

Baptist in
Heritage,
Ecumenical
in Worship
and Outreach



The Spire

River Road Church, Baptist

January 9, 2007, Vol. 62, No. 2

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

Ka'thy Gore Chappell
College Students

Rachel L. Hoffman
Youth

Margaret S. Collins
Preschool Director

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 14, 2007
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 PROGRAMS

January 17, 2007
5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Programs

The Lord's Prayer: Praying in Context

Dr. Henry Mugabe

Dr. Henry Mugabe, Principal of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Zimbabwe and Visiting Professor of Theology at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, continues our Winter Bible Study in the Pastor's Forum. Dr. Mugabe also teaches at Wake Forest University Divinity School and has also taught at Memphis Theological Seminary. He is married to Hermina and they have three children: Grace, Johannes, and Tinashe. Dr. Mugabe received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Africa; his Master of Divinity and Ph.D. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

also offered

Moms' Group

Yoga

Christy Sutton

Moms are invited to join us for an evening of Yoga basics with Yoga fitness instructor Christy Sutton. The group will convene in the Seekers' classroom.



Two New Staff Members

Many of you have asked who will occupy the vacancies in our church staff. This week's column answers this question, at least in part.

Last week **Sandi Bassett** began as Pastor's Secretary. Sandi comes to us from her position as Church Secretary at nearby Westhampton Baptist Church, where she and her husband, Randy, are long time members. She is a native of Roanoke, but has spent much of her life in Richmond. Welcome Sandi!

I am very pleased to announce that **Kenneth Lantz** has accepted the role as River Road Church's next Church Administrator. Ken succeeds George Davis, who retired December 31.

Ken is Senior Research Scientist for the Virginia Transportation Research Council, a division of the Virginia Department of Transportation. His 32-year tenure as an engineer with VDOT has given him a variety of experiences and competencies useful in his new position.

You know Ken and his wife, Cynthia, and daughters Sarah Collier, Bonnie and Shelley and son-in-law, Rob Collier, as active members of this congregation. Ken's official start date is to be determined, but he will begin this week to pick up a few assignments during his transition from VDOT to River Road. Welcome Ken!

Until Ken assumes the full duties of Church Administrator, those tasks have been delegated to several other staff members. If you have a question, do not hesitate to contact me or the church office, and we will respond to your request.

Blessings,
Mike

A Thank You from George Davis

Kitty and I would like to thank the church, especially the Social Committee and the hosting deacons, for the lovely reception this past Sunday in honor of my retirement. Both Mike's kind remarks and your warm individual greetings and thank-yous were most appreciated. Thank you also for the very generous retirement gift, some of which we are looking forward to spending on our grandchildren later this month when they come for a three-week visit from the Czech Republic. It indeed has been an honor, pleasure, and privilege to serve this wonderful church as church administrator for ten years. I shall always remember both the support and kindnesses you showed me each day.

Sincerely,
George Davis

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL WRITERS WANTED

The Website Committee of River Road Church invites interested church members to write devotionals for the upcoming season of Lent. We are asking for volunteers to write a brief devotional (**deadline: January 31**) based on pre-selected verses from the Bible. The devotional should include:

- A brief opening prayer
- A brief devotion on the text
- A brief closing prayer

If you would still like to participate, contact **Robert Dibble** at 288-1131 or bobdibble@rrcb.org.

Sunday Responsibilities

January 14:

Acolyte: David Newsome

Deacon Coffee:

Russ Collins, captain; Catherine Burkett, Carl Collier, John Zukowsky

Flower Distribution:

Donna Ooghe, Liz Seward

Greeters:

Cliff Shelton, anchor; Austin Clark, Tom Ligon, Ed Pruden, Mark Simonton

Sound: Ed Pruden

Tellers: Jean Cauble, chair; Carol and Dean Decker, Pat Dickinson, Dianne Parrish, Mary Lee and Tom Starke

