



SANKOFA



A RETURN TO THE PAST

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SPRING 2018

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Riverview Baptist Church is to become a loving, evangelistic church that seeks to glorify God through worship, ministry, Christian education, missions, fellowship, and stewardship.

INTERESTING FACTS AND WHYS OF EASTER

Easter, the oldest Christian holiday, celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ which occurred on the third day after He was crucified on the cross. The Old Testament of a Messiah being persecuted, then executed, then resurrected – all for the sins of His followers – is believed by many to have been fulfilled with Jesus' death. The story of Jesus' death appears in all four of the Gospels of the New Testament.

Have you ever wondered why Easter is not fixed on a specific day? The date when Christians celebrate Easter is different every year. Since the days of early church history, determining the precise date of Easter has been a matter of continued argument. One reason is because the followers of Christ neglected to record the exact date of Jesus' resurrection.

According to the Bible, Jesus Christ's death and resurrection occurred around the time of the Jewish Passover, which was celebrated on the first full moon following the vernal equinox. This led some churches to celebrate Easter on the day of the Passover, while others celebrated on the following Sunday. Today, in Western Christianity, Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday immediately following the Paschal Full Moon date of the year. As astronomers were able to approximate the dates of all full moons in future years, the Western Church used these calculations to establish a table of Ecclesiastical Full Moon dates. According to the Ecclesiastical tables, the Paschal Full Moon is the first Ecclesiastical Full Moon date after March 20. The date of Easter Sunday is usually the first Sunday after the first Full Moon occurring on or after the March equinox. Easter usually falls between March 22 and April 25. At the heart of the matter, Easter is a movable feast.

Some simple facts surrounding Easter:

- Approximately 90 million chocolate bunnies are sold at Easter.
- Over 16 million jelly beans are eaten on Easter in the United States.
- On lilies, flowers used at Easter, the petals face downward, which is in honor of Jesus.
- Wearing new clothing at Easter is said to bring good luck for the coming year.
- In 2012, 90,000 Real Easter Eggs were sold to churches.

EASTER SYMBOLS



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The season of Lent is a time of sacrifice. Christ sacrificed life for the forgiveness of humankind's sins. It is also a season of preparation, renewal, and growth. We see renewal and growth in the spring through nature. Let us consider renewing our lives and preparing to better serve and follow Christ.

This quarterly newsletter requires extensive preparation so our church family may be knowledgeable with what is happening within our church, community, and throughout the world. We are sincerely appreciative to those who submit articles. We are also grateful to others who untiringly prepare this publication for distribution in a timely manner. Thanks to our Media Ministry and office staff for such a valuable and informative periodical.

God Bless,



Pastor Hewlett

THE MEANING OF SANKOFA



Sankofa means "go back to the past in order to build for the future," or we should not forget our past when moving ahead. We should learn from the past and move forward into the future. Sankofa is a realization of self and spirit. It represents the concepts of self-identity, redefinition and vision. It symbolizes an understanding of one's destiny and collective identity of the larger cultural group.

Sankofa is symbolic of the spiritual mind-set and cultural awakening African people were experiencing in the decades after

independence on the African continent. The **Sankofa bird** is used to represent Sankofa. The symbol is of a bird turning its head backward and its long beak is turned in the direction of its tail.

Reprinted from the Adinkra Dictionary by Bruce Willis

DEACON MINISTRY

Deacon Jacqueline Silver, Chair
Deacon Wayne Thomas, Vice Chair

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! The end did not come with Jesus' death on the cross. He is alive and eternal life is ours.

Two disciples were walking on the road heading to Emmaus which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. Jesus joined the two disciples, but the disciples did not recognize Him. He asked them what were they discussing as they walked along. The disciples shared with Jesus all that had happened over the last three days regarding Christ's suffering and death. Jesus explained to them what was said in all of the Scriptures concerning Him. The disciples were inquisitive about this man who could explain the Scriptures so clearly. They invited Him to stay for the evening, and Jesus agreed. While seated at the table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them. The disciples recognized Him and He disappeared from their sight.

