



RIVER ROAD CHURCH

BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

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explorer

CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

You've probably heard the phrases "RBA Centers," Baptist Centers," "RBA," "Church Hill," "Oregon Hill," "South Richmond," and others. Sure, some of them are neighborhoods in Richmond, but what do they all mean to River Road Church, Baptist?

The River City Faith Network of the Richmond Baptist Association (RBA) is a long-time mission partner with our church. Under the RBA umbrella fall the three Baptist Centers: Church Hill Christian Wellness Center located in Mount Tabor Baptist Church, Oregon Hill Baptist Center located in Pine Street Baptist Church, and South Richmond Baptist Center located in The Saint Paul's Baptist Church, Belt Campus. The centers are strategically placed to help those in need in the immediate areas, and each has a director or community missionary to oversee the programs.

One of our biggest contributions to the Baptist Centers is through the First Sunday Food Share. Each month when we fill up the green grocery carts located in the Upper and Lower Commons, volunteers from RRCB sort the food and distribute it to the centers. Did you know we serve a meal several times a year to approximately 80-85 homeless at the Oregon Hill Baptist Center? We do that and so much more.

During the month of March, we are going to highlight the Baptist Centers, their work, and how RRCB supports their ministries. Each week we'll learn new things about the centers and ask what else we can do to support our neighbors. These stories will be shared on the church website through the Pastor's Blog (rrcb.org/blog), in the *e-Spire* each week, as well as in the mission opportunities eBlast. If you don't have access to our regular blog posts, front office staff will be glad to print a copy.

How can you help *right now*? Start by filling up the green grocery carts in the Upper and Lower Commons on the First Sunday of each month. A suggested shopping list can be found below, picked up at one of the Mission Tables in the Upper and Lower Commons, or on the church website.



First Sunday Food Share Sunday, March 3

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

Joyful Hearts: Women's Bible Study & Fellowship
Mondays, January 28 - April 15

9:30-11:00 a.m., LC #102

Joyful Hearts is studying Max Lucado's *In the Grip of Grace*, which focuses on the subject of grace throughout the Book of Romans. The cost is \$20 per person to cover the cost of books and materials. To sign-up, please contact Kitty Davis (804-285-9782).

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Tuesday, March 5

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).

Youth Fundraiser & Family Shrove Tuesday Party

Tuesday, March 5

5:45-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Families and adults of all ages are invited to a pancake supper to support the Youth Mission Trip to Lumberton, NC in June. The youth will serve pancakes, bacon, and fruit for dinner, and the cost is \$5 per person (\$20 family max). After dinner everyone will celebrate with activities including mask making, fake tattoos, a cake walk, coloring, and a photobooth. RSVP online at rrcb.org/shrovetuesday or call the church office.

Evening Bridge

Tuesday, March 5

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, March 7 & 28

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. Men and women of all ages are encouraged to come.

FLO Luncheon (For Ladies Only, 50+, Single Again, Just Single, and Caregivers)

Friday, March 8

12:00 p.m., Crab Louie's (Midlothian)

RSVP to Jean Ellis (jean782carter@verizon.net or 804-272-7672) and let her know if you would like to carpool.

Adult Lent Event: "Listening to God" with Brother David Vryhof

Friday, March 8

6:00-7:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (Grove & Three Chopt)

Begins with supper, followed by a 30-45 minute presentation related to our own listening for and hearing from the Lord. This evening presentation will be valuable whether or not you are able to attend the Saturday workshop. The presentation will be led by Br. David Vryhof, SSJE.

Brother David Vryhof is from the Brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist. The Society of St. John the Evangelist is the oldest religious order for men in the Episcopal (Anglican) tradition. Br. David serves the community as its Assistant Superior and as the Communications Brother. He is an experienced teacher, spiritual director, and retreat conductor. He's also an avid sports fan.

Registration is required. There is no cost up front but a donation for dinner at the meal is suggested. Please visit rrcb.org/adultlent for more information.

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event (formerly Stop Hunger Now)

Saturday, March 9

9:00-11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

We will be packaging 10,000 meals for the Rise Against Hunger network. This is a great opportunity for children to participate alongside adults in a project that directly impacts the hungry in our community and around the world. Children 5 and older can participate in the event. Visit www.rrcb/rah to register your family.

E. Carl Freeman Concert Series

Harpsichord Recital - Daniel Sañez

Sunday, March 10

2:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Daniel Sañez will perform works by Louis and François Couperin, Frescobaldi, Froberger, Scarlatti, and Bach. FREE tickets are available on Eventbrite at rrcb.org/harpsichord.

