



# RIVER ROAD CHURCH

BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

# explorer

DECEMBER 2018 | VOL. VIII | ISSUE 12

## THANKFUL FOR THE COMMITMENT OF OUR MEMBERS

“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.” (2 Corinthians 9:11-12)

River Road Church started our Stewardship Campaign for the 2019 budget with the goal of challenging ourselves to grow in our commitment to pledging financial support of God’s work here at our church. The Stewardship Committee wishes to thank all members who have faithfully made their commitment to support our Church ministries for 2019. We are so blessed!

As of November 26, 83% of last year’s pledging members and families have pledged a total of \$1,168,817 towards our 2019 budget. This total represents 95% of the amount that was pledged for 2018!

What does this mean? We are so close to meeting our challenge for 2019; however, we need all members who are able to make a financial pledge to turn in their pledge cards soon. By doing so, we would likely meet and probably exceed our anticipated funding needs! This is so exciting because this

would allow our church to fund all its ministries, bringing God’s love and hope to our community and beyond. We have exciting new faces joining us and thrilling new opportunities ahead for River Road Church because of your generosity.

The Stewardship Committee asks you to prayerfully consider making your 2019 pledge to River Road Church, Baptist by the end of this year so that we can effectively plan our budget for the coming year. Your support is very much needed and appreciated.

As we enter Advent, the start of a new church year, and take time to celebrate together the birth of Christ, remember that we are one family of faith, supported by each other as reflected when Paul wrote: “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.” (Colossians 3:15) We thank you for your thoughtful and generous support of our Church.

Your Stewardship Committee,

George Davis, Martha Day Dumas (Co-Chair), Tom Gilsdorf, Daniel Glaze, Bill Gray, Neil Groseclose, Page Highfill, Steve Lessels, Cam McGuire, Charlie Sorrell, Craig Stuhlman, Buddy Sumner (Co-Chair)

### 2018 Contributions

If you are planning to make a contribution for 2018, we must receive it in the **Church Office by 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2018**, by mail and **postmarked by Monday, December 31, 2018**, or put in the **offering plate on Sunday, December 30, 2018**. **Online contributions** through the church’s website or your bank must be **initiated or dated by Monday, December 31, 2018**. **Anything received after the above dates will be applied to 2019.**

If you **plan to donate stock, please advise LeAnne Lane** ([leannelane@rrcb.org](mailto:leannelane@rrcb.org) or 804-288-1131) so proper credit can be given to you. Also if you have donated stock to the Church and have not let us know of your donation, please contact LeAnne. All stock contributions must be received into the Church’s investment account by Monday, December 31, 2018.

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2018 income tax return until you have received your year-end contributions statement from the church. Under IRS rules, you may lose your deduction for some or all of your contributions if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your 2018 contributions from the church.

Contribution statements will be mailed out in early December, please take the time to review your statement to ensure your contributions have been properly designated. If you have any questions regarding your statement please contact LeAnne or set up a meeting with her. You may also check your statement online through Access ACS throughout the year.

## **Church Work Day**

**Saturday, December 1**

**(Rain Date: Saturday, December 8)**

**8:00 a.m., Front Plaza**

The House and Grounds Committee is hosting a church work day December 1. Primarily, we will be gathering leaves from around the property, but other cleanup projects are available. We will meet on the front plaza at 8 am and then disperse around the church. This is a great opportunity for families to come and be good stewards of their time, talents, and resources on behalf of the church. Please bring your work gloves, rakes, blowers, trimmers, and shears.

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## **ADVENTure Lunch**

**Sunday, December 2**

**12:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

After worship, children and youth of all ages and their families are invited to the ADVENTure lunch. We will gather in fellowship to enjoy a meal around the tables, learn more about the season of Advent, and receive resources to use at home as we prepare for Christmas.

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## **Advent Bible Study with Daniel Glaze**

**Sundays, December 2, 9, 16, & 23 at 6:00 p.m.**

Join Daniel Glaze this Advent season for a thoughtful Bible study. Passages and topics to be discussed can be found online. Please sign up online ([rrcb.org/biblestudy](http://rrcb.org/biblestudy)) or call the church office. Childcare will be provided for children 5 and under.

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## ***E. Carl Freeman Concert Series***

**“A Renaissance Christmas” with The Tallis Scholars**

**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

**7:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

All tickets are \$35 per person and available on Eventbrite at [rrcb.org/tallis](http://rrcb.org/tallis). The Tallis Scholars will perform works by Nico Muhly, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, John Nesbitt, William Byrd, and Hieronymus Praetorius.

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## **Men’s Fellowship Breakfast**

**Tuesday, December 4**

**7:00 a.m., Reception Room**

The men of River Road Church are invited for breakfast, fellowship, and partnership in prayer. Please reserve your spot by calling the Church Office (804-288-1131).

