

Baptist in
Heritage,
Ecumenical
in Worship
and Outreach



The Spire

River Road Church, Baptist

October 12, 2004, Vol. 58, No. 41

**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:

Michael J. Clingenpeel
Pastor

E. Carl Freeman
Music

Robert L. Dibble
Adults

Barbara J. Massey
Children

Mary R. Mann
Students

George S. Davis
Church Administrator

Margaret S. Collins
Preschool Director

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 17, 2004
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sanctuary

Sermon by Dr. Michael J. Clingenpeel
Anthems by the Chancel Choir

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



WEDNESDAY DINNER PROGRAM

October 20, 2004
5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Programs

“Baptist World Alliance”
Denton Lotz

The Pastor’s Forum welcomes General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance Denton Lotz who serves as the chief executive officer to the General Council and is responsible for every aspect of the work of the Alliance within the policies established by the General Council. He promotes the work of the BWA through correspondence and travel and serves as the official representative of the BWA to meetings of Baptist bodies and other Christian groups. Secretary Lotz also represents the BWA to world governments and other international bodies and is responsible for all BWA meetings.

The BWA is a fellowship of 211 Baptist unions and conventions comprising a membership of more than 46.5 million baptized believers. This represents a community of approximately 110 million Baptist ministering around the world. The BWA unites Baptists worldwide, leads in evangelism, responds to people in need and defends human rights.

Also offered

“Looking at Your Child’s Emotional Development”
Margaret Collins

(see inside for details)

Stewardship 2005

“I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!”

The Power in Each Person

Dwight L. Moody, the famous evangelist, once said: “I am only one, but I am one. I can not do everything, but I can do something. And what I can do, I ought to do; and by the grace of God will do!” River Road Church’s stewardship campaign theme is “I can make a difference!” Moody could have identified with such a statement.

There is a tremendous potential within each single member of the community of faith. Sometimes the impact of an individual is seen by the opposite effect: if a certain someone is not present in Sunday school, their very presence is missed; if the one with the warm smile is not in the room, the warmth cannot be felt; if that bright, creative, energetic member of the church committee is absent, the plans for a project may fall flat. Each person can make a difference in the circles and spheres within which they move.

There is a moving force to the energy of the whole. It does take a congregation to provide the critical mass of energy for accomplishing some great task. The worship experience is enhanced ten thousand-fold when the sanctuary is

filled with the mighty sounds of hymn singing. The missions experience is enlarged when many hands join together. The caring experience is greater when a group such as a Sunday school class pulls together to express community.

While the congregational experience is vital, there also is the subtle power of the individual. The oft-used phrase goes “it takes a village.” It takes the whole yet in village life there are individuals who weave their personalities into the fabric. There is the musician, the storyteller, the money handler, the cook, and the good listener. Each one surely realizes: “I can make a difference.” It is the gift of themselves to the larger community that makes the critical difference within that community.

Elizabeth Hale was one of the beloved Baptist missionaries. She grew up in South Boston, Virginia; and as a girl she attended the summertime camps operated by Virginia WMU. Her fellow campers and the older women soon found that Elizabeth would volunteer for the menial jobs that no one else wanted. She gladly would clean the communal bathrooms. She scrubbed the toilets. Remove her work and the camp

would not have been pleasant. Remove the spirit of her service and the camp would not have been as congenial. She made a difference!

In adulthood Elizabeth Hale found other places to make a difference. She served in China; and when World War II conditions required the missionaries to leave, she chose to stay. Now she gave of herself through helping others in a concentration camp. Even there, especially there, she made a difference!

Elizabeth Hale once shared her philosophy in a little verse: “Mine not to make the world go right. Mine just to do what I can with all my might!” She really was saying, “I can make a difference!”

The pledge cards for the 2005 budget and program will be brought to church by our fellow members on Commitment Sunday, October 24. On the cards and in their hearts, each member really will be saying, “I can make a difference!”

Fred Anderson
Executive Director
Center for Baptist Heritage & Studies
Virginia Baptist Historical Society

A NOTE OF THANKS . . .

My family joins me in expressing our gratitude for the many expressions of appreciation and congratulations during the celebration of our fifteenth anniversary with you at River Road Church. Chester Phelps’ and Mike Clingenpeel’s words were kind beyond my deserving. We continue to be heartened by your support and encouragement and the knowledge of our shared ministry. Please know of our love and appreciation for you all. With joyful anticipation, we look forward to the future together.