The two disciples returned to Jerusalem, located the other disciples and explained to them what had happened. While they were still talking, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

Let us remember to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection and allow our hearts to "burn" (experience the joy of the presence of Jesus Christ, Risen Savior, living within us).

Thank you Jesus!



He is
RISEN

THE LENTEN SEASON AND EASTER

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday. Sundays are not included in the forty-day count, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. For the year 2018, Lent began February 14 and will end on March 31 – the day before Easter.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter; the Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday. During Holy Week, Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday is observed to remember the time when Holy Communion was given at The Last Supper. The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ is commemorated on Good Friday. In many churches, a service is held with “The Seven Last Words of Christ.”

Easter Sunday, also called Resurrection Sunday, is the glorious celebration of our Lord’s Resurrection from the dead. We celebrate Easter Sunday beginning with Sunrise Service. Easter has been referred to as a season of adoration and praise.

THE MEANING OF LITURGICAL COLORS

Liturgical is a word derived from “liturgy” meaning a form of public worship. The colors are used to decorate the space of worship according to the season. The church year consists of six seasons: **Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter,** and **Pentecost.**

These seasons follow the life of Jesus beginning with the preparation of His birth. The colors for each season are: **Advent** – purple, as the royal color of the coming Christ; **Christmas** – white, as a reference to the purity of the newborn King; **Epiphany** – white, same as Christmas; **Lent** – purple, as the bleak color of repentance and solemnity; **Easter** – white, as the color of joy in the Resurrection; and **Pentecost** – red, as the color of fire to remember the tongues of fire that descended on the crowd in Jerusalem.

There are other colors after Pentecost. The color green is used to indicate the growth of faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

- Adapted

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is observed during Holy Week on the Thursday before Easter. Also referred to as “Holy Thursday” or “Great Thursday” in some Christian denominations, Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. In contrast to joyful Easter celebrations when Christians worship their Resurrected Savior, Maundy Thursday services are typically more solemn occasions, marked by the shadow of Jesus’ betrayal.

GOOD FRIDAY

For Christians, Good Friday is a crucial day of the year because it celebrates what we believe to be the most momentous weekend in the history of the world. Ever since Jesus died and was raised, Christians have proclaimed the cross and Resurrection of Jesus to be the decisive turning point for all creation.

On Good Friday, we remember the day Jesus willingly suffered and died by Crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. It is followed by Easter, the glorious celebration of the day Jesus was raised from the dead, heralding his victory over sin and death and pointing ahead to a future resurrection for all who are united to him by faith.

The cross is where we see the convergence of great suffering and God’s forgiveness. We receive divine forgiveness, mercy, and peace because Jesus willingly took our divine punishment, the result of God’s righteousness against sin. **Adapted from About.com Christianity.**



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Mary J. Jackson, Chair
Joan T. Taylor, Vice Chair

“Disciples - Grow, Proclaim, Serve!”

The Christian Education Ministry is sponsoring two “**Fanning the Flames**” training events for our church family. “**Fanning the Flames #1**” is a Leadership Training and Development Retreat for Leaders to be held on Saturday, April 21, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Dr. Adam Bond will be the keynote speaker. This event will include segments on Presence, Commitment, Love, Giving, Spirituality, and Burning.

Our Deacon Ministry and Stewardship Ministry will team with Christian Education in sponsoring “**Fanning the Flames #2**” for our entire church family on Saturday, May 19, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The focus for this session is “**I Am A Church Member.**”

Learning is a continuous method of growth. Remember, “A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.”

CHURCH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Deaconess Brenda Cheeks, Superintendent

It is our prayer church school attendance will increase with more children. We need you to help get our children back in church school.

Riverview’s **2018 Vacation Bible School** will be held June 25–29. **The theme is: “24/7: Jesus Makes a Way Every Day!”** The program will help participants learn God’s promise of abundant life is gained by having a strong faith FOUNDATION, sharing in COMMUNITY, seeking JUSTICE, persistent PRAYER, and having FORGIVENESS as initiated by the knowledge and love of Christ.

