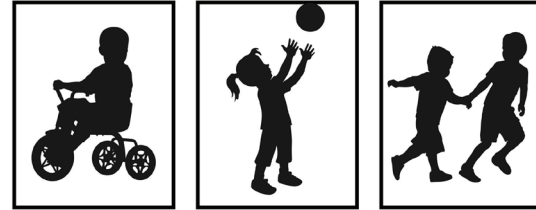


River Road Preschool Development Center

2017-2018 Open Enrollment

The preschool offers programs for children 9 months through 5 years old. In addition to the typical 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. preschool program, the school offers Early Morning Drop Off from 7:30-9:00 a.m., as well as extended hours from 12:00-4:00 p.m. We welcome anyone who may be interested in River Road Preschool to visit their website (www.riverroadpreschool.org) or stop by for a tour.

Preschool Open House, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, March 22



RIVER ROAD CHURCH PRESCHOOL

Join the RRCB Softball Team

The church will have a softball team in the Western Henrico Church Softball League again this year. This is a coed team for those 16 and older. Games typically run from spring through early-summer. No experience required. If you're interested in joining the team, please contact Chris Wilkinson (wilky17@verizon.net or 804-625-7379).



Easter Lilies

Easter: Sunday, April 16 | Deadline: Sunday, April 2

Our Sanctuary will be adorned with traditional lilies on Easter Sunday. You may purchase lilies in memory or honor of a loved one for \$11.00 each. Specially marked envelopes are in the pew racks where you can write the wording you wish to be printed in the bulletin for Easter and designate if you will take your lilies home after worship. Please make all checks payable to RRCB, and place the envelopes in the offering plate or give your envelope to the Church Office. The order deadline is Sunday, April 2. If you have questions, please call Betsy Lowery (804-338-4604).

Board of Administration Monthly Email

To keep the membership informed of its efforts on behalf of the congregation, the Board of Administration provides PDF copies of approved minutes and financial statement to those members opting in to this email communication. To opt in, please fill out the form on our website at www.rrcb.org/boa.



RIVER ROAD CHURCH
BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

MARCH 2017 | VOL. VII | ISSUE 3

explorer

BRINGING MY PARADOX AND POLIDOX TO WORSHIP

I once heard William Barclay pray, as we prepared to study with him in Edinburgh: "Lord, in the parliament of voices in my head, help me hear Your voice...." He reminded me that day that each Sunday I walk into worship with a cacophony of contradictory messages in my head—trying to sort them out. I worship with the tension of each paradox as I settle in to try to listen to what God might be saying to me that day. My paradoxes are contradictory (Latin: *contra, dicere* = what I say against what I say) allegiances and beliefs swimming around and seeking confirmation. I am against prejudice of every kind—and yet I sometimes feel superior for having more education than another. I pledge allegiance to the stewardship of God's earth, and recycle; yet I waste resources each time I casually choose not to take time to save goods. I'm a firm believer in preserving life (which means I'm against war, the death penalty, wasting food while others starve, and interrupting life); yet I vow that some wars are necessary, want some people dead for harming others, and believe that God does not will every conception—or

call it "life." I know that loving means taking risks—but half the time I want to play it safe. I'm decidedly against every form of abuse, and yet often keep silent when a public figure—or anyone else—is being abusive. I say I want to help the poor, but I spend a lot of time helping myself.

My day in the sanctuary requires that I challenge contradictions in my heart and head—which are so many that they are poli-doxes, not just a para-dox, as Gregg Levoy once said, in (Callings).

And so I walk into the sacred space each time—wanting to change—and stay the same.

Do I belong in worship? I hope so. I need it. For all the contradictions in my life. And, if you feel the same—you're welcome, too.

BY DAN BAGBY

MINISTER ON CALL ~ (804) 229-6163

Please use the number above if you have a pastoral need. The number will reach the designated minister for each weekend. The Minister On Call is listed in the *e-Spire*.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Visit our website for missions opportunities:
www.rrcb.org/missionsnews

CHILDREN & YOUTH INFORMATION

Visit our website for information & activities:
www.rrcb.org/tag/cy-activities

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

Mondays, March 13 & 27 | Thursdays, 9 & 23

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.

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).

Joyful Hearts: Women's Bible Study & Fellowship
Mondays, February 6 - April 24 (no class 2/20 & 4/10)
9:15 - 11:30 a.m., LC #102 (3/23, UC #228)

Women of all ages and stages are invited to participate in a time of Bible Study and fellowship. Joyful Hearts will continue its study of Max Lucado's *Cast of Characters: Common People in the Hands of an Uncommon God*. A one-time fee of \$20 will be collected to cover the cost of books and other materials for those who did not participate in the fall. For more information or to sign-up, please contact Kitty Davis (804-285-9782).