Robert Dibble

Sunday Responsibilities

Acolyte: Ryan Nelson

Deacons Coffee: Karen Collier, Arlene Perry, Jennifer Pounders, Barbara Robertson

Flower Distribution: Cathy Carlock, Diane Shoemake

Greeters: Steve Bailey, Melanie Butterworth, JoAnn Cizek, Libbie Geiger, Sandra Sizemore

Sound: Bill Gray

Tellers: Lovell Glasco, Barbara Robertson, Don Robertson, Hob Sigmon, Peggy Stevens, Marjorie Yount

Ushers: Will Carter, Chris Gobble, Gene Harris, Charlie Sorrell

Minister On Call

Weekend: October 16-17

Carl Freeman
360-5848

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 “*Taking Care of Business.*” We all understand what it means to fulfill our responsibilities. Parents have the responsibility to care for children. We have responsibilities to care for others, perhaps an aging family member or a close friend. We take care of responsibilities at work and at home, and we take care of responsibilities in the community. This unit focuses on our responsibility to be good stewards by caring for ourselves, each other, and our world. We move from individual responsibilities to global ones. Session three moves toward global concerns and centers on caring for our resources. To do so in a global society means we need to share our resources responsibly with others throughout the world. The fourth session focuses on a similar concern: taking care of earth, preserving our world both for ourselves and for future generations. Finally, we turn our attention to caring for the gospel by sharing Christ through word and action. This week’s lesson, entitled “*Taking Care of Resources,*” is based on Exodus 16:1-5 and Acts 6:1-6, and is studied in the following classes:

Fellowship Class will be taught by **Martha Lou Green**. The class photo will be taken at 9:45 a.m.

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

Journey Class will be taught by **John Wake**. The class photo will be taken at 10:30 a.m.

Life Class will be taught by **Ken Lantz**. The class photo will be taken at 10:45 a.m.

Lydia Class will be taught by **Edy Price**. The class photo will be taken at 10:00 a.m.

Reuben Alley Class will be taught by **Gene Damon**.

Seekers Class will be taught by **Linda Schreiner**. The class photo will be taken at 10:15 a.m.

TwentySomethings Class will be taught by **Paul and Heather Felts**. October 16 come join the class for “Pumpkins and S’mores,” at 6:30 p.m., in the church courtyard. Contact **Melanie Gray**, 512-0876, if you have any questions and to sign-up to come.

Discussion Class—Taylor Cousins will discuss the PBS series “The Question of God,” based upon the book by DeArmand Nicholi.

Explorers Class will continue a discussion of chapter four of the book [The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering Our Life of Faith](#), by Marcus Borg.

Phoenix Class—The class will continue its discussion of the book [Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance](#). **Henry McGee** will lead the discussion. The class photo will be taken at 10:20 a.m.

Robert Smart Class —The class will continue its study of the book of [Acts](#). **Bob Shoemake** teaches the class. The class photo will be taken at 10:40 a.m.

Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class—The class will continue its study of Samuel this Sunday, beginning with 1 Samuel 4:2, the “Ark Narrative.” **Bob Shepherd** teaches the class. The class will celebrate its fall social on Saturday, October 16, at the home of **Carolyn and George Thomas**.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS PHOTOS

In preparation for a new pictorial directory, the adult Sunday School classes will be photographed on Sunday mornings, October 17 and 24. Warren Johnson is the photographer. Scheduled classes should assemble at the entrance to the Music and Education Building. Class members are urged to strive for a high attendance. The classes scheduled for this Sunday are listed above with the appropriate class. The schedule for **Sunday, October 24** is as follows:

9:45	Reuben Alley	10:25	TwentySomethings
10:00	Explorers	10:35	Shepherd Simpson Bible Study
10:15	Friendship	10:45	Discussion

For more information, contact persons **Barbara Jackson**, 270-2903, or **Warren Johnson**, 353-8846. Rain date—October 31.

IN REHABILITATION: Ashie Bass, Elizabeth Adam Crump Manor

AT HOME: Henry Langford

CONGRATULATIONS to **Blair** and **Charles Parker** upon the birth of their son, Charles Ryan, on October 8. **Barry** and **Linda Harmon** are his grandparents.

A **WARM WELCOME** is extended to **Sarah MacLellan** and **Sandra Marshall** who united with River Road Church on October 10.



Discussion Group

THE BOOK LOVERS' GROUP will meet in the **Reception Room at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 28.** This month's selection is *The Three Miss Margarets* by Louise Shaffer. Thirty years ago three white Georgia women, all named Margaret, did something terribly wrong for a very good reason. Now this decades old, explosive secret is about to be revealed. "Shaffer tells a good story that's part mystery, but mostly an exploration of loyalty and friendship." Everyone is welcome to join the discussion that will be led by **Kitty Davis**. For more information, call Kitty at 285-9782.

Children's Ministry News

FAMILY HIKE

Come join us for a family hike on Sunday afternoon, October 24, following worship and a sack lunch (bring your own). Call **Barbara Massey**, 288-1131, to let us know you will hike with us.

