of study entitled “Learning to Listen.”

**Phoenix Class**—The class will continue our discussion of The Case for Faith.

**Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class**—The class will look at chapter 9 in John’s Gospel this Sunday. **Bob Shepherd** is the class teacher. The class will celebrate a summer social on Saturday, June 28, at the farm of **Henry Holland’s** father near Scottsville.

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## TwentySomethings Sunday School Class Reforms Today's Class for Tomorrow's Leaders

Join the TwentySomethings of River Road Church for an interactive, lively discussion about faith and life in the “real world” as it pertains to young men and women in their twenties. **Heather** and **Paul Felts**, assisted by Dr. Robert Dibble, will lead the class which begins June 8 and will meet in room 152, downstairs in the Chapel wing.

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FACULTY APPRECIATION BANQUET

This annual event is our opportunity to recognize all leaders, teachers and members of the Board of Christian Education. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the successful year just past and to express appreciation to all who have made it so. Jimmy’s Gallery Grille will be the special location for this year’s banquet. It will be held at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 4. **We are asking all invited leaders (board members, teachers, coordinators, etc.) to please RSVP to the church office, 288-1131, no later than Sunday, June 1, 2003.** **Dr. Cecil Sherman**, our interim pastor, will be our guest speaker. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, June 4, at our Christian Education Faculty Appreciation Banquet where we will have an opportunity to express to you a more personal word of gratitude.

# May & June

# 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

Saturday, May 31  
Sunday, June 1

**Choir Dress Rehearsal**, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
**Preschool Teacher Appreciation**, 9:00 a.m., Preschool 2 Room  
**Graduates Reception**, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Senior High-Middle School Picnic**, 5:00 p.m., Church Plaza  
**Adult Bible Study**, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room  
**Youth Vespers**, 6:00 p.m., Chapel Hall  
**Spring Choral Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Tuesday, June 3

**Men's Softball**, 6:30 p.m., Complex #4  
**Facilities Use Committee**, 7:00 p.m., Church Parlor  
**Evening Bridge**, 7:30 p.m., Reception Room

June 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					

Wednesday, June 4  
Sunday, June 8

**Faculty Appreciation Banquet**, 6:00 p.m., Jimmy's Gallery Grille  
**VBS Youth Teachers Meeting**, 12:00 p.m., Church Parlor  
**VBS Adult Teachers Meeting**, 12:30 p.m., Church Parlor  
**Executive Committee**, 5:00 p.m., Church Parlor  
**Adult Bible Study**, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room  
**Civil War Forum**, 7:00 p.m., Journey Classroom

Monday, June 9  
Tuesday, June 10

**Arts 2003 Committee Chairs**, 7:00 p.m., Church Parlor  
**Men's Softball**, 8:00 p.m., Complex #4

Wednesday, June 11  
Thursday, June 12

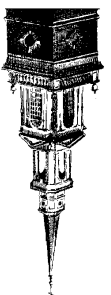
**Volleyball**, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**River Roadsters to Hampton**, 8:00 a.m., north parking lot

*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

River Road Church, Baptist  
8000 River Road  
Richmond, VA 23229-8415  
(804) 288-1131  
Fax: (804) 282-9172  
E-mail: [thespire@rrcb.org](mailto:thespire@rrcb.org)



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