

Wednesday Night Dinner & Programs

- May 3** Board of Missions: Panama Reflections
Menu: Vegetable Lasagna or Meatloaf, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Pumpkin Pie
- May 10** TBD
Menu: Spaghetti Marinara or Poppy Seed Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Corn and Lima Beans, Dinner Rolls, Apple & Cherry Cobblers
- May 17** Teacher Appreciation & Outstanding Christian Educator Ceremony
Menu: Broccoli Alfredo or Chicken Parmesan, Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, Key Lime Pie
- May 24** Children's Musical: *A Table for Five... Thousand!*
Menu: Vegetable Lasagna or Country-style Ribs, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, Spiced Apples, Dinner Rolls, Coconut Macaroons

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

Please make your dinner 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.



RIVER ROAD CHURCH
BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

MAY 2017 | VOL. VII | ISSUE 5

explorer

EASTER, THE SEASON

Growing up in a non-liturgical Baptist tradition, I never understood much about the “Christian year.” For me, there were two main events in the church – Christmas and Easter. The Christmas season sometimes had talk of Advent and a wreath, but that’s about as close to liturgy as we got. The Easter season consisted of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, with a handful of local churches (not any of the ones I attended) participating in a Good Friday service with a gut-wrenching skit or dramatic interpretation as well. We often had an Easter cantata, but only sometimes did it involve any kind of reenactment of the whole of Holy Week. Usually there was one song about the cross, and about five more full of Hallelujahs.

Thankfully, at River Road Church we take the time during Lent and Holy Week to observe the fullness of the journey to the cross before Easter. We know that taking this journey, though it is difficult and tragic, makes our Easter celebration so much richer. Likewise, we also recognize that Easter Sunday is not the end of a story, but a beginning. We celebrate Easter as a season called “Eastertide” for fifty days following Easter Sunday, until we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church and

the giving of the Holy Spirit. By following the Christian year in our liturgy, we follow the life and works of Jesus Christ, and by not allowing Easter Sunday to be a short-lived “high” followed by a lull in worship, we give the Easter story its full due.

The history of Eastertide reinforces why we continue the celebration of a full season for Easter. Early in Christian history, the season of Lent was a season for new converts to learn about their faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. Thus, the season of Eastertide that followed was meant to be a time for new Christians to mature in the newness of their faith and baptism.

What will you do this month and into next to form your own faith as we celebrate Eastertide in worship? How can we all continue to be “resurrection people,” rising up and living out the call of Christ on our lives as we have a “little Easter” every Sunday morning together?

BY LIBBY GRAMMER

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RIVER ROAD CHURCH
BAPTIST

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Glen Allen, VA
Permit No. 1368

MINISTER ON CALL ~ (804) 464-7968
Please note the new number above and call it if you have a pastoral need Friday-Saturday. The number will reach the designated minister for each weekend. The Minister On Call is listed in the *e-Spire*.

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

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
May 29

Fellowship Fund
Every fellowship collection on Sunday is quickly used at the beginning of the week based on requests we receive weekly for assistance. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and we ask for your ongoing support and donations throughout the year. You will find designated blue envelopes in the pew racks, or you may give online (www.rrcb.org/onlinegiving).

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.

Softball on Tuesday Nights

This is a coed team for those 16 and older. No experience required. If you're interested in joining the team, please contact Chris Wilkinson (wilky17@verizon.net or 804-625-7379).

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Tuesday, May 2

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 (804-228-1131).

Evening Bridge

Tuesday, May 2

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, May 4 & 18

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.

New & Prospective Member Welcome Picnic

Sunday, May 7

6:00-8:00 p.m., Courtyard

Before River Road Church's construction, our founding members gathered around a fireplace on the corner of River and Ridge Roads to share worship and fellowship. Today, that tradition continues and we'd like to share it with you – our new members and guests. We're hosting a Welcome Picnic, and we hope you will join us. We'll gather around the original fireplace, now located in the church courtyard, to enjoy a BBQ dinner and an opportunity to get to know each other better. RSVP by April 30 by filling out the form online (www.rrcb.org/welcome) or calling the church office (804-288-1131)

The Comma Club Luncheon & Program

Tuesday, May 9

12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Our speaker will be Bill Pike, director of facilities and administration at Trinity United Methodist Church. He is a frequent contributor to the "Faith & Values" column in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. 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.