Ushers: Jule Bolio, John Gray, Skip King, Jon Williams

Minister On Call

January 13-14

Barbara Massey
673-9156 home
240-4720 cell

Adult Sunday School News

Formations Sunday School literature continues its four-week unit of study entitled *The Servant of the Lord*. After the fall of Jerusalem, the Israelites suffered the loss of their homeland, the destruction of their temple, and separation from their families. Many gave up believing in any possibility of salvation or restoration of their land. In these years of despair, God gave a word of hope, a light to the nations, a word of encouragement to the weary, and righteousness to the sinner. In the last half of Isaiah, the prophet uses four special "Servant Songs" to proclaim this message of hope. Each song gives a different picture of the same servant, the identity of whom scholars still debate. But these songs communicate that God cares about hurting people, God sees our oppression and confusion, and God comforts us in our griefs. The result is God's intervention in our lives through humble servants who bring restoration and encouragement. Today, we are called to be servants who also bring justice to the oppressed, light to the nations, and strength to the weary. This week's lesson, entitled *The Servant as Light to the Nations*, is based on Isaiah 49:1-6 and will be studied in the following classes:

Discovery Class will be taught by **Chester** and **Margaret Phelps**.

Fellowship Class will be taught by **Gene Damon**.

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

Journey Class will have its annual venison party at **Jane** and **Roy Terry's** home on Saturday, January 20, 7:00 p.m. Please *RSVP* to **Laura Lee Chandler** by January 17.

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

Phoenix Class will be taught by **Patsy Barr**.

Reuben Alley Class will be taught by **John Oliver**.

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

College Class will be taught by **Ka'thy Gore Chappell**.

Discussion Class

Explorers Class—The class will continue its discussion of Joseph Campbell's *Power of Myth* video. **Mike Price** will facilitate the discussion.

Life Class—The class begins its Winter Bible Study, *Surviving the Tensions of Life*, based on 1 & 2 Samuel. **Scott Leake** will lead the discussion of chapter 1.

Robert Smart Class—**Mark Pounders** will lead the class discussion.

Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class will be taught by **Bob Shepherd**. Jesus returns to his hometown of Nazareth in Mark 6 and the class will begin its focus on that episode this Sunday.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Our next monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast for men of all ages (in school, retired, or working professionals) is **Thursday, January 25, 7:00 a.m.** This breakfast group features great fellowship and intentional intercessory prayer for needs of every kind, especially for the City of Richmond as we partner with Metro Richmond at Prayer. Free breakfast is offered and we meet in the Reception Room. Plan to join us.



Friday—12th

Don Farmer
Kate Mitchell
Gary Tyer

Saturday—13th

Bess Price
Kent Savedge

Sunday—14th

Nancy Anderson
Julie Goble
Marguerite McClellan
Al Whitley

Monday—15th

Gray Clevenger
Doris Curtis
Frances Derrer

Tuesday—16th

Jack Beamon
Beth Frohn
Edith Jones
Sarah Leszczyszyn
David Newsome
Nancy Werner

Wednesday—17th

Joe Carlock
Gene Cox
Mathew Dunlevy
Kay Howe
Howard Scott
Mary Lee Starke

Thursday—18th

Cristin Collier
Sonny Edwards
Corella Ricketson



Sunday—14th

John and Norma Hays—28 years
Terry and Shelia Marsh—23 years



IN HOSPITAL: Izzy Humbert, St. Mary's

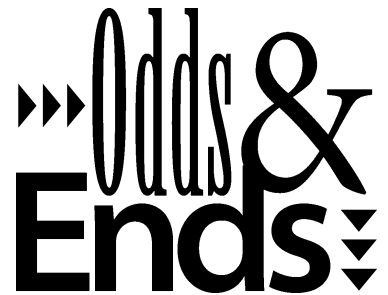
AT HOME: Bea Adkins, Bill Bingham, E. J. Bowen, Donald Bunn,
Helen Clarke, Jim Hughes, Nancy Gayle Smith

IN HEALTHCARE: Edith Scott, Cedarfield

IN REHABILITATION: , Health South; Jay Clark, The Laurels

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is expressed to **Barbara McKeever** and the family and friends of Dan Alexander upon his death on January 4 in Leland, North Carolina.

FLOWER CALENDAR: There still are open dates on the flower calendar for 2007. Anyone wishing to contribute flowers for any of the remaining dates this year, should contact **Nancy Anderson**, 672-6931. The cost will be \$85.00 per Sunday.



