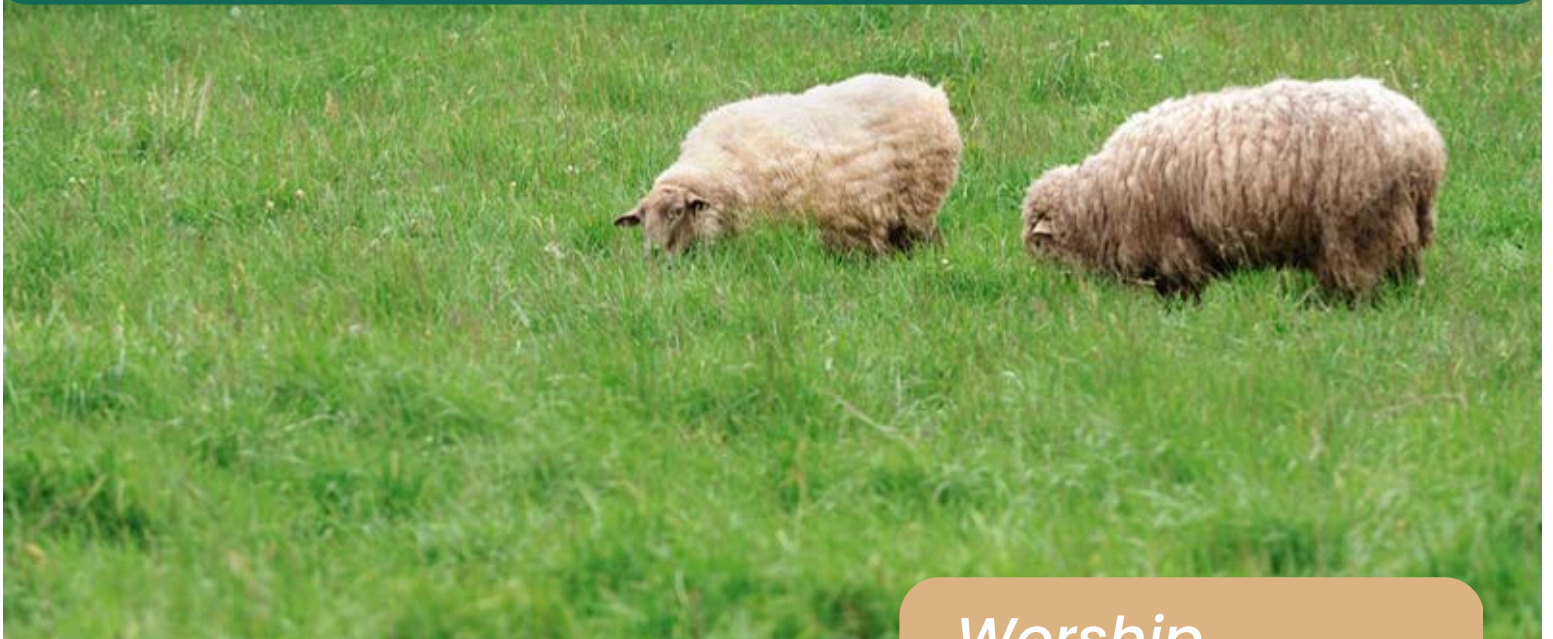


The Beacon



VBS Decoration Week

Join us for decoration week starting June 9. More information in the Children's Ministry page. All skill levels welcome.



VBS Week

VBS is split into two sections this year: Evening and Morning. Don't forget to sign up to volunteer.

Worship Schedule

Wednesdays

6:30PM Adult Bible Study
6:30PM Worship Choir Rehearsal
7:30PM Worship Team Rehearsal

Sundays

9:00AM Worship Service
9:00AM Sunday School
10:30AM Worship Service
10:30AM Sunday School
6:30PM Youth Group

Bible Studies and Activities are scheduled throughout the week.

Table of Contents

Senior Pastor.....	3
Deacon Ministry.....	4
Worship Ministry.....	5
Prime Timer Luncheon.....	7
Refuge Ministry.....	8
Women’s Ministry.....	10
Men’s Ministry.....	15
Acts 1:8 Ministry.....	17
Young Adult Ministry.....	18
Children’s Ministry.....	19
Youth Ministry.....	20
Birthdays.....	21
Stewardship.....	22
Sunday School Schedule.....	23
Contact Us.....	24

Greetings,

Here is a reminder for seasoned Baptists and information for new Baptist's and new believers. The doctrinal statement for The Southern Baptist Convention is called The Baptist Faith and Message. In that statement we lay out all that we believe and stand on as believers. Let me share with you how this has led our convention for many years.