FIXERS

Thursdays, March 2 & 16

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 mulch bed?
- Do you know which end of a screwdriver to hold?
- Does holding a broom not intimidate you?

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.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Tuesday, March 7

7:00 a.m., Reception Room

The men of River Road Church are invited for breakfast, fellowship, and partnership in prayer. Reservations are required, please call the church office (804-228-1131).

Evening Bridge

Tuesday, March 7

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.

FLO - For Ladies Only Lunch

Friday, March 10

12:30 p.m., Lakewood Manor

RSVP to Margaret Oliver (jmoliver4@verizon.net). Please Liz Seward (ecseward@aol.com) advise if you would like to carpool from the church parking lot.

Spring Church Work Day

Saturday, March 11

8:30 a.m., Plaza

The House and Grounds Committee is sponsoring an intergenerational church workday. We will meet on the Front Plaza and then disperse around the outside of the church for various tidy-up jobs. The jobs will vary for older preschoolers to adults. This is a great opportunity for families to come and be good stewards of their time, talents, and resources on behalf of the church. A light breakfast of coffee, OJ, and pastries will be available. Please bring your work gloves, rakes, and other yard tools.

The Comma Club Luncheon & Program

Tuesday, March 14

12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Currie Carter will be the program speaker. Lunch is \$10 per person. If you would like to attend, please make your reservation by Friday, March 10 by calling the church office or filling out the form online (www.rrcb.org/seniors). This group is open to all those who are young at heart; "senior" is not a requirement.

WMU Connectors

Tuesday, March 14

7:00 p.m., Offsite

For information please call Wyatt Heisler at 804- 741-9320.

E. Carl Freeman Concert Series

Jory Vinikour ~ Harpsichord Recital

Sunday, March 19

7:00 p.m., Chapel

This concert takes place two days before Johann Sebastian Bach's 332nd birthday. Jory Vinikour will help us celebrate this occasion by performing Bach's classics.

Please note our ticketing process through Eventbrite. Reserve your FREE tickets at www.rrcb.org/jory!

Book Lovers Group

Thursday, March 23

7:30 p.m., Assembly Room

Book: *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance

Dan Stevens and Dr. David Stevens will be guest moderators for the discussion. Everyone is invited to attend this program. For more information, please contact Kitty Davis (804-285-9782).

E. Carl Freeman Concert Series: Arcadelt Ensemble

Sunday, March 26

5:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Music for four voices

Please note our ticketing process through Eventbrite. Reserve your FREE tickets at www.rrcb.org/arcadelt!

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

New & Prospective Member Orientation Sessions

Sundays, March 12, 19, & 26

9:30-10:40 a.m., Chapel Hall

Have you ever wanted to know more about River Road Church, Baptist? Well, here is your chance! Whether you're visiting with us or have been a member for 20 years, you are welcome to join the staff of RRCB and the Member Engagement Committee (MEC) for orientation sessions to learn about the church's history; available programs for adults, youth, and children; the role of the church boards and committees; and mission opportunities. At the last session, the MEC will provide a guided tour of the church. You may attend any one or all sessions. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Children & Youth: Children and youth are invited to attend the Sunday School Class based on their grade level. Please let us know if you have a child or youth in the sign-up form.

March 12 - Session I: Church overview with focus on adult programs

led by Daniel Glaze, Bob Gallagher, Dan Bagby, and Libby Grammer

March 19 - Session II: Overview of youth, children, and choir programs

led by Chester Phelps, Kim Crowley, Bob Gallagher

March 26 - Session III: Tour of the Church

RSVP by calling the church office at 804-288-1131 or filling out the form online at www.rrcb.org/orientation.

All Young Adults & The Foundations Sunday School Class Lunch with Daniel Glaze

Sunday, March 12

12:30 p.m., Reception Room

Come meet our new pastor and hear about some exciting changes coming to young adult ministry at River Road Church. Join us as we get to know each other better. RSVP to Katie Merritt at katiecmerritt@gmail.com or 804-475-2553 by March 8.

This class specifically tailored for young adults who have graduated high school and those in their 20's and early 30's and will have a focus on both social interaction and missions. The class meets at 10:00 a.m. in CH #141 by the Life and Discovery Sunday school classes. Katie and Tim Merritt serve as leaders for this new group.

