

Baptist in  
Heritage,  
Ecumenical  
in Worship  
and Outreach



# The Spire

River Road Church, Baptist

July 29, 2008, Vol. 63 No. 30

## River Road Church, Baptist

8000 River Road  
Richmond, VA 23229  
(804) 288-1131 (office)  
(804) 282-9172 (fax)  
[www.rrcb.org](http://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*

Rachel L. Hoffman  
*Youth*

## TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3, 2008

11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sanctuary

Service of Holy Communion

Sermon by Dr. Thomas H. Graves  
Soloist: Michelle Harman-Gulick, Soprano  
Organist: David P. Gulick

Reception following the Worship Service  
hosted by the Robert Smart Class



## SUMMER VESPER SERVICE

August 6, 2008

7:00 p.m.  
Chapel

An evening service of hymns, prayers, scripture lessons  
and a homily by Dr. Michael J. Clingenpeel

Soloist: Michelle Harman-Gulick, Soprano  
Organist: William H. Brown



## Supporting Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

A significant part of the Missions' Budget of River Road Church, Baptist is support for Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. Founded in 1989, the seminary officially began in 1991 with 32 students. In May of 2008, the 507<sup>th</sup> graduate went out to join others to minister in places nearby and all over the world.

BTSR grew out of a time in the late 1980's when Baptists knew alternative schools of theological education were needed. Virginia Baptists, our church, and many others greatly supported that desire. We have already benefitted in so many ways from the numerous BTSR faculty and staff who are members of our church, interns who have served for short periods, and two staff members who came to us from the seminary. Additionally, our own Drew Collier recently graduated from BTSR and is now working as a Minister of Youth at a near-by church.

While established with a deep commitment to Baptist principles, BTSR is also a part of the Richmond Theological Consortium. This not only allows students to be taught in the BTSR classrooms, but also to take courses at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education and at the School of Theology at Virginia Union University at no additional cost.

President Ron Crawford sees some financial challenges for the seminary at present, but insists that "the future of BTSR is very bright." Each year River Road Church seeks to increase our missions' budget portion for BTSR. Pray that together we can do this.

### A Life of Stewardship

(Part Seven in a Series)

*A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be filled; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest; richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep.*

—A.W. Tozer

*It ain't those parts of the Bible I can't understand that bother me; it's the parts that I do understand.*

—Mark Twain

What are your motives for giving? Here are some questions you might ask yourself: Why do I give? What really motivates me?

- A tax deduction?
- Public recognition?
- Protection of my reputation?
- Am I trying to use my gifts to purchase God's favor?

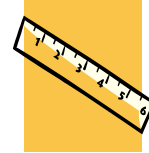
Discerning your motives is a difficult thing to do; it takes real courage to be that honest with yourself.

Many people simply will not believe that what God gives is for the purpose of giving it away. As you give it away, God enjoys giving it back to you just so that you can continue to give it way. This is the flow of God's economy. Giving for any other reason than the joy of giving interrupts the divinely designed flow of the universe—receiving and giving . . . giving and receiving.

—Adapted from *The Giving Myths: Giving then Getting the Life You've Always Wanted*, by Stephen B. McSwain, Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc., 2007, pp. 68-70.



### Think School Supplies: Shop for ISH!



#### Take Advantage of the Sales Tax Exemption Period!

Summer haze leads to school daze...and also special days when school supplies will soon be tax free. Take advantage of the August "Sales Tax Holiday" for qualifying school supplies during the weekend of **August 1-3!** Good bargains are available at other times, of course, but this short period may also offer some terrific deals! Head out one morning before the sun gets too high in the sky and purchase items to fill the cabinets at the Interfaith Services for Henrico County (ISH). Help those in need get off to a good start in school this year! Just leave your contributions on the Mission Tables or at the church office. Here are some suggested items:

- Backpacks (varied sizes)
- Notebook paper (wide)
- #2 pencils, colored pencils
- Crayons, highlighters
- Glue sticks, bottles of white glue
- Rulers, blunt-end scissors
- Protractors, safety compasses
- Large boxes of tissues
- Spiral notebooks
- marble composition books
- 3-ring loose-leaf binders (1 1/2", 2", 2 1/2" or 3")
- Ball-point pens (black, blue, red, green)
- Washable eraser markers
- 3 x 5 lined white index cards
- Pink erasers
- Basic calculators
- Clorox wipes

If you are unable to shop but would like to make a contribution, contact **Brenda and Henry Holland** (288-8295) or **Nancy Brown** (501-2204). They will gladly shop for you between now and August 17.