FIXERS — (Frequently Ingenious, eXtremely Efficient, Righteous Servants) The next breakfast meeting for the FIXERS will be **Thursday, January 18, at 8:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.** If you can help out around the church for just a couple of hours that morning, contact the church office, 288-1131, for more information.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PANEL

Thursday, January 18 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall all members and friends of River Road Church, Baptist are cordially invited to attend a dinner meeting of the **Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond** (www.icgr.org). The program: "The Youth Empowerment Panel," : will begin at 7:00 p.m. Participants include members of the Virginia Conference for Community and Justice (VCCJ) and the Richmond Youth Peach Project (RYPP).

Dinner: \$12.50

Further details may be obtained from **Ann Loxterman**: 285-1283.

THE MICAH PROGRAM needs a spelling "B" word reader for the 1st and 2nd graders' spelling "B" from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., on Friday, January 12, at the Summer Hill Elementary School behind Philip Morris on I-95. Here's a great one-event chance to see what the Micah program is about. Sight words, so it will be easy. No words to stump you.

Contact **Andrew Terry** (andrew.b.terry@gmail.com ; c. 405-3046) or **Terry Marsh** (terrymarsh@comcast.net; o. 796-9700).



WMU EVENING GROUP: The Evening Group will meet **Tuesday, January 16**, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Wyatt Heisler, 9501 Arrowdel Road. The group will be planning its "Connectors' Cookbook Project." Please bring your favorite cookbooks for the discussion. If you like to cook, to eat, or to just have a good time, please come join us! Call **Wyatt Heisler** at 741-9320, or **Peggy Pruden** at 282-6434 for more information.

FIRST ISH LOCAL MISSIONS CAMPAIGN OF 2007: Emergency Duffel Bags January 1-31, 2007

Having emergency duffel bags on hand to assist children who are rescued from abusive families in Henrico County is an ongoing need of Interfaith Services of Henrico (ISH).

Unlike other projects, this project has an urgent and immediate need. When the court orders the rescue of a child from an abusive family—and that happens more often than we might imagine—the child needs an emergency supply of clothes, toiletries, etc. to use until a safe place can be found for the child. A county social worker and a county policeman race for an age-appropriate emergency duffel bag in the ISH storage closet to take to the child. A child is thus provided with basic needs at a critical time from persons unknown whose kindness in itself is a source of care and support.

In 2007, the campaign will focus on infants and children aged birth to five years. Sadly, that is the age of children who presently seem most likely to be abused. The breakdown will be birth-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-9 months, and 9-12 months. Also, ages 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. You may choose whichever age child and gender of child you prefer. A list of sizes and items needed for each age boy and girl, and a sign-up list, will also be available. A duffel bag filled with nice, clean clothes from local thrift shops, new underwear and socks, and toiletries from local dollar shops can be completed at a cost of about \$30-40.

Throughout January, the Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class will offer free duffel bags to any church family who would be willing to supply the necessary items. If you would like to participate, but don't have the time or energy to shop, you may telephone **Charlotte** and **Bill Simpson** at 285-3185 and they will shop for you.

CARITAS February 17-23, 2007

CARITAS stands for **C**ongregations **A**round **R**ichmond **I**nvolved to **A**ssure **S**helter.
We will be hosting 40 men and women.

Needs list:

- Preparing bagged lunches—assemble them in our church kitchen. The food is provided. Time is flexible.
- Making dinners—church members who want to help in this area will be teamed together.
- Helping serve meals, usually 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- Spending the night—9:00 pm-7:00 a.m. Does require making coffee, setting out continental breakfast in the morning, and handing out lunches.
- Spending time in evening with CARITAS members—anytime in the evening; playing cards, checkers, games, etc.
- Offering of special services/talents you may have. Examples include giving haircuts, assisting with laundry at church, mending and sewing, etc.
- Making cookies—80 cookies/day brought to the church in ziploc bags (2 cookies/bag).
- Setting up cots on Saturday February 17. Usually in the morning. The exact time will be confirmed at a later date.
- Taking down cots on Saturday February 24. Usually in the morning. The exact time will be confirmed at a later date.

You can learn more about **CARITAS** at www.caritasshelter.org
Please contact **Brantley Holmes** at 754-1579, by email at holmesby@comcast.net,
or at the deacon coffee following worship if you would like to help.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

COMING EVENTS:

BOWLING—GRADES 3-5—Sunday, January 14, 12:30 p.m.