“**24/7: Jesus Makes a Way Every Day!**” is based on how God makes a way out of no way. The Lord will make a way somehow, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Each lesson teaches that in a radically anti-human environment, Christians must continue

to lift up hope and belief in Jesus Christ for everything we need.

With **24/7: Jesus Makes a Way Every Day**, participants will:

- Experience God’s abundant life through community sharing and fun!
- Be introduced to people who inspire abundant living!
- Hear that God’s Word provides a firm foundation for everyday life!

Workers are needed. Let us know if you are interested in working with our youth and adults to help make the **2018 VBS** a memorable event.



CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRY

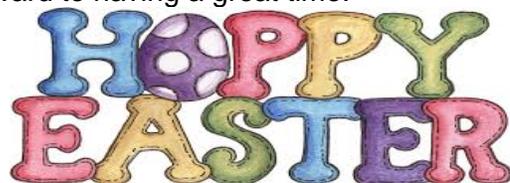
C.O.P.S. – Children of a Powerful Savior

Rev. Cherise Copeland, Co-Chair
Rev. Creasy Arceneaux, Co-Chair

Children’s church is held on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

The Children’s/Youth Ministry will sponsor their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the home of Deacon Woodrow and Mary J. Jackson. If needed, transportation will be provided from and back to church. An afternoon of fun is being planned.

There will be games, prizes, grilled food and snacks! A sign-up sheet along with permission slips will be on the table outside the church office. Parents/guardians, enjoy some YOU time and let us do the entertaining! We look forward to having a great time.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Helen Gary, Chair

Our Stewardship Ministry core values are the center of our principles. (1) We will provide a Christ-centered ministry; (2) We will strive for excellence in all we do; (3) We will be faithful in our stewardship practice; (4) We will encourage the use of spiritual gifts; and (5) We will be faithful to Riverview Baptist Church.

Our 2018 financial focus of stewardship will be the Adopt-A-Pew Rally. A monthly march is held each third Sunday (excluding March and June) as an effort to lessen the possible stress of reaching the requested goal of \$100.00 per member by Homecoming. We collected \$607.00 for our first Adopt-A-Pew March, held in February.

We will concentrate on enlightening our church family relating to the total aspect of stewardship. At our March ministry meeting, Mary J. Jackson, Christian Education Chair, facilitated a refresher on "The Components of Stewardship." In May, Stewardship will be included in the church-wide retreat, sponsored by our Christian Education Ministry and Deacon Ministry, "**Fanning the Flames #2.**"

"We Are Growing In Stewardship"

"We Are Growing In Jesus Christ"

MEDIA MINISTRY

Deacon William Jackson, Chair

We are appreciative of all persons who continue to submit articles for Sankofa. These articles help keep us informed of activities and events in our church's ministries. We thank our Facebook Administrator for postings and keeping our Facebook page up-to-date.

Our Robo calls are now in effect. Church disciples have shared favorable comments on how much this helps. Please join our prayer line Monday – Saturday, 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm. (515) 739-1285, Access Code – 572890.

We are grateful to our media staff for the untiring work they do to help make our ministry effective.

DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Deacon Fennon Henderson, Chair

Rev. Dr. Audrey Fleming-Hawkins, Vice Chair

UNITY SUNDAY 2018

The Discipleship and Fellowship Ministry celebrated Unity Sunday on January 21. The service was spirit-filled. The ministry honored "The Divine Nine" fraternities and sororities for their faithful support of our celebrations through the years. It is our hope to build a closer relationship for future projects.

Our church family was involved and supportive during and after service. We thank the office staff for their guidance and the beautiful posters displayed throughout the church. The Hospitality Ministry members, with their "can-do" attitude, made the celebration truly memorable. The above and beyond efforts of the custodial staff to support and be a part of our celebration demand a special shout out.