### Put "Food Share" on Your Grocery List!!

#### Bring "Kid Friendly" and other Non-Perishable Food

#### Kids are out of school and not getting school lunches!!



#### MINISTER TO THE HUNGRY AND HELP OUR RICHMOND CITY BAPTIST CENTERS

**Suggested foods:** canned applesauce, fruits, legumes and vegetables, prepared entrees (spaghetti, ravioli, etc.), peanut butter, tuna, salmon, meats, soups, stews, rice and dried beans, macaroni, pasta products, cereals, instant hot cereals; and dry powdered milk (quart packages).

**Special Needs for Ministry to Homeless** at Oregon Hill Baptist Center: Foods that need no preparation and are in pop-open cans, such as, Vienna sausages, fruit cocktail, and individually packaged crackers and cookies.

**Bring Food to "New Green Carts," Mission Tables or Church office.**

# College Ministry News

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK!**



College “Crossover” Trip to NYC is Saturday–Tuesday, August 2–5 and includes two current college students + 6 rising college freshmen. Ka’thy Gore Chappell and Rachel Hoffman will accompany the student group for a “long” weekend that will include sights and sounds of the big city (like the Empire State Building and a Broadway Show) as well as immersion in a different city-culture (like street vendors and subway transit) as well as participation in area worship (like Riverside Church and Metro Missions). While in New York, the group will stay at West End Studios and Hostel. Pray for “*traveling mercies.*”

*Ka’thy Gore Chappell, Minister to College Students*

[kchappell@btsr.edu](mailto:kchappell@btsr.edu) (804) 204-1209

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS



## WORSHIPCARE VOLUNTEERS

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you would like to become a part of our Preschool Worshipcare team, please let us know. This is a commitment to assist one Sunday a month from 10:45-12:00 in the Preschool area during worship. You will be assigned to a preschool class so you can get to know the children, and we promise you will get more than you give by assisting.

If you can help us, please fill out the form below and return it to Barbara Massey's office. We are counting on YOUTH to volunteer too—both middle school and high school.

Also, if you are willing to substitute when a Sunday School teacher need to be out, please let us know.

For more information, call Barbara Massey, 288-1131 or Mary Beth Scherer, 784-2646.



### WorshipCare Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to volunteer in Preschool Worshipcare for 2008-2009.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to serve as a substitute in Sunday School and/or Worshipcare.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# RIVER'S EDGE STUDENT MINIS-

## Youth Calendar

- July 30      Vespers  
7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
- July 30      Students must RSVP for the Graduate  
Dinner on or before July 30.
- August 2-5    College Crossover trip  
to New York, New York
- August 3      No evening youth activities
- August 6      Vespers  
7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
- August 7      Graduate Dinner  
6:30-8:30 p.m. in Chapel Hall
- August 10     Community Current  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
at the home of Rob & Jody Smart
- August 13     Vespers  
7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
- August 17     Community Current  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
at the home of Serge & Linda Schreiner
- August 20     6th Grade Orientation Dinner  
A dinner for all rising 6th  
grade students and their  
parents hosted by Barbara  
Massey & Rachel Hoffman



## Graduate Dinner

Thursday, August 7, 2008  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Class of 2008 graduates and their families & all middle and high school students are invited to join us for a special graduate dinner on Thursday, August 7. Join us as we celebrate our graduating class before they head off to college. We will have dinner, a picture slide show (feel free to submit pictures of any or all of the graduates), and a prayer of blessing for this special class of 2008. Please RSVP no later than July 31.