He is Director of Music and Liturgy for the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond, VA, where he leads liturgical celebrations for the parish and for the Diocese of Richmond.

project:HOMES Renew Crew Ramp Installation

Thursday, March 14

9:00 a.m., Offsite

Contact George Davis (804-285-9782) for more information about this mission opportunity.

Preschool Fun Morning

Saturday, March 16

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Lower Commons

Come join us for a time of fellowship as we gather with our RRCB families with preschoolers for fellowship and fun. There will be snacks, games, and playing outside. Come join the fun! All families with preschoolers (aged kindergarten and below) are invited. RSVP and let us know if your family will be here at rrcb.org/funmorning.

This event is put on by the Children's Ministry of River Road Church, Baptist. However, River Road Church Preschool Development Center families are invited to join RRCB families in fellowship and fun!

Acts of Faith: "An Act of God"

Sunday, March 17

4:00 p.m., Robert B. Moss Theatre

Join Anna Perry Miller to see the Richmond Triangle Players (RTP) present "An Act of God," as part of the Acts of Faith Festival. After the play, the group will gather at Panera at Willow Lawn for dessert and discussion.

RRCB has reserved 5 tickets on a first come, first serve basis, and they are \$32 per person. Please sign up online at rrcb.org/actofgod or call the church office, and send a check for \$32 to the church office. Your check should be made out to RRCB and include "3/17 Play Tickets" in the memo.

About "An Act of God" by David Javerbaum

The Smash Hit Comedy by the Creator of, well, Everything The One. The Only. The Alpha and The Omega has finally come to answer the tough questions that have plagued mankind since Genesis. God, along with a multitude of heavenly hosts are here to tell it like it is, and end the debates once and for all!

WMU Connectors

Tuesday, March 19

7:00 p.m., Home of Ann Bagwell

All River Road women are cordially invited to join the group for an evening of fellowship! Anna Perry Miller, our Associate Pastor for Adult Discipleship, will be the speaker. For more information, please call Wyatt Heisler (804-741-9320) or Peggy Pruden (804-873-8323).

E. Carl Freeman Concert Series

The Choir of the College of William & Mary

James Armstrong, Jr., Conductor

Tuesday, March 19

8:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The program entitled "Alleluia" and spanning more than three hundred years of choral music will feature works from England, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Russia, and the United States by Buxtehude, Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn, Chesnokov, Skulte, Gjeilo, Poston, Randall Thompson, Copland, Whitacre, as well as African American spirituals arranged by Dawson and Belfield.

The Comma Club Luncheon & Outing

Sunday, March 24

12:15 p.m., Lunch in the Reception Room

2:30 p.m., Play at CAT Theatre (319 N. Wilkinson Rd.)

The Comma Club is going to see "A Red Plaid Shirt" by Michael G. Wilmot, performed by the River City Community Players, at CAT Theatre. They will gather for lunch beforehand and carpool to the theatre. RSVP by March 10 by calling the church office or filling out the form online at rrcb.org/seniors. The group is primarily made up of senior adults, though it is not a requirement; anyone interested in a program is invited.

Boxed lunches are \$10 per person. Checks should be made out to Jean Ellis, and can be given to her or the church office by March 10.

Tickets to the play are \$16 per person. Checks should be made out to Fred Anderson, and can be given to him or the church office by March 10.

About "A Red Plaid Shirt" by Michael G. Wilmot

Two friends fill the void left by retirement in different ways: Marty decides he wants to explore the open road in a Harley while Fred decides to pay more attention to his health, inventing many new ailments along the way. With a little "subtle redirection" from their wives and a creative solution to a very unusual problem (which may or may not involve a coffin) they find the right track...eventually.

River Road Church Preschool Development Center Family Night

Thursday, March 28

5:30 p.m., Lower Commons & Fellowship Hall

All River Road Church families with preschoolers are invited to family night! There will be food, fun, and games. For more information, please contact Sandy Rooney (sandyrooney@rrcb.org).

Adult Lent Event: “The Stillness We Ache For” with Pico Iyer

Thursday, March 28

7:00-9:30 p.m., St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church (Grove & Three Chopt)

Pico Iyer, had become known not only for his travel writing and novels, but also for his writing and speaking about quiet and stillness. Since 1992, he has been based in rural Japan with his wife, and spends part of each year in a Benedictine hermitage in California.