EVANGELISM MINISTRY

Barbara Haynes, Co-Chair

Rev. Dr. Audrey Fleming-Hawkins Co-Chair

Goochland Correctional Center for Women

Submitted by

Rev. Dr. Audrey Fleming-Hawkins

On Sunday, March 4, we worshipped with the women at Goochland Correctional Center. Deacon Roz Johnson served as Worship Leader and Rev. Dr. Audrey Fleming-Hawkins delivered the Word, "You Can't Make Me Doubt Him." The Scriptural reference was Romans 8:35. The following persons travelled with us: Deacon Jaqueline Silver, Deaconess Rita Henderson, Deaconess Threnodiez Baugh, and Larry Giles. We thank Larry Giles for transporting us to the facility.

We will be worshipping again with Goochland on Sunday, June, 3. Rev. Braunda Ridley will deliver the Word. Our Trustee Ministry and Stewardship Ministry have agreed to serve as leaders. Deacon Fennon Henderson will transport us to the facility.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LEADER DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY

Deaconess Threnodiez Wade Baugh, Chair

On Saturday, February 24, our Leader Development Ministry coordinated Black History Month Family Feud and Soul Food Dinner. The evening began with a special presentation by Jefferson Smith, Buffalo Soldier. His presentation was timely with the 2018 Black History Month Theme, "African Americans in Times of War." He was very informative.

Following the presentation, attendees enjoyed a wonderful Soul Food dinner of fried and baked chicken, ham, string beans, collard greens, candied yams, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, chitterlings, homemade rolls, freshly brewed sweetened tea and a variety of desserts. We are grateful to the following ministries for supplying the food: Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee, J. O. Golden Ushers, Mary E. Golden Ushers, Edith C. Williams Ushers, Youth, Music, Missionary, and Leader Development. Thank You Mary J. Jackson for the tasty chitterlings.

After the scrumptious dinner, The BHM Family Feud game began. The teams consisted of the Wakanda Family (Aerick Arceneaux, Sandra Allison, Joyce Irby, Pauline Fitzgerald, and Carolyn Washington) and the Zulu Family (Pastor Hewlett, Jeannie Hewlett, Driana Arceneaux, Joyce McCollum, and Sterling Hines). James Montague served as Riverview's "Steve Harvey." The game was lively and competitive. The Zulu Family was the winning team and each member received a \$5 gift card to Walmart. Attendees experienced a grand evening! Thank you to the Leader Development Ministry for coordinating the Black History Month events.



Family Feud

OUR MISSION MINISTRY

Carolyn Washington, Chair
Joan T. Taylor, Vice Chair

Missionaries Carolyn Washington, Ellen Mead, Deacon Sabrina Montague, and Deaconess Rita Henderson participated during the Church School's devotional period on Sunday, February 4.

Vera T. Johnson

Foodbank/Community Outreach

Each month during 2018, the Missionary Ministry will ask members of the congregation to donate identified food items to the Vera T. Johnson Food Bank. The food collected each month will be donated to FeedMore with the "Riverview Baptist Church Vera T. Johnson Food Bank" as the donating organization. FeedMore is Central Virginia's core hunger-relief organization dedicated to provide those in need with healthy meals and hope for a better tomorrow.

Some of the food items (canned fruits, whole grain cereal, and healthy snacks) will be shared with our members on the Sick and Shut-in List.

The Missionary Ministry is asking members to give generously. Items for FeedMore will be collected monthly. Below is the FeedMore list of most-wanted items:

Months	Food items
April	Healthy Snacks (fruit cup, raisins, and granola)
May	Whole Grain Cereal (hot or cold)
June	Lean Canned Protein (tuna, salmon, or chicken in water)
July	Canned Fruits (in its own juice or water)
August	Whole Grains (pasta, brown rice, quinoa)
September	Health Snacks (fruit cup, raisins, and granola bars)
October	Whole Grain Cereal (hot or cold)
November	Canned Vegetables (low sodium or no salt)
December	Lean Canned Protein (tuna, salmon, or chicken in water)

#MissionariesMatter!!!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ADULT MINISTRY

Rev. Dr. LaVerne J. Briggs, Co-Chair
Sheila Thomas, Co-Chair

WOMEN'S DAY 2018

Joyce McCollum, Chair

Theme: "A BOLD FAITH"
#BoldAndBeautiful
Esther 4:14-16

The Pre-Women's Day Celebration began on Wednesday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m. with prayer and praise led by the Women's Day Committee. Justine Coleman facilitated our Bible study. The lesson was based on **The Bold Faith** of Naomi and Ruth taken from the book of Ruth.