The 1999 session of the Southern Baptist Convention, in Atlanta, Georgia, adopted the following motion. A motion was presented and passed at this meeting to review this statement, Baptist Faith and Message 1963, and thus have come up with The Baptist Faith and Message 2000. Here's the statement of the committee in preparation for the task given to them to review this doctrinal message. In this document we know that Baptists are a people of deep beliefs and cherished doctrines. Throughout our history we've been a confessional people. adopting statements of faith as a witness to your beliefs and a pledge of our faithfulness to the doctrines revealed in Holy Scripture. Our confessions of faith are rooted in historical precedent, as the church in every age has been called upon to define and defend its beliefs. Each generation of Christians bears the responsibility of guarding the treasury of truth that has been entrusted to us. Facing a new century, Southern Baptist must meet the demands and duties of the present hour. New challenges to faith appear in every age and it seems to change with every generation. A pervasive anti-supernaturalism in the culture was answered by Southern Baptist in 1925, when the Baptist Faith and message was adopted by this Convention. In 1963, Southern Baptists responded to assaults upon the authority and truthfulness of the Bible by adopting revisions to this document. The Convention added an article on "The Family" in 1998, thus answering cultural confusion with the clear teachings of Scripture. Now, faced with a culture hostile to the very notion of truth, this generation of Baptists must claim anew the eternal truths of the Christian faith.

Baptists cherish and defend religious liberty, and deny the right of any secular or religious authority to impose a confession of faith upon a church or body of churches. We honor the principles of soul competency and the priesthood of believers, affirming together both our liberty in Christ and our accountability to each other under the Word of God. Baptist churches, associations, and general bodies have adopted confessions of faith as a witness to the world, and as instruments of doctrinal accountability. We are not embarrassed to state before the world that these are doctrines we hold precious and as essential to the Baptist tradition of faith and practice. Today, I personally call that "speaking Jesus." And, that comes not only in the spoken Word but also in our daily walk.

The committee stated that "As a committee, we have been charged to address the certain needs of our own generation. In an age increasingly hostile to Christian truth, our challenge is to express the truth as revealed in Scripture, and to bear witness to Jesus Christ." The 1963 committee rightly sought to identify and affirm certain definite doctrines that Baptists believe, cherish, and with which they have been and are now closely identified and are following and proclaiming. The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 continues to identify and affirm those definite doctrines that face the challenge of a new day. Our living faith is established upon eternal truths. "Thus this generation of Southern Baptists is in historic succession of the intent and purpose as it endeavors to state for its time and theological climate those articles of the Christian faith which are most surely held among us." It is the purpose of the statement of faith and message to set forth certain teachings which we believe.

Ramoth Baptist Church strongly supports, believes, and follows the doctrines stated in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. Copies of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 are provided on the tables in the foyer. This doctrinal statement has kept our Convention moving forward standing upon the truth of God's Word and will continue to do so as long as we are a Convention. Be sure, if you don't already have a copy, to pick one up or several to give away, as this is our witness to a lost and dying world.

Dr. Richard Harrell

As we move into the summer season at Ramoth, we are reminded of God’s continued faithfulness to our church family. There is so much to thank the Lord for as we see Him working through His people – serving faithfully, growing spiritually, and reaching others with the hope of Christ. It is a blessing to be part of a church family committed to glorifying God and advancing the Gospel together.

One important opportunity before us is our upcoming **Deacon Nominations on June 7**. The office of deacon is a biblical calling of servant leadership, and we are grateful for men who are willing to serve the church with humility, wisdom, and faithfulness. As we prepare for this important process, we encourage every member to:

- Review the biblical qualifications found in 1 Timothy 3:8–13
- Prayerfully consider men you can nominate
- Be prepared to cast your nomination on June 7

Please join us in praying that the Lord would raise up faithful servant leaders who will care well for our church family and support the ministry of the Gospel at Ramoth.

We are also excited about **Vacation Bible School** just around the corner! VBS remains one of the greatest outreach opportunities we have each year to invest in the next generation and share the love of Jesus with children and families in our community. There are many ways to serve – teaching, decorating, welcoming guests, helping with snacks, assisting with activities, praying, and more. Whether you have served for years or are considering helping for the very first time, we invite you to be part of what God will do through this important ministry.

As our nation approaches its 250th anniversary, I want to invite you to a special worship celebration on **June 26th at 630PM, “Declare His Glory”**, based on 1 Chronicles 16:24 – “Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples.” This special evening will reflect on God’s faithfulness throughout our nation’s history while pointing our hearts back to the true source of our hope and freedom found in Christ. Through worship, Scripture, patriotic reflection, and testimony, we pray this night will encourage our church to boldly declare God’s glory in this generation.

As a church family, let us continue to stay encouraged and faithful in this season. While the world around us changes quickly, our mission remains the same: to Love God, Love People, and Change Our World. Every act of service, every prayer offered, every invitation extended, and every faithful step matters in the Kingdom of God.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness to Ramoth Baptist Church. Your generosity, service, and commitment help make ministry possible week after week. Let us continue moving forward together with unity, joy, and expectation for all God has ahead.

In Christ,

Tim Eicher, Deacon Chairman

Deacons of the Week

June 7

Heath Hunter (912) 596-8294
Jeff Johnson (540) 836-7535

June 14

Nate Ewoldt (540) 273-5549
Sean Springer (571) 697-9309

June 21

Chris Turman (540) 272-1914
Jon White (540) 623-6184

June 28

Chris Hudson (703) 350-1934
Joe Pearson (540) 940-1762

The Glory of God

I can remember singing as a child in Calvary Baptist Church surrounded by my family and friends. I knew we were singing to God. I knew we were worshiping Him. But why? Because He told us to? Did we only worship because God commanded us to? Honestly, that was the reason my mom gave, "God told us to."

Mom was right. In Matthew 4:10 we read, "Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (NIV). But that is not the only reason. David writes in Psalm 29:2, "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness." (NIV).