SUMMER

PASSPORTkids! Camp at Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg, VA

June 20-23

PASSPORTkids! is a four-day, three-night camp for third through fifth graders. At camp, your kids will discover God's love and practice being followers of Jesus through Bible studies, mission education, recreation, and worship. The cost is \$200-\$225, depending on number of campers and number of chaperones needed. You can reserve your spot with a \$50 deposit. Contact Kim Crowley (kimcrowley@rrcb.org or 804-288-1131).

Youth PASSPORT Camp at Avertt University, Danville, VA ~ June 25-30

This year the group will be attending the Missions Camp at Averett. The work teams will spend each day working with some sort of outreach project. In addition, there will be Bible study, worship, group devotions, and recreation. Passport is open to all middle school and senior high students. Space is limited, so see Chester Phelps (chesterphelps@rrcb.org or 804-288-1131) to sign-up.

Hands & Hearts Family Mission Trip to Nicklesville, VA

June 25 - July 1

The Hands and Hearts Family Mission Trip will serve those in need in the area of Nicklesville.

Vacation Bible School

July 10-14

If you would like to be a volunteer, please email vbs@rrcb.org. Registration will open in the spring!

Unidiversity Youth Camp at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN ~ July 17-22

A female chaperone is REQUIRED for this trip. If you are interested, please contact Chester Phelps ASAP.

The camp is led by adult volunteers and youth ministers. Unidiversity is open to all middle school and high students. Space is limited, so see Chester (chesterphelps@rrcb.org or 804-288-1131) to sign-up.

Youth & Adults Mission Tour, Farmington, ME

August 4-13

We will once again return to Farmington, Maine to work at the Conference Center and at Farmington Baptist Church. The group will be lodged and have its meals on the University of Maine campus. The tour is open to adults and youth. Space is limited and there are requirements. Please see Chester Phelps (chesterphelps@rrcb.org or 804-288-1131) for an application.

Wednesday Night Dinner & Programs

- March 1** Ash Wednesday Service
Menu: *Vegetable Lasagna*, Sliced Pork with Mushroom Gravy, Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, Apple & Cherry Cobblers
- March 8** Lenten Series: Faith Stories, Family Style (Intergenerational/Family-oriented)
Menu: *Spaghetti Marinara*, Chicken Divan w/ Broccoli, Rice, Dinner Rolls, 2 types of Pudding & Cookies
- March 15** Lenten Series: Faith Stories, Table Style (Intergenerational/Family-oriented)
Menu: *Broccoli Alfredo*, Meatloaf, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Pumpkin Pie
- March 22** Lenten Series: Faith Stories, Lenten Style
Menu: *Vegetable Lasagna*, Poppy Seed Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Corn and Lima Beans, Dinner Rolls, Apple & Cherry Cobblers
- March 29** Lenten Series: Faith Stories, Musical Style
Menu: *Spaghetti Marinara*, Wild Mushroom Ravioli, Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, Key Lime Pie

Dinner at 5:30 p.m. | Program at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner reservations are required. Please make your reservations by 11:00 a.m. on Monday mornings. Please check our website for more information and to make dinner reservations at www.rrcb.org/wednesdays.

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.

Lenten Series

For five weeks after Ash Wednesday and before Holy Week, our Wednesday night dinner and program will be transformed into a learning & sharing time, two of which will be inter-generational. After dinner, we will remain at our tables in the Fellowship Hall where we will spend each week getting to know one another, getting to know about Lent, getting to know about spiritual practices as part of faith. Join us in giving up 45 minutes each week for Lent to study and grow, thus adding in a weekly spiritual practice. May God bless our 40 days together.

Dinners will reflect our simplicity by providing vegetarian-friendly meals (noted in italics above). Additionally, we begin program 6:30 (Bob Gallagher and Kim Crowley let out choirs at that time) and go only until 7:15.

Faith Stories, Family Style

A few River Road families will take a few moments as family units to share their stories of how their faith influences their lives, as well as how River Road Church provides their families the fertile ground for growth as they live out their calling as Jesus's disciples.

Faith Stories, Table Style

Our church family comes together to share a meal and table fellowship. Each table has a guide and faith story discussion prompts. Get to know some church family members you may not have known as well before. Share how RRCB has shaped and nurtured your journey.

Faith Stories, Lenten Style

Our faith journeys are part of the larger church traditions around the world. We observe Lent at River Road as a part of the liturgy, but what does Lent look like for a personal spiritual journey? We will hear from a family who will share with us what Lent means for them each year, with a time for questions about what it could mean for us here in our tradition.