The celebration continued on Saturday, March 17, at 12:00 p.m. with a viewing of "A Question of Faith." There were friends, food and fun.

During our Sunday morning worship service, The Reverend Dr. Cheryl Cook-Posley delivered an inspiring message related to the theme. The title of her sermon was "Hidden Figures."

The attire colors were shades of purple representing regal/royalty.



SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Trustee Kirk Jones, Chair

In 2018 there will be commemorations of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. At Riverview Baptist Church, we observed Dr. King's birthday with our Unity Sunday service on January 14.

During the spring of 1968, Memphis sanitation workers went on strike to demand fair wages

and safe working conditions. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. traveled to Memphis to join the strikers — members of AFSCME Local 1733 — in solidarity.

On April 3, he delivered his prophetic "Mountaintop" speech at the historic Mason Temple, the global headquarters of Church of God in Christ (COGIC). Less than 24 hours later, he was killed.

From April 2-4, 2018, AFSCME, COGIC, and civil, human and workers' rights leaders will gather in Memphis for a series of events to honor Dr. King's legacy and the courage and sacrifice of the sanitation workers.

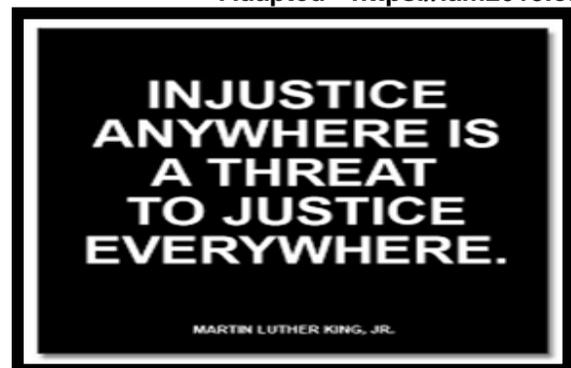
The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Church of God in Christ and other community partners have formed "I AM 2018." The "I AM 2018" campaign, whose theme is taken from the strikers' iconic slogan, "I AM A MAN," will train and mobilize activists to make change in their communities in 2018 and beyond. The initiative will include organizing, community actions and strategic partnerships.

Dr. King believed there could be no racial justice without economic justice. He believed labor rights, civil rights and human rights are all one and the same. He paid the ultimate price for his devotion to these values,

We will build a movement of dedicated activists who can continue the unfinished work of realizing Dr. King's dream. Let us join in this mission and continue the work of Dr. King and the mission given to us by of the King of kings. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 22:37

Adapted - <https://iam2018.org>



AB GIRLS MINISTRY

Rev. Creasy Arceneaux, Co-Chair
Rev. Cherise Copeland, Co-Chair
Driana Arceneaux, President

Jesus said to them, "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." --John 20:21

AB GIRLS stand for American Baptist Girls in Relationship, Leadership, and Service. AB GIRLS is American Baptist Women's Ministries' ministry with girls.

We all know that girls and boys are different, and at times, have very different needs. We also know that sometimes youth are less inclined to speak up in mixed crowds, and often hold back from sharing their true feelings around the other gender.

Alongside traditional children's and youth ministry programs, a ministry with girls is a way for girls to have the opportunity to deal with tough questions honestly, to build close relationships with each other and with caring adult women, and to build a program that will meet their particular needs as growing women of faith. - info@abwministries.org

The AB GIRLS are looking for girls to join us. Come learn, grow, and let's build together.