Pico Iyer is known not only for his travel writing and novels, but also for his writing and speaking about quiet and stillness. At a time of round-the-clock news, beeping phones and escalating stress, it can be harder than ever to remember what we care for and what really matters. Drawing on his time in monasteries Eastern and Western, calling upon his 44 years of talks with the XIVth Dalai Lama, and trying to maintain his sanity in an age of acceleration and distraction, journalist and essayist Pico Iyer shares practical tips and suggestions for how to make a life as well as a living in a world of clutter and confusion, in “The Stillness We Ache For.”

You may also choose to read, ahead of the session, his book [The Art of Stillness](#).

Registration is required and is \$25 per person. Please visit rrcb.org/adultlent for more information.

Book Lovers Group

Thursday, March 28

7:30 p.m., UC #228

Book: *Code Girls* by Liza Mundy

Mary Virginia Manson will lead the discussion. Everyone is invited to attend! For more information, please contact Kitty Davis (804-285-9782).

Mystery Dinner Night

Saturday, March 30

6:00 p.m., Meet in the North (Back) Parking Lot

Looking for some variation in your dinner routine? Join us for RRCB’s Mystery Dinner Night. Choose a food style and the Member Engagement Committee will match you with a restaurant and fellow church members. All adults are welcome! Reservations are required for dinner and childcare. Please sign up online at rrcb.org/mystery.

Childcare will be provided at the church for elementary-aged children and younger. Please bring dinner for your child from home (no fast food, please), and be allergy-conscious toward your child’s peers.

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).

Yoga

Thursday, March 7

Mondays, March 11, 18, & 25

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.

Youth Sunday Night Programs

Sundays, March 3, 10, & 17

- 4:15-5:00 p.m.: River Road Camerata
- 5:00-6:00 p.m.: Youth Choir
- 6:00-6:15 p.m.: Youth Snack Supper
- 6:15-7:30 p.m.: Youth Program

Youth Events

- Saturday, March 9: High School Gathering: Games & Potluck at Marnie’s House, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- March 22-24: CBF Mission Madness at Walnut Hills Baptist Church in Williamsburg, VA

Easter Lilies

Deadline: April 7

Easter Sunday: April 21

Our Sanctuary will be adorned with traditional lilies on Easter Sunday, April 21. You may purchase lilies in memory or honor of a loved one for \$11.50 per lily.

Specially marked envelopes are in the pews during worship, or you may pick up an envelope from the church office this week. Please make all checks payable to River Road Church, Baptist, and write the wording you wish to be printed in the bulletin for Easter. We will try to honor the wording you request.

Please place all envelopes in the collection plate on Sunday mornings or give your envelope to the Church Office. The order deadline is Sunday, April 7. If you have questions, please call Betsy Lowery (804-338-4604).

Choir Pilgrimage to the West of England

Choir Pilgrimage to the West of England

Trip: August 4-13, 2019

Next Payment Due: March 1, 2019

In 2019, members and friends of our River Road choirs will have the opportunity to lead worship for Evensong and Eucharist services at Bristol Cathedral, Tewkesbury Abbey, Bath Abbey, and Gloucester Cathedral.

This musical and spiritual pilgrimage is not just for singers: traveling friends who do not sing are also most cordially invited to join us as guests, listeners, and fellow worshipers. You can actually still join this trip! If you're interested, please contact Bob Gallagher (bobgallagher@rrcb.org or 804-288-1131). More information about the trip and how to make your payment online can be found at rrcb.org/uk2019.

Happy Birthday!

March 1

Dominic Mistretta

March 2

Lois Creamer
Gladys Fleming
Pam Hughs
Adam Jante
Ryan Nelson

March 3

Janet Ahl
Richard Bower
Stedman Oakey

March 4

Charlie Early
Robert Gray
Charlie Knerr
Mike Rucker

March 5

Frank Cavallo
Doris Highfill
Elizabeth Holland

March 7

Karen Farmer
Wilson Gilliam
Ken Hynes

March 9

Ed Bischoff
James Burns
Vivian Clingenpeel
Henry Oakey

March 10

Neal Gauldin
Geoff Gilmore
Michelle Gulick
Betty Hazelwood
Mary Murphy
Glenda Palmer
Meg Rooney
Mary Beth Scherer
Emery Williamson