Worshiping God is not just about following His commands, but also about giving Him the glory He is due. John writes, "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Revelation 4:11 NIV). God is worthy. God is worthy of our worship because of His attributes, His character, His creative power, the things He has done, and the things He will do. God is God and we are His creation. We are to worship for that is what we were made to do. Worship.

What does the word "worship" mean? Worship comes from an old English word, "woerthship." "when we worship God, we are proclaiming (or giving him back) his worth." [1] Worship can only be to one who is worthy and the only One who is worthy is God.

God's worth is intertwined with His glory, and His glory is tied to his majesty, radiance, and infinite excellence. We do not give Him glory. He already has it. When we give Him glory in worship, we recognize the glory He already possesses. His glory is His nature. It is who He is. It is in His presence, His perfection, His holiness, His faithfulness, His power, His righteousness, and His love. It is all that He is. It is everything that makes Him God. He is unique. He is divine.

When we look at the universe, it is easy to see His glory being declared to all the earth. I mean, just look at the creation around you. You can feel God's glory and majesty in the mountains, the oceans, the night sky, or as David put it, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." (Psalm 19:1 NIV).

My dad was an outdoorsman. He loved to hunt and fish, and he loved to take his family into the woods or on the river. He loved sharing God's creation with us. It really wasn't about hunting and fishing; it was about being outdoors and being together. Worshiping God outdoors is not a substitute for corporate worship, but there is nothing quite like being called close to God while spending time in His creation.

Victor Glover, one of the astronauts on the Artemis II mission said while in space, "As we are so far from Earth and looking back at the beauty of creation, I think, for me, one of the really important personal perspectives that I have up here is that I can really see Earth as one thing. ... You have this oasis, this beautiful place that we get to exist together." [2] I love "the beauty of creation." I've never had the space view of this planet that Glover had, but its not hard for me to imagine being drawn to a big God while looking down at the earth. And this world is not just a gift to Christians. Everyone is here to enjoy God's gift; the difference is Christians know where the gift came from. Let's give God the glory for making the universe. Let us marvel at what He has made.

When my wife, Carol, came home from the hospital after a three-month stay in 2001, she stood in our front yard on Easter morning, dressed in a blue and white flower print and told me how beautiful God's creation is. Her brain tumor has changed our lives for the rest of this earthly life, and

though some of those changes are difficult, one of the changes is that she appreciates each day we get to live in His creation.

Isaiah said, ““Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isaiah 6:3 NIV). Just take a moment to slow down and see what God has made. You may cry out God’s glory just as Isaiah did and when you see God’s glory, worship is the natural thing to do next.

Like a Diamond

Have you ever looked at a diamond? I must admit that I have never been too interested in diamonds. I don’t know a princess cut from a pear cut, but I do know that the facets in a cut make the diamond look even more beautiful, appear larger in size, or create a sentimental shape.

While my wife and I were on a mission trip in Bangkok, Thailand we visited a jewelry shop where they were cutting precious stones. I was amazed at the precision and steady hands of the gem cutters. Nothing happened by mistake. Each cut was carefully planned so the gem, in our case rubies, would be perfectly fashioned, but the stone has a unique quality that dictates the cut that fits perfectly.

At the center of God’s glory is his holiness. It is His holiness that sparkles and magnifies His purity and His perfection. His holiness is at the core of His moral and spiritual perfection and the brightness that all His other attributes magnify. This is the glory that Moses witnessed on the mountain. Moses said to the Lord, “Please show me your glory.” And the Lord responded, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” But then He added, “You cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.” Then the Lord said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand, and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.” (Exodus 33:18-23 NIV)

When we look at His attributes and see the magnificence of Holiness and perfection, we are filled with awe. It is His glory that we see and realize that God is God and we cannot compare. We have no brilliance, but we can be His reflection to those around us as we worship Him. In fact, this is our job. We are to recognize His glory, worship Him, and lead others into worship and that begins with salvation. Are you sharing Jesus with others? Are you leading them to worship God? We should be leading and sharing. It is what we are created to do.

Pastor Chuck Hite

[1] Worship Theology 101: What’s in a Word? | thinking worship

[2] Christian Artemis II pilot Victor Glover reflects on God’s creation from space - Christian Today

Prime Timer's **Fish Luncheon**



June 25, 2026

Buses leave at 11:00AM

Restaurant:

Wilkerson's Seafood

Address:

**3900 McKinney Blvd
Colonial Beach, VA 22443**

Date changed to the 4th Thursday of the month due to VBS

Make Sure to Signup

Blessings upon blessings to my brothers and sisters in Christ. It occurred to us, the other day, that we missed an incredible opportunity last month. See, last month...was Mental Health Awareness Month. In years past, we have made it a point to walk through how important it is for all of us, to be more aware of the needs and issues of others. That awareness starts with observing the month and calling out the need to be more sensitive and compassionate towards those around us. We never know what someone else is going through and how kindness, could be the difference they need.

Mental Health Awareness Month was started in 1949, to bring more attention to the mental, emotional, and psychological struggles of the day. The awareness campaign also sought to address the stigmas associated with those struggles, as they were often seen troubling issues that caused people to be ostracized. The campaign began by providing much needed information about conditions and vital resources about how to help others and to still see them, as people. Through the years the awareness campaign has focused on specific matters and advocated for the embracement of mental health wellness, recovery, and sustainment.