Faith Stories, Musical Style

Lent is a more solemn season of preparation and reflection. How does music play into our faith journey in this reflective time? Why do we sing different songs during each season? How can we grow as we pay attention to the words and background of the music we use for this season?

Happy Birthday!

- March 1**
Dominic Mistretta
Pam Proffitt
- March 2**
Lois Creamer
Gladys Fleming
Lacey Havens
Pam Hughes
Adam Jante
Hunter Milligan
Ryan Nelson
Margaret Ann Proffitt
Thomas Proffitt
- March 3**
Janet Ahl
Richard Bower
Stedman Oakey
- March 4**
Beverly Austin
Charlie Early
Charlie Knerr
Mike Rucker
William Short, Jr.
- March 5**
Frank Cavallo
Nathan Hays
Doris Highfill
Elizabeth Holland
Bill Sperry
Olivia Sperry
Gayle Wood
- March 6**
Jeff Collins
Jody Myers
- March 7**
Nancy Fagg
Karen Farmer
Wilson Gilliam
Ken Hynes
- March 8**
Laura Stewart
- March 9**
Ed Bischoff
James Burns
Vivian Clingenpeel
Morgan Maclin
Henry Oakey
Neal Rose
- March 10**
Neal Gauldin
Michelle Gulick
Betsy Lacy
Ann Moss
Mary Murphy
Glenda Palmer
Meg Rooney
Mary Beth Scherer
Emery Williamson
- March 11**
Amy Cunningham
Scott Kelly
Shelley Lantz
Robert Shepherd, IV
- March 12**
Grace Derrer
Jennie Ryan
Lawton Way
- March 13**
Margaret Collins
- March 14**
Caroline Hoover
Brad Payne
Barbara Robertson
Elizabeth Wilkinson
- March 15**
Rob Baldwin
Maria Bashinski
Sheridan Cowardin
Kirby Fields
Madelyn Grace Gobble
Wallace Scherer, Jr.
Herbert Reynolds Short, III
- March 16**
Bennett Camp-Crowder
Mattie denHartog
Richard Fowler
Lani Gilliam
Emily Sumner
Shawn Van Tiem
- March 17**
Julia Bouck
Jackson Hawthorne
Sarah MacLellan
- March 18**
Jeffery Burks
Karen Collier
Janet Stevens
- March 19**
Ethan Sperry
Ronda Zukowsky
- March 20**
Bobby Gary
Brent Higgins
Frank Wentzel
Andrea Wherry
- March 21**
Gary Burnett
Nathalie Dardick
Jack Harvie
Brittney Lawhorn
Caroline Miles
Blake Mills
Rob Smart
- March 22**
Topper Davis
Leslie Haas
Anne Hart
Jean Hart
Anna Mathews
Ally McCullen
- March 23**
Andrew Booher
Kim Early
Linda Mears
Kelly Mollenauer
Kim Seay
- March 24**
Mark Dumas
Chris Fields-Johnson
Ashley Frayser
Lovell Glasco
Libbie Klase
Carolyn Paulette
DeAnne Shelton
Cathryn Short
Mary Wallace
- March 25**
Harrison Clark
Russ Mollenauer
Don Powell
Cameron Ralston
Scott Strauss
Bill Thornton
- March 26**
Bill Beach
Lara Chambers
Eliza Grace Freeman
Eleanor Nurney
O.P. Pollard
Byron Wake
- March 27**
Cheryl Bodamer
Clay Carter
Owen Merritt
Harold Sheppard
Elizabeth Vaughan
- March 28**
Franklin Fowler
- March 29**
Emily Cothran
Liza Custer
Katie Merritt
Emily Tuck
- March 30**
Michael Domyan
Stephen Domyan
Brenton Luper
R. B. Younger
- March 31
Linda Benton
Michael Cox
Anne Kirkup

Happy Anniversary!

- March 5**
Jamie and John Sexton – 12 years
- March 6**
Donna and Rob Brown – 35 years
- March 11**
Renne and Ken Hynes – 28 years
- March 13**
Katy and Kyle Measell – 18 years
- March 15**
Gloria and Doug Pace – 65 years
Alice and Dean Wilkey – 61 years
- March 16**
Gale and Ed Higgins – 32 years
- March 18**
Isa and Clark Robins – 22 years
- March 21**
Page and Jerry Booth – 19 years
- March 24**
Judy and Griz Dixon – 21 years
- March 25**
Helene and Robert King – 61 years
Lisa and Rick Lawhorn – 22 years
- March 28**
Missy and Art McGraw – 36 years
Susan and Tripp Vaughan – 25 years