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## **Evening Bridge**

**Tuesday, December 4**

**7:30 p.m., LC #102**

Anyone who likes to play bridge (singles or couples) is invited to join us for a fun evening of bridge. Contact Kitty or George Davis (804-285-9782) for more information.

## **FIXERS**

**Thursdays, December 6 & 20**

**8:00 a.m., Reception Room**

The FIXERS (Frequently Ingenious, eXtremely Energetic, Righteous Servants) are dedicated to keeping our beautiful church facility in top working order. The FIXERS meet for breakfast and fellowship, then break into teams and work on projects around the church. Please contact George Davis (804-285-9782) if you can make it.

### **Here’s a test:**

- Do you know what a weed looks like in a mulch bed?
- Do you know which end of a screwdriver to hold?
- Does holding a broom not intimidate you?
- Do you like free breakfast?

If you answered “yes” to one or more of these questions, you are qualified to join the FIXERS! Even if you didn’t answer “yes” to any of the questions, you’re still qualified to join the group. (As you can tell, our standards are not very high.) Men and women of all ages are encouraged to come.

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## **Christmas Decorating – Inside & Outside**

**Saturday, December 8**

**10:00 a.m., Sanctuary**

We need teen and adult helpers to hang 64 wreaths and 135 yards of roping in high and low places. You will not be asked to do any floral design, but rather climb ladders, fluff bows, carry wreaths here and there, hold roping, etc. Sentiments of Dr. Seuss express hopes for the day: “Welcome Christmas, while we stand/ Heart to heart, hand in hand.”

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## **Christmas Decorations Clean Up**

**Thursday, January 3, 2019**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

**10:00 a.m., Sanctuary**

Helpers are needed to take down the Christmas decorations. All live wreaths and garland will be taken down and disposed of on January 3. All the artificial wreaths and garland will be taken down, packed, and stored on January 8. Start your New Year’s exercise resolutions early as this task requires lots of walking all over the church.

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## **The Comma Club Luncheon & Program**

**Tuesday, December 11**

**12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

“Singing Christmas: Born in Bethlehem—Sung around the World” with Dr. C. Michael Hawn

Dr. Hawn was our guest speaker for the 2018 Holland Lectures.

Please make your reservations by Friday, December 7 by calling the Church Office, or filling out the form online [rrcb.org/seniors](http://rrcb.org/seniors). Lunch is \$10 per person. The group is primarily made up of senior adults, though it is not a requirement; anyone interested in a program is invited.

### **FLO - For Ladies Only Luncheon**

**Friday, December 14**

**12:00 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House (Bellevue)**

RSVP by December 10 to Jean Ellis ([jean782carter@verizon.net](mailto:jean782carter@verizon.net) or 804-272-7672) and let her know if you would like to carpool.

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### ***E. Carl Freeman Concert Series***

**Advent/Christmas Choral Concert**

**River Road Chancel Choir with Orchestra**

**Sunday, December 16**

**7:30 p.m., Sanctuary**

Music of Handel

*Organ Concerto in B flat*, Opus 4, No. 6

*Messiah, Part the First* (Advent and Christmas portions)

### **Men's Group: The Huddle**

**Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m., Reception Room**

The Huddle is a small group of men who minister to each other, make a plan to bring their lives together on a regular basis, and keep faith in that plan and each other. For more information, please contact Bill Thurston (804-514-3360).

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### **Yoga**

**Thursday, December 6**

**Mondays, December 10 & 17**

**5:45-7:00 p.m., Assembly Room**

Hatha Yoga is a gentle form of stretching exercise that offers many health advantages. Darcie Anderson, a Registered Yoga Teacher, is our instructor. There is a \$10 fee for each class you attend. Beginners and newcomers are most welcome.

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# Missions

### **First Sunday Food Share**

**Sunday, December 2**

River Road Church has a long history of working in many capacities with our three Baptist Centers: Church Hill, Oregon Hill, and South Richmond. We have donated food and other needed items, and we have gone to the centers and provided services and care. On the first Sunday of each month, you are invited to bring a bag of food for the Centers and place it in one of the green grocery carts in the Upper or Lower Commons. To best serve our centers and their communities, the center directors are requesting smaller-sized products. A suggested shopping list of food can be found on the Mission Tables.