A few of the efforts through the years created, life affirming initiatives. One such initiative was, "More Good Days, Together" by Mental Health America. It's focus was on building communities of understanding and developing ways to help people have better days, one day at a time. It also pushed for greater access to help services and to empower people to have the confidence to seek and ask for help.

Another initiative through the years was spearheaded by the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) and it was called Turning Silence into Connections. This program encouraged people to share their personal stories, the hardships and the triumphs, as a means of normalizing mental health. It helped create an environment of inclusion and sympathy. Which fosters a community of support and leads to greater healing within the person.

One last thing that is put out annually during Mental Health Awareness Month is information and resources through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The website is packed with things for all people who are looking to make a difference in their families, churches, and communities. A link to their website's information for awareness is [Mental Health Awareness Month | SAMHSA](#). The tool kit on the page is filled with helpful guidance, things to consider, and ways to improve self-awareness and sensitivity towards others.

While the month of May has passed, the information about Mental Health Awareness is not defined by just a month on the calendar. Mental Health is something that we need to always strive to improve for all people. When we can become more comfortable with talking about our issues, we will be making a difference. When we create more welcoming spaces and increase the accessibility to tools, resources, and treatments, we will be making a difference. And when we can help one more person feel whole, feel accepted, feel respected...we will be making a difference. If you or someone that you know needs help in any regard, we are here for just that reason. We are available Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to noon. We can be reached at 540-602-7986 and via email at counseling@rbcstafford.org or counseling2@rbcstafford.org. And remember, we are here for you and the community, because that is what God has called us to do.

Your Brother in Christ,

Sergio "Woody" Wooden



GriefShare is an ongoing grief recovery support group where you can find help and healing for the loss of a loved one. The group meets every Monday at 10:00AM and 6:30PM in Room 307. For more information contact:

Sergio "Woody" Wooden:
counseling@rbcstafford.org

In The Wildflowers

Survivors of Sexual Abuse Support Group: This is a 10 week DVD driven series for women only, presented by the American Association of Christian Counselors. Contact Elena Johnson and Stephanie Wheeler for more information.

Food Pantry

Want to volunteer in the church food pantry and make a difference in our community?

There are multiple days/times to help:

Monday: Shopping/Box Prep

Tuesday: Pantry 8:30AM-10:00AM

Fridays: Donation Pickup/Sorting

Saturday/Sunday: Donation Pickup

Women Overcoming Depression

Perhaps you have felt down, lethargic, or out of sorts for a few weeks, or maybe this heaviness has smothered you for months...even years.

THINGS ARE NOT HOPELESS...YOU ARE NOT HELPLESS...YOU ARE NOT WORTHLESS. If you feel you are experiencing defeat in any area of your life, you are welcome to join this group of overcomers as we meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday. For more information, or to sign up for this group, please contact Pattie Foster at pattiecakes84@comcast.net

Women Overcoming Depression will be taking a Summer Break starting in June through August.

September 8th and 22nd at 1:00PM in Rm 306.

The Mark of His Disciples

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another

By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
John 13:34-35

Jesus gives these instructions to the disciples as a "new commandment" because they were Jewish men who were very familiar with the Old Testament laws, traditions, practices and customs that had developed over centuries. But their religious leaders (the Pharisees) were missing the most important thing.

Paul reiterates this in his letter to the Corinthians:

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.”

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Jesus and Paul are saying that our Bible reading time cards, our prayer journals, our church attendance, and how much and where we serve in the church are not what separates us as disciples of Christ from nonbelievers. It's love. Those things are very important. But the Pharisees did those things too and Jesus rebuked them! Why? They were missing the most important thing. Those spiritual disciplines are not designed to puff us up, but to change our hearts and to grow us so that we love like Jesus.

How do we do that?

At the beginning of John 13 we see Jesus washing the disciples' feet at the last supper. The act of washing feet means humbling ourselves before each other and serving each other even if we know that, like Judas, someone will betray us.

This is a beautiful picture of grace upon grace that Jesus had for these men. That He has for us. And it is the example of love that we look to when we engage with one another in the church.

How do we love one another in ***conflict?***

Jesus commands us to be reconciled to one another. Always. In fact, he says refrain from offering worship and sacrifice until you are reconciled.

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

Matthew 5:23-24 ESV

How do we reconcile?

Communication is necessary for solving conflict. Sweeping things under the rug and pretending something didn't happen is not an option.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.”

Matthew 18:15

Gossiping, holding grudges and allowing bitterness and resentment to fester is not an option.

“Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.”

Ephesians 4:31

Are you comfortable going to your friends and telling them how they've hurt you? Or that you've noticed some unrepentant sin in their life?

Are you comfortable BEING confronted in such a way? Are we able to receive that from a brother or sister? If we aren't doing these well, we aren't loving well.

How do we love one another in ***times of need?***

We are called many times in scripture to provide for one another, giving up our time, energy and resources to meet the practical needs of those around us.

“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”

1 John 3:16-18

“If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?”

James 2:15-16

“And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.”

Titus 3:14

How do we love one another in ***good times or times of peace and joy?***

God calls us to share in the joy of others,
“Rejoice with those who rejoice.”