March 11

Shelley Lantz

March 13

Margaret Collins

March 14

Barbara Robertson
Elizabeth Wilkinson

March 15

Rob Baldwin
Sheridan Cowardin
Madelyn Grace Gobble
PJ Broadnax

March 16

Lani Gilliam
Emily Sumner
Shawn Van Tiem

March 17

Julia Bouck
Jackson Hawthorne

March 18

Karen Collier
Janet Stevens

March 19

Ronda Zukowsky

March 20

Frank Wentzel
Andrea Wherry

March 21

Gary Burnett
Jack Harvie
Rob Smart

March 22

Topper Davis
Leslie Haas
Jean Hart
Anna Mathews

March 23

Kim Early

March 24

Mark Dumas
Lovell Glasco
Libbie Klase
Carolyn Paulette
DeAnne Shelton

March 25

Helen Gilmore
Don Powell

March 26

Eleanor Nurney

March 27

Owen Merritt
Harold Sheppard
Elizabeth Vaughan

March 29

Emily Cothran
Katie Merritt
Emily Tuck

March 31

Linda Benton
Anne Kirkup

Happy Anniversary!

March 3

Sally Sledge and Gary Barker – 12 years

March 5

Jamie and John Sexton – 14 years

March 6

Donna and Rob Brown – 37 years

March 11

Renne and Ken Hynes – 30 years

March 15

Alice and Dean Wilkey – 63 years

March 16

Gale and Ed Higgins – 34 years

March 24

Judy and Griz Dixon – 23 years

March 28

Susan and Tripp Vaughan – 27 years

Thoughtful Faith Community

Wednesday, March 6

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.:** Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Crusader Choir with Bob Gallagher, Main Rehearsal Room
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Carol Choir with Suzanne Spicer, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.:** Cherub Choir with Claire Krouse, UC #232
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Multi-generational, Sanctuary
Ash Wednesday Service

We prepare for the pivotal church season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday Service of Worship. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season of spiritual renewal leading up to Easter. The season of Lent focuses upon repentance for sin and preparation for sharing in the death and resurrection of Christ. On Ash Wednesday, we express sorrow for the ways in which we as Christians have not lived into the fullness of our calling, and we recognize our humanity through the receiving of ashes. The service will include the imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive them.

- **6:30-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Kids, Chapel Hall
Ash Wednesday Learning
Children will come to the Sanctuary to receive ashes.

Wednesday, March 13

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.:** Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Crusader Choir with Bob Gallagher, Main Rehearsal Room
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Carol Choir with Suzanne Spicer, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.:** Cherub Choir with Claire Krouse, UC #232
- **6:00-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Youth, Youth Area
Games & Dessert
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Adults, Assembly Room

Panama Mission Trip Sharing
RRCB's long-term partnership with the Fundación Cristiana Médico Social (Medical-Social Christian Foundation) in Panama continues to provide medical and dental care to indigenous populations. This year a construction team went back to continue the work they began in 2018. Come hear from our team about this wonderful trip that was taken February 23-10, 2019!

- **6:30-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Kids, UC #228 & UC #232
Missions Education with Caroline Koskinen and Elizabeth Holland

Wednesday, March 20

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.:** Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Crusader Choir with Bob Gallagher, Main Rehearsal Room
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Carol Choir with Suzanne Spicer, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.:** Cherub Choir with Claire Krouse, UC #232
- **6:00-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Youth, Youth Area
Games & Dessert

- **6:15-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Adults, Assembly Room
Lenten Series: "The Work of Forgiving: Forgiving Others" led by Dr. Dan Bagby

All of us face challenges in the area of forgiveness. Age or life-stage doesn't change this reality. All areas of our lives, even physical health, are affected based on who and what we are able to forgive. It's part of every relationship from God, to others, even to our own selves. And, forgiveness involves inner work as we open ourselves to the Spirit. Come hear these Lenten words that may offer words of hope, healing, and release.

- **6:30-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Kids, UC #228 & UC #232
Missions Education with Sarah Collier & Bryn Taylor

Wednesday, March 27

- **5:30-6:15 p.m.:** Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Crusader Choir with Bob Gallagher, Main Rehearsal Room
- **5:45-6:30 p.m.:** Carol Choir with Suzanne Spicer, Youth Rehearsal Room
- **6:00-6:30 p.m.:** Cherub Choir with Claire Krouse, UC #232
- **6:00-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Youth, Youth Area
Games & Dessert
- **6:15-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Adults, Assembly Room

Lenten Series: "The Work of Forgiving: Forgiving Self" led by Dr. Dan Bagby

All of us face challenges in the area of forgiveness. Age or life-stage doesn't change this reality. All areas of our lives, even physical health, are affected based on who and what we are able to forgive. It's part of every relationship from God, to others, even to our own selves. And, forgiveness involves inner work as we open ourselves to the Spirit. Come hear these Lenten words that may offer words of hope, healing, and release.

- **6:30-7:00 p.m.:** TFC-Kids, Chapel Hall
Recreation