### **Suggested Shopping List:**

- Cans of Vegetables
- Cans of Fruit
- Cans of Soup
- Cans of Meat: small cans of tuna, chicken
- Cans of Pork and Beans or other Beans
- Canned Entrées (example: Spagettios)
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Packages of Powdered Milk
- Boxes of Cereal
- Rice
- Dry Pasta
- Peanut butter
- Jelly

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### **Christmas Stores for the Church Hill Baptist Center**

**Deadline: Wednesday, December 5**

They are called "Christmas Stores" because the items are not simply given away. A small amount, \$5.00, is charged for each child, entitling the parent(s) to select toys and several pieces of clothing. The money collected is used in a neighborhood fuel assistance fund for the winter months. Our stores are a ministry to the whole person, in which relationships are central. Parents retain their dignity as they carefully select gifts which they have paid to obtain.

We need gifts for children ages birth through 12 years old (shortages are reported for the 7- to 10-year-olds). Go easy on stuffed animals, Barbie dolls, Candy Land, and Chutes & Ladders Board Games. In other words, purchase gifts that you would want your own children to receive.

### **Suggestions:**

- clothing (jeans, sweaters, sweatshirts, sleepwear, socks, underwear, coats, hats, gloves)
- games and toys
- books
- bicycles and helmets

Do not wrap the gifts; the parents need to see what they are selecting. (Donations of small amounts of wrapping paper will be appreciated.) Please leave price tags on items so that it is easier to distinguish less expensive from more expensive items. Please deliver your donations to the Missions Tables in the Upper or Lower Commons.

# Happy Birthday!

## December 1

Willy Carter  
Greta Van Tiem  
Janice Whitaker

## December 2

James Gray  
Helen Halloran  
Cindy McGuire  
Elizabeth Seward  
Lily Slatton

## December 3

Erin Early  
Lucy Gray  
Kate Knerr  
Seth Roberts

## December 5

Tom Berry

## December 6

Catie Burkett  
Andrew Price  
Lucy Thornton

## December 7

Susan Vaughan

## December 8

Nell Bailey

## December 9

Nancy Smith -Jackson  
Rick Naschold  
Amber Simms

## December 10

Lorraine Welker

## December 11

Tricia Alford

## December 13

Eli Macturk

## December 14

Amy Matney  
Daniel Ingram  
John Robertson

## December 15

Caroline Koskinen  
Brock Livick  
Theresa Price

## December 16

Marshall Parker

## December 17

Brenda Nichols  
Barbara Paterson  
Sallie Sparks

## December 18

Beth Clingenpeel  
Ransone Hartz  
Colton Hiser

## December 19

Joyce Gibson  
Mallory Manriquez  
Dolly Winston

## December 20

Lou Moelchert  
Charlotte Ortega

## December 21

Tyler Butterworth

## December 22

Carole Gustavson  
Mildred Scherer

## December 23

Paige Newcomb  
Gaynelle Worley

## December 24

Eleanor Cox

## December 26

Fred Anderson  
Betty Damon  
Kristen Groseclose  
Bonnie Way

## December 27

Carol Alford  
Nicholas Cavallo  
Jean Ellis  
Bob Harris  
Jack Heisler  
Ruth Tanner

## December 28

Robyn Tyer

## December 29

Bob Grigsby  
Beth Howe  
Mike Mistretta

## December 30

Hilary Blanchard  
Mark Cipolletti  
Stuart Seaton, Jr.

## December 31

Steve Pugh

# Happy Anniversary!

## December 2

Marilene & Harold Sheppard – 28 year

## December 8

Kathy and Berry Fowler – 45 years

## December 9

De Anne and Cliff Shelton – 23 years

## December 12

Jerri and Bob Grigsby – 54 years

## December 16

Julia and Bob Bouck – 51 years  
Mary Beth and Rick Scherer – 40 years

## December 19

Laura and Will Thorne – 26 years

## December 22

Kathryn and Tim Norman – 39 years

## December 26

Judy and Dick Morris – 59 years

## December 28

Cathy and Ken Wilson – 44 years

## December 30

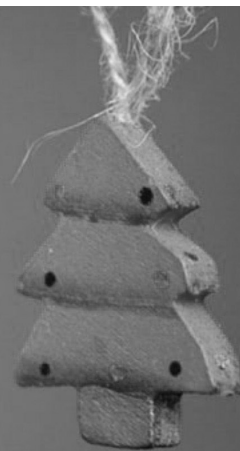
Kathy and Harper Alexander – 47 years  
Diana and James Mahoney – 6 years  
Judy Collins and Joe Teefey – 24 years

## December 31

Sandra and Carl Sizemore – 52 years

# Advent & Christmastide at River Road Church, Baptist

[rrcb.org/advent](http://rrcb.org/advent)



## **CBF Global Missions Christmas Offering**

December 1, 2018 - January 6, 2019  
Offering envelopes are in pew racks, or you may make a contribution online at [rrcb.org/onlinegiving](http://rrcb.org/onlinegiving)