NATIONAL GATHERING

Submitted by
Driana Arceneaux, National Convenor

As convener of the National Leadership Team, I am pleased to announce the annual AB Girls National Gathering will be held July 19-22, at Judson University in Elgin, Illinois. During our last 2018 planning meeting in January, the National Leadership Team carefully planned for the AB Girls National Gathering. There will be lots of fun where young girls can get a better understanding of and build a closer relationship with God. The theme this year for the convention is "Fully Exploring and Engaging in God's Love (FEEL)" and transition. As National Convenor of AB Girls, I invite all AB Girls to participate.



RIVERVIEW SENSATIONAL SENIORS

Stephanie Cason, Coordinator



The Mission of the Sensational Senior Ministry is to continue to develop members spiritually, mentally, socially, and physically, which will enhance the overall quality of life.

The Sensational Seniors continue to be on the move. In January, Patricia Jones-Scott, a representative from the Senior Connection, presented a workshop on "Scamming Seniors." The information was very informative and enlightening.

During the month of February, the seniors celebrated "Go Red Month for Women/Men." A workshop/dialogue on knowing the symptoms of heart disease and strokes, along with preventative measures, were facilitated by Denise Coleman. Afterwards, we enjoyed a healthy lunch. During this month, we also enjoyed lunch at O'Charley's Restaurant and celebrated birthdays, September – February.

Upcoming events:

Anthem BC/BS Care More/ Exercise
Fountain Baptist Church Senior's Anniversary
Eleone Dance Theatre (Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen)
Mt. Olive Baptist Church Senior's Anniversary
Affiliated Seniors of Richmond and Vicinity's Spring Fling
Maggie L. Walker Historical Site Tour
Spirit of Washington Cruise/Visit MGM
March – August Birthday Luncheon

The Sensational Seniors meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, September–June from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please join us!

PRAYER PARTNER MINISTRY

Deacon Ida B. McCollum, Chair
Rev. Dr. LaVerne J. Briggs, Vice-Chair

“If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.” Matthew 21:22 (NIV)

There are no guarantees in life, but it is a sure thing you will get back what you give. If you give 100 percent of your attention, energy, and time to a thing, you will get exactly that back. Spending your time and attention focused on what you cannot do and do not have assures more of the same will come. When you concentrate on lack, weakness, fault and blame, it is sure to become a reality. Nobody has everything, but everybody has something. Use what you have right now! Use it wisely, freely, with love. Wherever you are, use your time, energy, and talents to the best you can right now. Give no thought to what is missing. Spend no time wishing it were better. Make sure you give all you have to make sure you will get all you need.

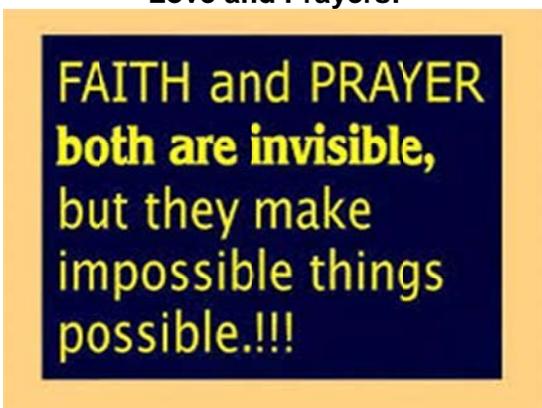
I am going to give my all right now!

Adapted from “Acts of Faith”

by Iyanla Vanzant

Thanks to our church family for your continued support.

Love and Prayers!

**MICAH INITIATIVE**

Submitted by
Dorothy Joan Taylor

Micah is a partnership of faith communities with Richmond Public Elementary Schools that mentors, tutors, and volunteers through its vibrant network of more than 125 faith communities and 23 schools so every child believes, “I am valuable.”

For several years, members of Riverview have volunteered in this program at J.L. Francis Elementary by assisting in the library, reading to the students on Read Across America Day, assisting in the classroom, providing school supplies, and supporting the school’s programs. This school year, Joan Taylor is volunteering as a student lunch mentor. Volunteers are always needed. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact Mary J. Jackson.