Bring a change of clothes to church. We will leave from the back parking lot at 12:30. A parent (or other adult) should accompany each child. We will have lunch at McDonald's Willow Place (on Broad, across from Barnes and Noble). And we are bowling at AMF Sunset Lanes (6540 W. Broad, across from Home Depot). Bring money for lunch and two bowling games.

Please call **Barbara Massey**, 288-1131, to make a reservation. Siblings are welcome!



ADULT ORIENTATION OFFERED

ADULT ORIENTATION, hosted by **Jim and Tuckie Paxton**, will be offered on Friday, January 19, at 5:30 p.m., in the Reception Room (adjacent to the kitchen in Fellowship House). This is a new format for **ADULT ORIENTATION**: one evening session—consisting of four parts—aimed at two groups of adults: (1) new members to River Road Church, and (2) visitors/prospective members who are considering joining.

As a church we want to do our best in helping new members become an integral part of this church family. We also want to introduce ourselves to prospective members in such a way as to help their important decision of church membership. So, we offer **ADULT ORIENTATION**.

During this informative evening, we will provide some opportunities for you to meet the church staff and nurture new relationships, while learning the history and ministries of this River Road Church. All new members and interested visitors are encouraged to attend. Since the evening begins with dinner, we need to insure adequate food is prepared for everyone. **The kindness of your reply to us by Monday, January 15, would be appreciated; simply call the church office, 288-1131, to make your reservation.** Childcare will be offered for anyone desiring it. Please let us know if childcare is needed when you call the church office.

THE BOOK LOVERS' GROUPS

The Book Lovers' Group will meet on Thursday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m., in the Reception Room (Fellowship House). This month's selection is *Plain Truth* by Jodi Picoult. In this psychological drama with a suspenseful courtroom trial, Ms. Picoult tells the story of a shocking murder in the Pennsylvania Amish country. The contrast between Amish culture and the "English" provides an interesting tension—plus provides information about a way of life based on faith, humility, duty, and honesty. **Vivian Clingenpeel** will moderate the discussion.

Book Lovers II will meet on Thursday, February 1, at 10:00 a.m., in the Reception Room to discuss *March* by Geraldine Brooks. This 2006 winner of the Pulitzer Prize tells of the imaginary Civil War experiences of Mr. March, the absent father in *Little Women*. **Judy Morris** and **Kitty Davis** will review the book. Last summer, Judy was privileged to hear Ms. Brooks talk about the writing of this novel. For more information, call **Kitty Davis**, 285-9782. Both groups meet in the Reception Room. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Exciting News!!! Special Event!!!!

Sharon Baldacci, author of *A Sundog Moment*, has accepted the invitation of the Book Lovers' Group to speak at River Road Church on Saturday, April 14, at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Mark your calendar and look for more details in March (Yes, Sharon is author David Baldacci's sister).

THE RIVER'S EDGE

youth ministry at river road church, baptist

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- January 10** **Small groups**
Led by Stacey Rooney & Rachel Hoffman
- January 13** **Mission Day, 12:00-4:00 p.m.**
Come do construction on the
Student Center @ VCU!!
Led by Bill Rusher
- January 14** mini-current
led by Toney Fitzgerald
Worship: Sam Hays & Dexter Gulick
Message: Edwin Cothran
- January 17** **Small groups**
Led by Stacey Rooney & Ka'thy Gore Chappell
- January 21** mini-current
led by Toney Fitzgerald
Worship: Sam Hays & Dexter Gulick
Message: Edwin Cothran
- January 24** **Small groups**
Led by Stacey Rooney & Ka'thy Gore Chappell

Where in the world is Rachel Hoffman?

The rumors are true! In just a few days I will be heading to Buenos Aires, Argentina for a missionary immersion experience with Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. This trip will provide the exciting opportunity for me to see how God is at work in the church in South America. I will be gone from January 11 to January 25. While I am gone our regular youth programs will continue under the supervision of our dedicated youth volunteers.

High School Spring Retreat April 20-22 @ Lake Anna

With guest speaker/
worship leader
Jonathan Davis

Cost: \$80
\$40 Deposit due
February 11

SUNDAY NIGHTS: Current

Starting in January youth Sunday night youth programs will be changing! Middle and high school students will join together for Current youth worship in the chapel. At Current students will encounter God through music, Scripture and interactive worship elements.