## **First Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 2, 2018  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare provided

## **ADVENTure Lunch for Families**

Sunday, December 2, 2018  
12:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
Sign up by November 27 at [rrcb.org/adventure](http://rrcb.org/adventure)

## **Advent Bible Study with Daniel Glaze**

Sundays in December at 6:00 p.m.  
Sign up at [rrcb.org/biblestudy](http://rrcb.org/biblestudy)  
Childcare provided

## **The Tallis Scholars in Concert “A Renaissance Christmas”**

Sunday, December 2, 2018  
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Tickets are \$35 per person and available through Eventbrite: [rrcb.org/tallis](http://rrcb.org/tallis)  
Tickets will not be sold at the door

## **Christmas Stores Donations**

Deadline: Wednesday, December 5, 2018

## **Christmas Decorating Inside & Outside**

Saturday, December 8, 2018  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

## **Second Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 9, 2018  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare provided

## **Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long**

Wednesday, December 12, 2018  
6:15 p.m., Sanctuary Chancel  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Reservations required at [rrcb.org/tfc](http://rrcb.org/tfc)  
Hot chocolate and s'mores by the fire in the Courtyard after caroling at 7:00 p.m.  
Children & Youth will participate  
Childcare provided

## **Youth Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 15, 2018  
5:00-9:00 p.m., Fisher-Ingram Home

## **Children's Tacky Light Tour & Hot Chocolate**

Saturday, December 15, 2018  
6:00-7:30 p.m., Offsite

## **Third Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 16, 2018  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare provided

## **Advent/Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 16, 2018  
7:30 p.m., Sanctuary  
Chancel Choir with Orchestra  
Music of Handel  
*Messiah*, Advent and Christmas portions  
*Organ Concerto in B flat, Opus 4, No. 6*  
Please note our ticketing process through Eventbrite; Reserve your FREE tickets at [rrcb.org/concert](http://rrcb.org/concert)

## **Starlight Service of Remembrance & Holy Communion**

Wednesday, December 19, 2018  
6:15 p.m., Chapel  
Accompanist, Paul Honaker  
Flautist, Chris Ertell  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Reservations required at [rrcb.org/tfc](http://rrcb.org/tfc)  
Christmas Pageant rehearsal for youth and children; Childcare provided

## **College Christmas Gathering**

Thursday, December 20, 2018  
6:00 p.m., Glaze Home  
Dinner catered by Taziki's  
Significant others are welcome  
RSVP at [rrcb.org/collegersvp](http://rrcb.org/collegersvp)

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 23, 2018  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare provided

## **Christmas Eve Family Service**

Monday, December 24, 2018  
4:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Christmas Pageant  
Missions Offering: Non-perishable food items wrapped in white paper  
Childcare not provided; children participate in the service

## **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Holy Communion**

Monday, December 24, 2018  
11:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Music for organ and flute begins at 10:30 p.m.  
Flautist, Hannah Hammel  
Candles provided  
Meditation by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare not provided

## **First Sunday After Christmas**

Sunday, December 30, 2018  
11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Bagby  
No Sunday School  
Childcare provided during worship

## **Christmas Decoration Take Down**

Thursday, January 3, 2019  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Tuesday, January 8, 2019  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

## **Church Office Closed**

December 25-27, 2018 | January 1, 2019

# Thoughtful Faith Community

## Wednesday, December 5

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.: Dinner**, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.: Carol & Crusader Choirs**, Main Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.: Cherub Choir**, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.: TFC-Intergenerational, Assembly Room**

“This Is Us, RRCB” is a continuing series of interviews of members of our congregation. Through them we come to know better the distinctive stories of our fellow church members. Laurie and Robert Gray and family have recently returned to us from their time in China.

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## Wednesday, December 19

- **4:45-5:30 p.m.: River Road Camerata**, Choir Room
- **5:30-6:15 p.m.: Dinner**, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-7:00 p.m.: TFC-Kids & TFC-Youth, Sanctuary**  
*Christmas Pageant Rehearsal*
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.: TFC-Adults, Chapel**  
*Starlight Service of Remembrance & Holy Communion*

## Wednesday, December 12

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.: Dinner**, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.: Carol & Crusader Choirs**, Main Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.: Cherub Choir**, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.: TFC-Intergenerational, Assembly Room**

*Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long*

*Who says you have to wait until Advent is over to sing Christmas carols? Come join us around the organ in the chancel for some good old-fashioned caroling. Request your favorites! Bob Gallagher will lead.*

- **7:00-7:30 p.m.: Hot Chocolate & S'mores by the Fire, Courtyard**

For more information and to make your dinner reservations, please visit [www.rrcb.org/tfc](http://www.rrcb.org/tfc).