Micah

EIGHT STEPS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Submitted by
Deacon Roz Johnson

- Step 8 YES I DID IT!!!
- Step 7 I WILL DO IT!
- Step 6 I CAN DO IT!
- Step 5 I’LL TRY TO DO IT!
- Step 4 WHY DO I DO IT?
- Step 3 I WANT TO DO IT!
- Step 2 I CAN’T DO IT!
- Step 1 I WON’T DO IT!

WHICH STEP HAVE YOU REACHED TODAY?





**2018 Women's Day Speaker
Riverview Baptist Church**

The Rev. Cheryl Louise Cook-Posley accepted her call to ministerial preparation in 2004. She was licensed 2009 and ordained in 2014.

She is the daughter of The Rev. Dr. Wallace J. Cook, Pastor Emeritus of the Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia and The Rev. Dr. Martha Louise Charles Cook, former Minister of Church Growth and Membership Development at Ebenezer. She is the oldest of three children. Cheryl is married to Andre Pierre Posley, her best friend and partner in ministry.

She is a proud graduate of John Marshall High School. Rev. Cheryl Cook-Posley earned the Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona; a Master of Public Administration degree from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia. She earned a Master of Divinity from Howard University's School of Divinity in Washington, DC. In 2013, Cheryl earned the Doctorate in Ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.

Professionally, Rev. Cook-Posley has over twenty-five years of experience providing support to and advocating for vulnerable people and communities who are invisible, ignored and silenced. She currently serves as a member of the Senior Leadership team at Central Union Mission, the oldest faith-based organization serving persons experiencing homelessness in Washington, DC.

In January 2010, Cheryl founded Hamlets of Hope, a non-profit for ministerial practitioners and faith communities focused on Transformational, Servant Ministry. She has received numerous awards and honors.

Cheryl is committed to Living, Proclaiming, Serving, and Being the Word to *"the Least, the Lost, the Lonely, the Left-out, and those Locked out"* in order to create *The Beloved-Shalom Community* for all people.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR NAMED

Janice Burch Anderson was named 2018 Woman of Year during the annual Women's Day Worship Service and celebration on Sunday, March 18.

Janice is the third of four children born to Alexena and the late Earl Burch; she has one brother and two sisters. She attended Richmond Public Schools and graduated from Huguenot High School in 1972. She also attended Virginia State University. Janice has been employed as a nurse at Retreat Doctors' Hospital for 45 years, where she presently works in the Hyperbaric Wound Healing Center. She is a nurse at heart giving wise counsel and advice to persons with ailments.

Janice joined Riverview as a youth and has been a faithful disciple through the years. She is the only original member of The Gospel Ensemble who has sung continuously since the group was organized in 1971, serving as president for a number of years. Her other church affiliations include director of the Teen Choir, member of the Sanctuary Choir, Servants of Praise, and Divine Dancers of Praise. She is the Vacation Bible School Nurse.

Janice is a talented seamstress who has created attire for our choirs, as well as dashikis for our Ministers and Male Ensemble. She designed several window dressings at Riverview.

Janice was married to the late Trustee Richard Anderson for 40 years and is the loving mother of Kim and Brian.

CONTRATULATIONS to our 2018 Woman of the Year, Janice Burch Anderson!

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Kyndall Sage Phillips is still a social butterfly at Hening Elementary School. She is finishing with the cheering squad for basketball season. Kynni will begin playing softball this spring.

Kameron Bryce Phillips still maintains straight As in Honors classes at Manchester Middle School. He was also recognized at a Core Values Assembly. Nominated by his Health teacher, he received the award for Responsibility.

William McCollum is a senior at Richmond Community High School and a Scholar Roll student. He has been accepted at Hampton University and Old Dominion University; he has not yet made the decision of his choice. He was also a member of Thomas Jefferson High School's soccer team.

Quentin Lambert is an Honor student at Seven Hills School. His school's team won the basketball championship.

Kaila Lambert received an award for her grades at St. Gertrude High School. She is an honor student.