Romans 12:15

To rejoice in all circumstances,

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

And to encourage one another.

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

The important things to remember about loving others well and representing Christ well is to humble ourselves, empty ourselves, think about ourselves less, and ask the Holy Spirit to help us live a life that is more others-centered.

Jeri LoPresti

Dear Ramoth Family,

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, June 7th (next one July 5th): Hat Sunday

Every first Sunday of the month is hat Sunday, and all ladies who want to participate are encouraged to wear a hat to church. Any questions just ask, but it's that simple, you just need to wear a hat!



June 9th– 13th: VBS Decorating Days

Location: RBC

Time: June 9th & 11th 9am–2pm & 5pm–8pm June 12th & 13th 9am–1pm

All skill levels welcome to help decorate the church for VBS! Just show up and instructions will be given.

June 13th the Women's Ministry would like to encourage all of the women to come out and help finish any decorating. We will provide a light lunch as we finish up the decorating!

Tuesday, June 3rd, 10th, & 24th: Prayer Group

Location: RBC Prayer Room (located in the Sanctuary to the Left of the stage)

Time: 6:30pm

Join with other women for a weekly prayer group. Contact Lidia Lungoccia for more info (540-840-5729).

Mon June 15th– Fri June 19th: VBS Snacks for Workers

Location: RBC Room 102

VBS is just a couple weeks away and we would like to supply snacks for our workers as they serve! Please sign up in foyer to bring a snack to fuel our workers throughout the week. You can pick the item and the day that works for your schedule!

Sun, May 10th– Jun 21st: IMGN Life Baby Bottle Campaign

The campaign will be going on through Father's Day. Last year the RBC family raised over \$6,000.00! This year let us pray and come together to exceed that goal! The concept of the Baby Bottle Campaign is simple. We will have baby bottles that members can pick up in the foyer to take home and fill them with coins, cash, or checks made payable to IMGN Life, or you can donate online at imgnlife.org. The proceeds help families CHOOSE LIFE through free education and services offered at their center in our local area.

Friday, June 26th – July 23rd: Women's Bible Study – The Book of Ruth

Location: RBC Room 307

Time: 10am

Come join us for a new women's daytime bible study starting June 26th! Sign-up online or in the foyer! There is no cost associated with this study. Please reach out to Jessica Melander for more information, 703-994-3209.



Saturday, June 27th Secret Sister Reveal Luncheon

Location: RBC Fellowship Hall

Time: 11:30am

Sat, July 11th & Aug 8th FIT Workshops – Fiber & Fellowship & Creating Cards

Location: RBC

Time: 10:00am–12:00pm

Fiber & Fellowship Leader: Sarah Fraley (natasha25461@gmail.com)

The Knitting and Crochet group offers fiber and fellowship as we use our talents for the good of our church and our community. Each season we will tackle a new project for ministry. Join us as we continue to create baby items for IMGNI Life, washcloths and adult hats for the homeless, and hats for backpacks for Appalachia. If you are new to knitting and crochet please join us and you will be taught starting on an easy project. Everyone at all levels is welcome! Any questions, please contact Sarah Fraley.



Creating Cards Leader: Kelley Skowronek (pkskow4@msn.com)

Share the Word and encourage others with homemade cards! During the classes, you will be provided with the materials to make at least 6 cards -with a variety of occasion sentiments. Making cards and crafting should be fun and not stressful! Come and share in good company and leave with a variety of cards ready to sign and mail. All supplies (paper, adhesive, stamps, ink, and envelopes) will be provided. If you are interested in doing more cards at home, there will be card kits available to purchase & take with you as you leave. Bless someone through the mail! 😊

Save the Date!

July 18th 2026 – GALS (Girls of All Life Stages) Game Day

Location: Fellowship Hall

Time: 11:00am–1:00pm

Come join us for fellowship and a fun game day with light food, drinks and games! All ladies of all ages welcome! Bring a brunch item to share.

Save the Date! Thursday, July 23rd: Serve Concessions at Fredericksburg Nationals Game

Location- Fredericksburg Stadium

We need 13–15 people to help serve food/drinks and raise awareness for IMGNI Life and Choices Women's Center. No experience needed, we will provide you with a t-shirt, hat, and all the training you need. All we ask is for a willing heart and team spirit! Sign-up in the foyer, limited spots available. Easy online training must be completed in advance.

Save the Date! Wednesday,

August 5th: RBC Kitchen Clean-Up Day

Location- RBC Kitchen

Time: 5:00pm–7:00pm

Come help us before the start of AWANA to clean the kitchen to prepare for fall ministry to start back! We'll provide your dinner and time of fellowship after the cleaning ends.



Save the Date!

Sunday, Aug. 7th Fredericksburg Nationals Game – Church-Wide Invite!

Location- Fredericksburg Stadium

Sign-ups and more info coming soon!

Save the Date!

Tuesday, October. 13th Sight & Sound Theater Trip (3pm showing)

Location- 300 Hartman Bridge Rd, Ronks, PA 17572

Sign-ups and more info coming soon! Rooms are reserved at the Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA for the night of October 13th.

Needs and Thank You's!

Thank you to everyone that came out to support S'More of God's Love Bonfire. Despite the rain sending us inside for indoor s'mores and games, it was a great time of fellowship and fun!