Save the Date: The Comma Club Picnic

Tuesday, June 6

Providence Forge Fish and Hunt Club

FLO - For Ladies Only 5th Anniversary Luncheon

Thursday, May 18

12:00 p.m., Reception Room

RSVP to Liz Seward with a check for \$15.

CHILDREN

Preschool Fun Day

Saturday, May 13

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Lower Commons

Come join us for a time of fellowship as we gather with our Preschool families 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. For more information please visit www.rrcb.org/funday.

Worship Education for Kindergarteners

Sundays in May & June

It's important that we provide our kindergartners educational opportunities as they prepare to come to worship in the fall. For example, why do we worship, and what kinds of things do we do in worship. This will take place during the Sunday School hour where kindergarteners will go to the Sanctuary and our ministers will take 15 minutes to speak about different parts of worship. We will also provide educational resources for parents to continue the conversation about worship with their children at home. Children will meet in their classroom and be brought to the Sanctuary.

Summer information on the next page:

Passportkids! Camp
Family Mission Trip
Vacation Bible School

YOUTH

Youth Sunday, May 21

Theme: "What will you do with your one life? When will you start?" Our youth will lead in worship and provide special music.

2017 Graduates

Our 2017 graduates will be recognized on Sunday, June 11. If you or your child are graduating from High School, College, Graduate School, or Technical School and would like to share it with the congregation, please fill out the form online (www.rrcb.org/graduates) or email Terri McMahon (terrimcmahon@rrcb.org) with the information below, and if you will be present on June 11, by Monday, May 22.

High School:

- Full Name
- High School
- Plans after graduation

College, Graduate School, or

Technical School:

- Full Name
- School
- Degree and Major

MISSIONS

Camp Alkulana Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 22

6:30 a.m., North Parking Lot

Won't you come along and join the River Road Team to help Camp Alkulana prepare for their campers this summer? If you are interested in participating, please contact Bill Rusher (804-285-1087).

Our own Fred Anderson writes these beautiful words in the Foreword to the new book *Come Along, Join Our Song* which was recently published to help celebrate Camp Alkulana's 100th Anniversary: "... Camp Alkulana is a success story – a uniquely American, distinctly Christian, proudly Baptist story with its primary focus upon influencing the lives of one city's youth. It is more than a place. It is a feeling."

CrossOver Challenge 2017: Moo & Brew 5K

Saturday, June 3, Race begins at 5:00 p.m.

Redskins Training Camp (2401 W. Leigh Street, 23220)

CrossOver Ministry is taking the best parts of the Moo & Brew and the CrossOver Challenge and turning them into one event that is fun for the whole family. The 5K kicks off at training camp and runs through Scott's Addition. Once the race is done, join us for a party at training camp with music, food, and fun. For more information, or to join or donate to the RRCB team, please visit www.rrcb.org/crossover.

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 Nickelsville, VA

June 25 - July 1

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

Vacation Bible School

July 10-14

If you would like to be a volunteer, please email vbs@rrcb.org. Registration opens on May 1!

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

A male 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.

Happy Birthday!