TRUNK OR TREAT FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, October 29, 7:00-8:30

Back parking lot of the church
Fun for the entire family.

Come enjoy:

- 🎃 "Trunk or Treating"
- 🎃 Bobbing for Apples
- 🎃 Costume Parade
- 🎃 Moon Bounce
- 🎃 Pumpkin Painting
- 🎃 Ghoulish Games and Treats
- 🎃 Collecting of Food for the Food Bank
- 🎃 And other fun stuff!

Adults, we need YOUR HELP for this Fall Festival. Call **Barbara Massey**, 288-1131, to find out what you can do to help make this a fun event for everyone.



NEXT ISH LOCAL MISSIONS PROJECT:

Warm winter coats for children ages infant-17

Diapers for infants and adults

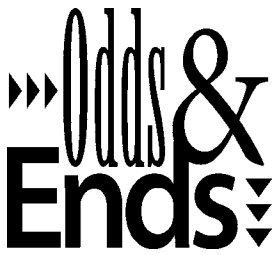
October 1-31

Questions to: **Charlotte** and **Bill Simpson**, 285-3185

WMU WOMEN ON MISSION EVENING GROUP: The Evening Group will meet on **Tuesday, October 19**, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of **Peggy Pruden**. The program topic will be summer missions at River Road Church. Members are reminded to bring canned goods and nonperishable food items for the Baptist centers' food pantries. Come join us! For more information contact **Wyatt Heisler** at 741-9320 or **Peggy Pruden** at 282-6434

RBA WMU SOUTHWEST WOMEN ON MISSION: The Fall dinner meeting of the Southwest Women on Mission will be held at River Road on Tuesday, October 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The program will concern the new West African Congregation in Richmond. Guests are welcome. Please call the church office at 288-1131 to make a reservation. Dinner is \$5.00.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES CAMPAIGN UPDATE: School supplies provided recently by River Road Church families helped 425 needy Henrico County children enter the 2004-2005 school year. The report was contained in a letter of appreciation to the church from Rod Gordon, Interfaith Services of Henrico (ISH) coordinator. Items contributed to ISH during the church's July 15-August 15 campaign were made available to the Henrico County Department of Social Services, which distributed them to clients approved by county caseworkers. Thanks, everyone!



FIXERS: (Frequently Ingenious, eXtremely Efficient, Righteous Servants) The next gathering of the FIXERS will be **Thursday, October 21**, for breakfast and odd jobs around the church. Newcomers are most welcome. Call **George Davis** at the church, 288-1131, for more information.

CROP WALK: River Road Church will participate in the annual CROP Walk to raise money for the hungry both in our own community and worldwide. We encourage you to participate by walking and obtaining pledges or by giving generously to a walker. The youth will be recruiting pledges on Wednesday evenings, at the Reception on Sundays, and by coming to your Sunday School Class. Please make checks payable to CWS/CROP. If you would like to walk, please contact **Arlene Perry**, 747-6794.

THANK YOU, SATURDAY WORKERS! The House and Grounds Committee would like to thank all who came out this past Saturday to work on the church grounds. They moved and spread mulch, cleaned the south parking lot, trimmed bushes, weeded natural areas, spread fertilizer, and cleaned signs. Thanks go the following: **Dan Bryant, Craig Carlock, Mike Clingenpeel, Vivian Clingenpeel, George Davis, Bill Gray, John Hays, Sam Hays, Wyatt Heisler, Ken Lantz, Sam Measell, David Newsome, Josh Newsome, and Steve Newsome.**

SUBSTITUTE TELLERS NEEDED! *Do you like to get your hands on money?* Can you stay after church for about an hour once in a while to help count the Sunday offering? The Tellers Committee is looking for a few people to add to its substitute list. You would only be called on occasionally, but the committee could use your help. If interested, call **George Davis** at the church, 288-1131.

WEDNESDAY DINNER PROGRAMS

“Looking at Your Child’s Emotional Development”

Margaret Collins, director of River Road Church Preschool Development Center and River Road Church member will present a program on the “Emotional Development” of children. Each child develops emotionally through stages—what are the stages and what can parents expect at each stage? Come and join this informative discussion.

In order to allow the children to arrive at their activities on time, please allow families with children to go to the front of the serving line.