## Community Current

*growing in community*

All students are invited to join us for this informal time of fellowship, snacks & a devotional message.

**August 3**

**No Community Current**

**August 10 @ the Smarts'**

**August 17 @ the  
Schreiners'**  
(bring your swimsuit & towel)

**August 24 @ the Woods'**

## COLLEGE CROSSOVER TRIP

**AUGUST 2-5, 2008  
NEW YORK CITY**

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Friday—1st  
Nancy Cox  
Elizabeth Sanders  
Sharon Bailey  
Phil Hart

Saturday—2nd  
Byrd Latham  
Richard Mitchell  
Deep Sawhney

Sunday—3rd  
Julian Pentecost  
Dick Morris  
Libbie Geiger  
Steve Bailey  
Page Booth  
Kevin Smith  
Kyle Smart

Monday—4th  
Carly Blauvelt

Tuesday—5th  
David Hooker  
Erica Kirwan  
David Price  
Lynn Marsh

Wednesday—6th  
Millie Goode  
Barbara Jackson  
Michael Jones  
Chris Macturk  
T. J. Crocker

Thursday—7th  
Dorothy Lawrence  
Wendy Graves

Friday—1st  
John and Karen West—21 years

Saturday—2nd  
Bob and Diane Shoemaker—39 years

Sunday—3rd  
John and Carol Nugent—34 years

Monday—4th  
Darrick and Suzanne Alford—7 years  
Brent and Laura Leshar—7 years

Tuesday—5th  
Scott and Elizabeth Fairchild—2 years  
David and Jean Kelly—30 years

Wednesday—6th  
Scott and Jennifer Blankenship—14 years  
Bryan and Margaret Bostic—14 years

Thursday—7th  
Gary and Robin Tyer—32 years

**AT HOME:** Susan Andrews, Jane Budwell, Doris DeHart, Bill Griffith, Linda Harmon, Suzanne Keyser, Mary Pentecost, Sugar Ralston, Bob Shepherd

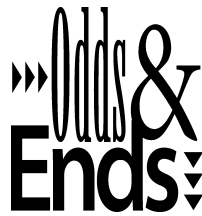
**IN HOSPITAL:** Bill Schools, St. Mary's

**IN HEALTHCARE:** Bob Younger, Westminster-Canterbury

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is expressed to **Mary Alice Mateer** upon the death of her father, and to **George** and **Colin Berry** upon the death of their grandfather, Elwood Gordon Mateer, Jr., on July 28, in Richmond.

A **WARM WELCOME** is extended to **Ken** and **Alisa Parris** who united with River Road Church on July 12.

**IN THE NEWS:** If you're looking for some summer entertainment try this: our own **Sarah Pruden**, will be *Audrey*, in *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Dogwood Dell August 1, 2, 3 and August 8, 9, and 10. The admission is free. Bring a lawn chair.



## Ruffin Road & Spring Hill Elementary need boxes of tissues and art smocks!

The Robert Smart Class will be collecting boxes of tissues (any shape/size) for the schools. They also need **OLD T-SHIRTS** and **OLD BUTTON DOWN SHIRTS** to be used as art smocks by the preschoolers. Please drop them off at the missions table or the Robert Smart Class from now until August 24. If you have any questions, please contact **Catherine Jones** at 673-0501 or [catherinecjohnes@verizon.net](mailto:catherinecjohnes@verizon.net). Thanks!

## LOOKING FOR SOME FUN? EVENING BRIDGE IS THE PLACE TO BE!

We're always looking for more folks who like to have a good time playing bridge. The next gathering will be on Tuesday, August 5 at 7:30 p.m., in the Reception Room. Call **Mike Rucker** at 794-6720 for more information.

## Deacons' Fellowship Fund Offering this Sunday

The Fellowship Fund consists of contributions from our church congregation and its recipients may be members of our church or individuals in the Richmond area. It usually pays for rent, gas, electricity, water, food, gasoline, and medical expenses. Individuals from outside the church make their requests through the local Department of Social Services or the United Way and that organization contacts the church. River Road Church, Baptist members who need assistance contact one of the ministers directly and are always given first preference.