May 1
Tinsley Gammon
Mac MacDonald

May 2
Mitch Davis
Doug Moyers

May 3
Elizabeth Blackmon
Lindsey Blunt
Debbie Hailes
Alec Hoover
Pat O'Bannon

May 4
Jane Hiser
Jim Holdren, Jr.
Brian Searcy
Leslie Straw

May 5
Bob Finley
Eleanor McGee
Jennifer Naschold
Logan Shepherd
Hal Taylor

May 6
Lyddall Brown
Carl Collier
Martha Day Dumas
Will Paulette

May 7
Bev Evans
Nancy Gary
Jack Grady
Jenks Marrow
Karen West

May 8
Spencer Macturk
Cary Ralston
Matt Rooney
Merle Showalter

May 9
Adeline Heisler
Emily King

May 10
Harper Alexander
Rell Cary
Cynthia Lantz
Ron Toney

May 11
Catherine Both
Janet DeShazo
John Heisler
J.T. Whitty

May 12
Ella Long
Isabel Martin
Craig Martin
Frank Schwall
Sharon Wake

May 13
Lily Brand
Monica Brooks
Ted Chandler, Jr.
Ronnie Jones

May 14
Mike Moon
Dick Sage
Lee Schaffer
Eunice Wolford

May 15
Emily Bower
Logan Cowardin
Riley McCullen
Clyde Stoakley

May 16
Axel Davis
Cynthia Macturk
Anna Lee Ware

May 17
Scott Charnock
Ella Grace Harman-
Barrios
Jackson Koskinen
Peter Moon
Helen Moyers
Rebecca Ralston

May 18
Anne Katherine
Applewhite
Chris Johnson
Sue Kalbaugh
Zachary Stevens

May 19
Katherine Clark
Chris Gobble
Sam Measell
Waverly Pulley III
Richard Seward
Georgia Vaughan

May 20
Caroline Brown
William Pollard
Carolyn Whitley

May 21
Scott Bartholf
Isabella Cavallo
Julianne Savage

May 22
Scott Blackmon
Susie Rommel

May 23
George Berry
Sandy Brooks
Betty Fisher
Kenneth Martin
Missy McGraw
Greg Spruill

May 25
Rick Scherer
Larry Harris
Ethan Hinckle
Sherry Sorrell
Charlie Williamson

May 26
Mark Dixon
Alexander Ezzelle
Andrea Glaze

May 27
Dylan Coldiron
Trey Draper
Martha Robertson

May 28
Elice Havens

May 29
Scott Powell

May 30
Dan Bagby
Judy Collins
Lee Perkins

May 31
Paula Collier
Emma Eldridge
Nancy Kilmer
Andy McAllister
Jeff O'Flaherty
Kristen Phelps

Happy Anniversary!

May 1
Anya and Dave Bayford – 7 years

May 3
Bonnie and Walter Suwal – 3 years
Hal and Sonja Taylor – 26 years

May 4
Patrick and Kristina Barbier – 15 years
Kara Harman-Barrios and Pablo Barrios –
4 years
Carl and Karen Collier – 43 years
Don and Val Pate – 20 years
Richard and Letty Wood – 26 years

May 11
Larry and Becky Harris – 54 years
Bob and Beth Musick – 21 years

May 12
Dave and Sharon Bailey – 16 years
Terry and Vicki McIlwain – 33 years

May 13
Malcolm and Carolyn Briggs – 17 years
Tom and Nancy Cox – 33 years
Tara and Kent Savedge – 11 years

May 14
David and Michelle Gulick – 40 years
Tom and Anne Kirkup – 51 years

May 20
Sara and Jack Heisler – 6 years

May 21
Scott and Cheryl Powell – 18 years
David and Janet Stevens – 23 years

May 22
Roy and Jane Terry – 41 years

May 23
Scott and Elizabeth Blackmon- 25 years
Martha Day and Mark Dumas – 36 years

May 24
Dawn and Tucker Burks – 31 years
Beth and Craig Stuhlman – 42 years
Kristi and Lloyd Scholz – 20 years

May 25
Serge and Linda Schreiner – 32 years

May 26
Bill and Deb Gray – 44 years
Chris and Sarah Wilkinson – 16 years

May 29
Tom and Wendy Graves – 47 years
Clint and Amy Hubbard – 18 years

May 30
Carter and Monica Brooks – 19 years
Kristin and Neil Groseclose – 2 years
Seth and Libby Roberts – 19 years