January 14 & 21: mini current

January 28: **Bowling**

bring money for dinner out & bowling
The bus will leave at 5:05 p.m., so don't be late! We will return to church between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m. for choir.

What time is current anyway?

Due to a misprint there has been some confusion about the times for Sunday night activities! Here are the official times:

5:00-5:30	Dinner
5:30-6:45	Current
6:45-7:30	Choir practice

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: Small groups

Wednesday nights we will be offering two small group Bible studies: one for middle school and one for high school students. This will be a forum for students to discuss Scripture, current events and what is going on in their lives.

MISSION DAYS

This coming year we will be offering several mission opportunities in the community. Dates are listed below, keep reading the Spire for times and locations!

January 13 **12:00-4:00 p.m.**
Meet at RRCB, wear work clothes
transportation provided

February 10

May 12

Rachel Hoffman, minister to youth
rachelhoffman@rrcb.org

COLLEGE STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

College Bible Study



10 am Sundays

rrcb reception room w/ coffee, donuts, & OJ

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: SUNDAYS, BEGINNING JANUARY 14 THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW: GOD WITH US

A distinguishing feature of the Gospel of Matthew is its use of the Greek term *ekklesia*, which means an assembly of ones who are “called out” and it conveys nothing of the static conception of the word “church” held by many today. Matthew is the only gospel to use this term and both times it comes from the lips of Jesus. The Church is so important to Matthew that he describes the nature and purpose of the Messiah’s new community throughout the gospel and two full chapters are devoted to teachings of Jesus that are specifically aimed at guiding the community of faith in its life and service.

According to Matthew, the Church is an earthly manifestation of the kingdom of God, and it is comprised of Jesus’ followers who have been called out to live righteously in the world and to serve in the manner of the Christ with deep humility and unfathomable forgiveness. In Jesus, there is a new community at work for the blessing of the world. What is it that binds us together? Jesus—God With Us.

Beginning on Sunday, January 14, at 6:00 p.m., the second semester of Bible study will be offered for interested adults. Led by **Robert Dibble**, participants will be part of a community where serious intent, personal preparation, and active involvement provide the basis for significant learning. This will be an exciting course of study for adults ready to reflect deeply on the scriptures, faith, and life. The class will meet in the Chapel Hall. Reservations should be made to the adult ministries office, 288-1131.

January

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 10	Finance Committee , 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor Lent Devotional Writers' Meeting , 7:30 p.m., Reuben Alley classroom
Thursday, January 11	Ballroom Dancing , 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall Singles Fellowship , 7:00 p.m., The Tavern
Friday, January 12	Men's Basketball , 7:00 p.m., Byrd Middle School
Sunday, January 14	Bowling—Grades 3-5 , 12:30 p.m. Strategic Planning Team , 5:00 p.m., Church Parlor Companions in Christ , 6:00 p.m., Discovery classroom The Way of the Child , 6:00 p.m., Fifth Grade classroom Board of Christian Education , 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Monday, January 15	EFM , 6:30 p.m., Archives Room
Tuesday, January 16	WMU Evening Group , 7:00 p.m., Heislars' home Yoga , 7:30 p.m., Chapel Hall Men's Basketball , 8:00 p.m., Byrd Middle School
Wednesday, January 17	Moms' Group , 6:30 p.m., Seekers' classroom History Committee , 7:30 p.m., Archives
Thursday, January 18	Fixers , 8:30 a.m., Reception Room Ballroom Dancing , 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall Men's Basketball , 7:00 p.m., Byrd Middle School
Friday, January 19	Adult Orientation , 5:30 p.m., Reception Room



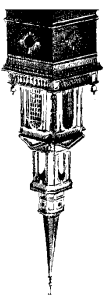
WEDNESDAY'S DINNER MENU

The adults will have roast beef, baked potato, green beans, salad bar, rolls, and lemon pie. The children will have hamburgers and hot dogs, potato chips, salad bar and ice cream. For dinner reservations, call the church office at 288-1131. The reservation deadline is Tuesday, at noon.

The Spirit 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.
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