So the next time you have a few extra dollars, you might consider putting them in one of the blue envelopes marked "Fellowship Fund" and dropping it in the collection plate this Sunday. Then you may smile to yourself knowing you have helped someone you don't know to keep warm or pay their rent.

News of  
the  
*Church*  
Family



## August 3

**Acolyte:** Dexter Gulick

**Flower Distribution:** Carol Decker, Liz Seward

**Greeters:** Pat Huband, anchor, Harper Alford, Carolyn Foster, Austin Clark, Stuart Williams

**Sound:** Barry Harmon

**Tellers:** Bertie O'Neal, chair, Jody Gordon, Elsie Fusco, Clayton and Peggy Marr, Sally Sparks, Susan Andrews, Jack Harvie

**Ushers:** Carl Collier, Ken Lantz, Sid Hays, Rob Collier, Jack Heisler

## Minister On Call

August 2-3

**Robert Dibble**  
Home 965-0647  
Cell 874-2226

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

*Formations* Sunday School literature concludes a five-week unit of study entitled, "Missional Hospitality." This week's lesson, studied by the following three classes, is *Hospitality to Christ*, based on Matthew 25:31-46.

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

**Discovery Class** will be taught by **Katie** and **Tim Merritt**.

**Lydia Class** will be taught by **Robert Dibble**.

**Life Class** continues its examination of the theology of Charles Wesley as revealed in his hymns. **Scott Leake** will lead the discussion of Chapter 5, "The Christian Life" based on the hymn "Love Divine, all Loves Excelling." Visitors and newcomers are welcome. The class will attend the Vesper Service together on July 30 and have dinner afterwards.

## 2008 Catacombs Lecture Series

The Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study Class is pleased to announce the schedule of distinguished speakers for this year's Catacombs Lectures. The lectures will be held in the Chapel, beginning sharply at 9:50 a.m. each Sunday from July 13-September 7. Classes attending: **Explorers, Fellowship, Friendship, Journey, Robert Smart, and Seekers.**

- August 3 Behind the "Left Behind" Books: Is This the Way to Use the Bible? — Rob James
- August 10 John Leland: A Case Study of Head Versus Heart in Religion — Jim Slatton
- August 17 American Literature and the Land — Lynn Dickerson
- August 24 Evil and Voltaire's Response of Doubt — Tom Graves
- August 31 Evil and Camus' Response of Unbelief — Tom Graves
- September 7 Evil and a Christian Response of Faith — Tom Graves

## REMAINING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES RECEPTION SCHEDULE

- |           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| August 10 | Explorers, Seekers           |
| August 17 | College, Discovery           |
| August 24 | Phoenix                      |
| August 31 | Shepherd-Simpson Bible Study |

# July~August Calendar of Events

Monday, July 28-August 1	<b>Summer Celebration/Music and Recreation</b> , 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 31	<b>Yoga</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel Hall
Tuesday, August 5	<b>Bridge</b> , 7:30 p.m., Reception Room
	<b>Softball</b> , 8:15 p.m., Short Pump
Wednesday, August 6	<b>Vesper Service</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel
Thursday, August 7	<b>Yoga</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel Hall
Sunday, August 10	<b>Board of Christian Education</b> , 7:30 p.m., Church Parlor
Tuesday, August 12	<b>Softball</b> , 8:15 p.m., Moody Middle School
Wednesday, August 13	<b>Vesper Service</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel
	<b>Stewardship Committee</b> , 7:45 p.m., Church Parlor
	<b>Volleyball</b> , 7:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, August 20	<b>Vesper Service</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel
	<b>Stephen Ministry Supervision</b> , 4:30 p.m., Church Parlor and Archives
	<b>Volleyball</b> , 7:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 21	<b>FIXERS</b> , 8:30 a.m., Reception Room
Wednesday, August 27	<b>Vesper Service</b> , 7:00 p.m., Chapel
	<b>Volleyball</b> , 7:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

*The Spire* is published weekly, except 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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