Jordan Franisco is a 4th grade Scholar student at Linwood Holton Elementary School. He is in the Space (Special Program for Academic and Creative Excellence) Program for the gifted and talented students. Jordan is one of several 4th graders at Linwood Holton who will be representing his school in the Teen XL Minds in Motion Dance Performance at the Dominion Art Center - Carpenter Theater on April 27. This performance is directed by the Richmond Ballet.

Logan Thornton is a 7th grader at Oak Knoll Middle School. She is a Scholar Roll student receiving all As on her most recent report card. She also plays the violin in the orchestra and has been competing gymnastics at GymQuest.

Victoieria Butler is a 5th grade Scholar Roll student at John B. Cary Elementary School. She is also in the Higher Achievement Program and has perfect attendance and good citizenship.

Lauren Thornton is a freshman at Wingate University and is on the honor roll in the pre-pharmacy program. She is on the track team and the only freshman to qualify for the indoor travel track team.

Jasmine Johnson, a 7th grader at Westside Middle School in Smithfield, Va. is a scholar receiving all A's. **Alex Johnson** is a 5th grader at Westside Elementary School with four A's and two B's. Jasmine and Alex are grandchildren of Deaconess Brenda Cheeks.

Tyler Slayton graduated from Randolph Macon College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration. He is a Project Designer with Dominion Energy. Tyler also started a soccer training company for youth (surestrikesoccer.com) with his former NCAA Soccer teammates.



Rev. Marc Fields has been hired as full-time Chaplain for the entire hospital at Medical College of Virginia; the facility consists of more than 750 beds. His hours are from 10:00 p.m. – 8:30 a.m. Monday thru Thursday. Rev. Fields' job description is to provide support to families and staff experiencing death, trauma, code, pre- and post-surgery, as well as palliative patients and psychiatric patients. He will also work with families and staff with organ donations. Support is provided for persons of all faith traditions. **We congratulate Rev. Fields on his new position.**



AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

John B. Cary Elementary School
**“Riverview and You, Let’s See What We
 Can Do!”**

Deacon Threnodiez Baugh and Joan Taylor visited the Fifth Grade classes at John B. Cary Elementary School in January. Threnodiez explained the criteria for winning the Award of Excellence. The students were very excited and asked many questions. A poster was given to each teacher to post in her classroom and a bookmark was given to the students to encourage them to continue to put forth effort to achieve.

Riverview will continue to work with the staff at John B. Cary to enhance student achievement. Backpacks donated to the church by Donate Life will be given to each student in Grade Five. This program materialized from the Pastor’s Advisory Council (PAC).

FINANCE MINISTRY

Deacon William Jackson, Chair

The Finance Ministry is in the process of organizing an Audit Committee. We plan to present the names in the March church meeting.

Members of this committee will be trained; they will work closely with the Treasurer and Trustee Ministry.

Good Morning Spring

Good morning Spring,
 I’m so glad you’re here
 With the sweet melodies
 You sing into my ear.

I am so thankful,
 For your sunny rays
 For the fragrant blooms
 You drift along my way.

Good morning Spring,
 I’m so glad God sent you
 For you are the season
 He uses to renew!

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY EASTER!

A Prayer in Spring

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
 And give us not to think so far away
 As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
 All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
 Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
 And make us happy in the happy bees,
 That swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
 That suddenly above the bees is heard;
 The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
 And off a blossom in mid-air stands still.

For this is love, and nothing else is love,
 The which it is reserved for God above
 To sanctify to what ends He will,
 But which it only needs that we fulfill.

Robert Frost



MEDIA MINISTRY

Deacon William Jackson, Chair
 (Recorder & Photographer)

Driana Arceneaux, Youth Reporter
 Gary Clark, Sr., Photographer
 Deacon Fennon Henderson, Photographer
 Deacon Ida B. McCollum, Editor
 Ronald T. McCollum, Website
 Jacqueline Pollard, Recorder
 Deaconess Julie Randall
 (Facebook Administrator)
 Deacon Jacqueline Silver, Editor
 Yolanda B. Taylor, Editor

Mary J. Jackson, Chair
 Christian Education Ministry
 (Editor)