Needs:

We are always looking for others to share their talents with our Women's Ministry, church and community. If you have a talent to share, an idea for an event/F.I.T. Workshop, would like to submit an article for one of our monthly Beacons or would like to help coordinate/lead any events please reach out to the Women's Ministry. Any and all ideas are welcome!

If you are interested in helping with any of these upcoming events, please reach out to Denise Johnson or Pachess Wooden. Their contact information is below:

Pachess Wooden and Denise Johnson



If you are interested in helping with any of these upcoming events, please reach out to Denise Johnson or Pachess Wooden. Their contact information is below:

Pachess Wooden
(207) 632-7334
pachessu@yahoo.com

Denise Johnson
(703) 283-5957
d09johnson@gmail.com



1. 3rd Annual Men's Conference and Mountainman Skills Challenge - 08 August 26. Join us for this Conference and the fun events that follow. This conference and those participating in the challenges has grown in size each year. Dad's & sons, young men, youth and seasoned men will be tested in 10 events. Families and friends, please come join us in the afternoon to watch the men in events like axe throwing, knife throwing, bow & arrow, slingshot and, yes, the infamous toilet seat toss.

2. The Holy Spirit —Neglected member of the Trinity. While the Holy Spirit is active throughout Scripture and referred to as both Spirit and Holy Spirit, after our Salvation we come to see , God has not left us alone in the world. The Holy Spirit is integral to the Christian faith. Jesus left His Holy Spirit to live in every believer to daily minister to our needs as a helper & comforter.

John 14:16-17. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. The Greek uses the word Paraclete to refer to this helper that translates to "advocate," "helper," or "counselor." The Greek word paraklētōs combines the elements para (meaning "beside" or "alongside") and kalein (meaning "to call"). The concept of the Paraclete emphasizes the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians. The Holy Spirit facilitates a personal relationship with God enabling believers to live according to His will. This understanding is crucial for interpreting the relationship between believers and God, particularly in the context of prayer and spiritual guidance. When we do not develop our relationship with the Holy Spirit, we limit His work in our lives. He came to help us. To know the Holy Spirit is to know God himself. Do you know the Holy Spirit?

Men's Ministry: If you'd like to get involved, join the fun & fellowship. Contact the church office for more info. Rod Montgomery @ (540) 623-7651 e-mail at SitNChip@gmail.com

7AM Saturday Study

Fellowship Hall – Rod Montgomery

Integritas Weekly Men's Bible Study & Prayer is focused on many aspects of the Bible undergirding Christian foundations & heritage for family, church & country, as well as our need for obedience to it.

Come enjoy some breakfast with us, too.

Read & Study His Love Story to you—the Bible.

June 2026—**Isaiah 40-66** Continuing the study of Isaiah, we'll see four major themes: 1) It acts like a miniature Bible, 2) A rebellious heart reaps God's Judgement, 3) The vision of God's mercy and restoration, 4) It reveals the Messiah, Jesus. All of these will lead us to the Millenium and The Kingdom.



Iron Sharpens Iron

7:00PM - 1st - June 2026

Kerry Knowles

Join with men of Iron Sharpens Iron as we study I John. We meet the first Monday of the month.

Join for fellowship and Biblical studies.

Every Man a Warrior

Sunday 5:30PM - Led by Heath Hunter, many men are finding this is to be an exciting new discipleship study. This Bible study gives men the tools to sharpen their spiritual battle skills. *Dropping a teen off for church activities?* - It's a perfect time to join the study while you wait.

There are new study groups developing. Why not see if you might be able to fit in one of them.

For more information, contact the church office or

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The Holy Spirit – The Neglected Member of the Trinity

What do you really know about the Holy Spirit in your life?

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, fully God and distinct from the Father and the Son, who plays a vital role in guiding, empowering, and transforming believers in their relationship with God. He is described as a personal presence that teaches, comforts, and convicts individuals of sin and righteousness.

Rom 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

The Holy Spirit as a Person

The Holy Spirit is recognized as the third Person (not an “it” but a He) of the Trinity in Christian theology. He is fully God, distinct from both the Father and the Son, and is to be worshiped alongside them. The Holy Spirit is not merely a force or an influence; He possesses personhood, which includes the ability to teach, guide, comfort, and intercede for believers.

Key Roles of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit has several important functions in the lives of Christians:

- Guidance: He leads believers into truth and helps them understand God's Word.
- Conviction: The Holy Spirit convicts individuals of sin and righteousness, prompting them to seek repentance.
- Empowerment: He empowers believers for service and bestows spiritual gifts for the edification of the church.
- Transformation: The Holy Spirit works within believers to transform their lives to reflect the character of Christ.
- Prayer: There are two persons continually praying for you before the Throne of God – Jesus and the Holy Spirit. They both know how to pray for you when you don't.

Biblical References

The Holy Spirit's presence and work are evident throughout the Bible:

- Creation: The Spirit was active in creation. In **Genesis 1:2**, where He is described as *"hovering over the waters."*
- Jesus' Ministry: The Holy Spirit played a crucial role in the life of Jesus, from His conception to His baptism & throughout His ministry.
- Believers' Lives: In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit is promised to believers as a helper and comforter, as noted in **John 14:16-17**. *And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.*

The Holy Spirit does not glorify Himself, He glorifies Christ. This is the first and foremost purpose of the Spirit. When this happens in your life, it will be Jesus people see in you. Spirit filled Christians are Christ centered Christians. Are you filled with the Spirit? You are if you have received Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior. If you haven't, won't you receive Him now?