Student Ministry News

Sunday School Teachers for October: Middle School (Grades 6-8)—Tom Heggie. Senior High (Grades 9-12)—Bill and Deb Gray

CARITAS “Night on the Streets” 2004

CARITAS will be Friday, October 15. There will be a rally in Monroe Park with youth from other churches. We will come back to church and “sleep in a box” in the Courtyard. This event is intended to raise our teenagers’ awareness of the homeless issues that affect our community. CARITAS is requesting that each participating student raise \$95.00. This amount will provide a homeless person with shelter for one full week. Please let **Mary Mann** know as soon as possible if you will be participating. You will need to bring a sleeping bag and pillow to the church. Here is the list I have so far—Students: **George Berry, Karen Brown, Lauren Brown, Geoff Burnett, Catherine Carlock, Stephen Cox, Britney Fitzgerald, Grace Fitzgerald, Kathryn Fitzgerald, Bobby Gary, Dexter Gulick, Deanna Gulick, Caroline Heggie, Shelley Lantz, Katie Ludvigsen, Emily Mathews, Anne McGraw, Frank McGraw, Elena Michiels, David Newsome, Amy Spicer, Suzanne Spicer, Nathan Thomson, Carrie Trickett.** Chaperones: **Mary Mann, Richard Bower, Nancy Gary, Toney Fitzgerald, Cathy Michiels.**

Important Upcoming Dates

Sunday October 17 Youth Choir Rehearsal at 12:00 noon, immediately following the service.
There are no youth activities this Sunday evening.

There will be **no Youth Bells** on Sunday nights through the end of the calendar year.

Evening Events Begin for Youth

Sunday (5:30-7:30 p.m.)

Snack Supper	5:30-6:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall
Youth Choir	6:00-6:30 p.m.
Culture/Mission Study	6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Youth Lounge

Wednesday

The Gathering	6:30-7:30 p.m.
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On Wednesday nights we will alternate every other week with a Bible Study session and a Recreation Night.

*You can contact Rev. Mary Mann by e-mail: marymann@rrcb.org

Kimberly O’Kelly—New Part-Time Church Secretary

River Road Church welcomes its newest staff member, Kimberly O’Kelly. Kim will help out in the front office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Kim’s previous experience includes four years at the Federal Reserve Bank and three years as an office manager at a local company. Welcome, Kim! We encourage you to add your own personal words of welcome to Kim as she joins our church staff.

MISSION TEAM TO PONTA GROSSA, BRAZIL INSTEAD OF CURRITIBA, BRAZIL

Another team of church volunteers is planning to assist in construction of a new church in Ponta Grossa, Brazil (about 100 km from Curitiba) for the Baptist Convention of Parana and their Pastor Flavio Lucius Aguiar Alves. This work request is a change from the original request to Curitiba, Brazil, due to a priority change by the Baptist Convention of Brazil. Our dates are now: February 18-March 4, 2005; remember, our winter is their summer.

Openings remain available for interested individuals. If you would like to be a mission volunteer, then contact Robert Dibble as soon as possible. A \$100 deposit will reserve your spot on the team. Total cost for the trip is \$1600. A required orientation meeting for all participants led by Craig Waddell of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 7:30 p.m., in room 230 (Reuben Alley class).



October

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 15	CARITAS Sleep-In-A-Box , 9:30 p.m., Church Courtyard
Sunday, October 17	No Youth Programs this Evening Adult Bible Study , 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room Active Parenting Today , 6:00 p.m., Seekers Classroom Board of Administration , 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room Leadership Banquet , 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Monday, October 18	WMU Women on Mission Night Group , 7:00 p.m., Home of Peggy Pruden
Tuesday, October 19	Christmas Pageant Meeting , 6:00 p.m., Reception Room
Wednesday, October 20	Youth Bible Study , 6:30 p.m., Youth Lounge Brazil Mission Team Orientation , 7:30 p.m., Room 230 Personnel Committee , 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Thursday, October 21	FIXERS , 8:30 a.m., Reception Room Morning Bridge , 10:00 a.m., Reception Room
Sunday, October 24	Commitment Sunday Luncheon , 12:00 noon, Fellowship Hall Family Hike , 12:30-5:00 p.m. Youth Snack Supper , 5:30 p.m., Chapel Hall Youth Vespers , 6:30 p.m., Chapel Adult Bible Study , 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room Active Parenting Today , 6:00 p.m., Seekers Classroom Concert , 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, October 26	RBA WMU Southwest Women On Mission , 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Chapel
Wednesday, October 27	River Roadsters to North Carolina , 7:00 a.m., north parking lot Youth Bible Study , 6:30 p.m., Youth Lounge
Thursday, October 28	Book Lovers' Group , 7:30 p.m., Reception Room
Friday, October 29	"Trunk or Treat" Family Fall Festival , 6:00 p.m., north parking lot Fifth Quarter , 9:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY DINNER MENU—OCTOBER 20: The adults will have roast beef, baked potato, green beans, salad bar, rolls, and lemon or chocolate pie. The children will have hamburgers and hot dogs, potato chips, salad bar, and ice cream.

Visit us on the web at www.riverroadchurchbaptist.org

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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