Rod Montgomery

On Missions for God...

Greetings, brothers and sisters in Christ. We are blessed once again to bring to you information about missionary opportunities and words of encouragement as you seek to get involved in those opportunities. Last month we detailed the things to consider if you were interested in going on the El Salvador Missionary Trip in June/July. We are quickly approaching that trip, and we would just ask you to pray for those who will be engaging the call to go. We also ask for you to pray over their efforts to raise funds to go on this trip, as well that all of the supplies for this trip will be taken care of as well.

On other missionary fronts, the church is preparing for one of its biggest efforts of the years, Vacation Bible School (VBS). We, as a church, have been building this week-long event for the last several months. However, we are still in much need of VBS volunteers. You have heard announcements, read bulletins, and been challenged by some from within the church to be a part of this incredible outreach. It is not too late to get involved. And it is never too late to have an influence. Just reach out to Jenny Forrester, our Children's Ministry Director, and she will put you to work.

If you are looking for some other ways to be effective, we have several other ways for you to do so. This one in particular hits remarkably close to home. Everyone is well aware of the increase in prices for food not only in our area but across the country. Our church every week does its part to help families in need bridge the gap between not having enough money for food and not having enough food at all. Weekly, we service Stafford County residents, with food boxes and bags that help families have enough food without jeopardizing needs within the home.

In order to make those food boxes and bags happen, a lot of work has to be done. Maybe this is where you can serve and bring hope to people's lives. On Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays donations are picked up, weighed, and sorted for distribution on Tuesdays. On Tuesday mornings, boxes are given out from 8:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. On Wednesdays and Fridays, boxes are prepared for the coming weeks give away. There are also times when ordering, picking up, rotating and storing, of the pantry's food supplies need to take place, usually on a weekly basis. Any of these would be a wonderful place to volunteer and serve the people of God. In doing so, you would be surprised at the difference your kind words or welcoming smile can have on people as you build up the ability to meet the physical needs of those in your community. If you feel suited for this, reach out to Sergio "Woody" Wooden and he will find a place for you to help.

There are plenty of other places that need your help and we will continue to provide you with information over the coming weeks and months. We would also like to point out we are in the middle of updating our church bulletin board and our church link. Once those have been brought up to date, you will be able to find all kinds of mission opportunities for you, your family, and friends to be a part of growing the kingdom of God. As always, we thank you for taking the time to read this article and to pray for the needs of the mission fields that God has laid before us all. In closing things out this month, think not about the cost to serve in any of the areas mentioned, but think about the investment and the return on the lives that are impacted by the efforts of God's church. Remember, it does not take much to be on Missions for God, just an obedient heart and willingness to serve. God bless and serve well.

Jon White & Sergio "Woody" Wooden

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The Way Forward – Summer Update

The Way Forward serves young adults (college-age through early 30s) within our church family. Another month gone already.

As summer begins, schedules shift fast—vacations, long workdays, late nights, and packed calendars. It's easy for community and spiritual rhythms to slowly fade into the background if we're not intentional.

This summer, we want to do the opposite.

We want to slow down. Open Scripture together. Share meals. Laugh. Learn. Ask questions. And leave each week seeing Jesus more clearly.

This summer, *The Way Forward* will begin a new Wednesday night table study through *Name Above All Names* by Alistair Begg and Sinclair Ferguson.

Each week we'll gather around a shared meal, spend time in fellowship, open God's Word together, and grow deeper in our understanding of who Jesus truly is.

Our inspiration passage for the study is Philippians 2:9–11:

"Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow..."

Throughout the study, we'll explore why Jesus is the Name above all names — the exalted King, perfect Savior, faithful Shepherd, and coming Lord of all. Every title and name of Christ reveals something deeper about His character, His mission, and His glory.

Our prayer is that each week people would leave not only encouraged and connected, but with a greater awe of Christ and a clearer understanding of the One we follow.

The vision for these evenings is simple:

Come to the table.

Be with God's people.

See Christ more clearly.

More details, dates, and schedule information will be announced soon.

We're also excited to announce that we've reserved 20 tickets for a group trip to see Joshua on November 11, 2026 at Sight & Sound Theatres in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

If you've never attended a Sight & Sound production before, it's hard to fully explain the scale and beauty of it. Powerful storytelling, incredible production design, and biblical truth brought to life in a memorable way.

The story of Joshua is fitting for this season:

moving forward in faith, trusting God's promises, and walking courageously where He leads.

More trip details will be shared later this summer, but if you're interested in going, let us know early. Seats are limited.

Don't spend the summer spiritually disconnected.

Stay near to Christ. Stay connected to His people. Stay rooted in the Word.

Sometimes the most meaningful growth happens around ordinary tables with open Bibles and faithful community.

We're looking forward to this summer together.

Soli Deo Gloria

The Way Forward

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June 2026

RISE-UP Children's Ministry

Jenny Forrester



UPCOMING

June 9th & 11th
9am-2pm
5pm-8pm
VBS Decorating

June 12th & 13th
9am-1pm
VBS Decorating

June 14th
11:30am
VBS Prayer Walk

June 14th - 18th
Evening VBS
6pm-8:30pm

June 15th - 19th
Morning VBS
9am-Noon

June 19th @ 6pm
VBS Family Showcase

June 20th @ 10am
VBS Volunteer
Appreciation Brunch &
Room Tear Down

June 21st
Father's Day
VBS Sunday
& Stage Tear Down

CHILDREN'S CHURCH MEMORY VERSES

Genesis 12:1-2

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

(Pre-k & Kindergarten & 1st-5th)



Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

(1st grade through 5th grade)

VBS

Join us on a journey through Psalm 23! Children will explore scripture and discover God as Shepherd, Leader, Comforter Provider, & Promise Keeper!



Psalm 23 is one of the most familiar and beloved passages in all of Scripture. And it is playing a prominent role in many of our ministries at RBC this year (Bible studies, VBS, summer camp, Primetimers Revival).

Yet its familiarity can sometimes cause us to miss the depth of its truth and beauty. That God is our Shepherd, our Companion, and our Host.

In Psalm 23:1–3, David declares, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” God is the faithful Shepherd who lovingly provides for His people. He leads them, restores them, and guides them in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Psalm 23 reminds us that God’s care for His people is rooted not merely in our needs, but ultimately in His own glory and covenant faithfulness. These verses also point us to Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep so that His people might belong to Him forever.

In verse 4, the psalm moves into the reality of suffering: “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.” The Christian life is not free from sorrow, hardship, or fear. Yet believers have deep confidence because God Himself is present with His people in the midst of suffering. David’s comfort is not found in the absence of danger, but in the presence of the Shepherd: “You are with me.” God’s rod and staff represent both His protection and His loving guidance as He preserves His people through trials.

Finally, in verses 5–6, the Shepherd becomes a gracious Host who welcomes His people into fellowship with Himself. God prepares a table for His people even in the presence of enemies, reminding us that sin, death, and Satan do not have the final word. Through Christ’s death and resurrection, believers are welcomed into God’s presence by grace alone. Psalm 23 ultimately points forward to the eternal joy of dwelling with the Lord forever in the new creation.

Because the Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want.

Because the Lord is with us, we will not fear.

Because the Lord welcomes us, we shall dwell with Him forever.

Pastor Ben LoPresti



June Birthdays

June 1

Lisa Skeer

June 3

Mark Blake

June 5

Sandy Sampson
Linda Shackelford

June 6

Pachess Wooden

June 7

Camden Knight

June 10

Tiffany Pare

June 11

Braden Nimeth

June 12

Hudson Farrar

June 18

Dawn White

June 19

Emma Shifflett

June 23

Zack Ferraez

June 24

Marcia Dorgeloh

June 25

James Daley

June 26

Riley Stewart

June 27

Margaret Craiger
Lidia Lungoccia

June 28

Camryn Nimeth
John Shackelford
Becky White

June 29

Jax Hudson

Hughes Home Riverhouse

Carl Fox

June 9

Paige Beale

June 13

Janet Vandenburg

June 13

Janice Boyce

June 14

Robert Greenlaw

June 21

Pam King

June 23

Mary Long

June 26

DONATIONS

The Hughes Home Riverhouse Ministry is always accepting Depends, in all sizes, but need more larger sizes.

Mail a Card!

Name of Person c/o Hughes
Home 100 Caroline Street,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Stewardship

Offerings and Attendance January 1-May 26

Offerings

GENERAL FUND

DESIGNATED FUND

EXPENSES

Cemetery Fund

UPKEEP

Mowing:

DONATIONS

Average Attendance

SUNDAY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENTS

OTHER WEEKLY EVENTS

In Christian Sympathy

New Members

Worship Service & Sunday School Schedule

Early Service & Sunday School 9:00–10:00AM Adult Schedule

Location	Class	Teachers	Curriculum	Demographics
301	Beholding Glory	P. Bowman & R. Colson	Explore/Gospel Project	All Ages
306	Senior Men	K. Knowles	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life	Senior Men
307	Chronological Study of the Bible-1	C. Turman & S. Springer	Survey of the Old Testament (exegetical/expository)	All Ages
Chapel	The Ladies' Class	T. Harrell & K. Colson	Gospel of Mark	Ladies
Fellowship Hall	Chronological Study of the Bible-2	C. Adams & H. Hunter	Chronological Study through the Bible	Married Couples

Late Service & Sunday School 10:30–11:30AM Adult Schedule

Location	Class	Teachers	Curriculum	Demographics
301	Overcomers in Christ	G. Bennett	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life	All Ages
307	Expository Study of the Bible	P. Johnson & M. Wheeler	Genesis	All Ages
306	Season Saints	P. Mentee & M. Craiger	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life	Seniors
Chapel	Young Adults	M. Sarkissian & N. Ewoldt	Life Change Bible Studies	Young Adults
Chapel C-3	Apologetics: Ready to Share	C. Hickcox	Boldly Defending Your Faith with Grace	All Ages

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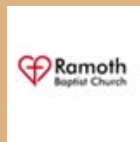
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Ways to Give

Online: rbcstafford.org

Download our App:



Mail: 478 Ramoith Church Road,
Stafford, VA 22554