



# the BEACON

April 2025

Volume 44, Issue 4

## Worship Schedule

### Wednesdays

- 5:00PM Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:00PM AWANA Clubs
- 6:30PM Adult Bible Study
- 6:30PM Worship Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30PM Worship Team Rehearsal

### Sundays

- 8:45AM Worship Service
- 10:00AM Sunday School
- 11:00AM Worship Service
- 6:30PM Youth Group

*Bible Studies and Activities are scheduled throughout the week.*

Ramoth Baptist Church  
 478 Ramoth Church Road  
 Stafford, VA 22554  
[rbcstafford.org](http://rbcstafford.org)

## Events

### Christian Motorcyclist Association

April 6, 2025

During Both Services

CMA is having their annual fundraiser for missions.

### Sunrise Service

April 20, 2025

6:30AM

We hope you join us bright and early to celebrate our risen Savior.

### Quarterly Business Meeting

April 23, 2025

6:30PM

Members, participate in and stay updated about current church activities.

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*Love God,  
 Love People,  
 Change Our World*

## Senior Pastor

Greetings,

I read an interesting article this week from Jonathan Leeman's book, WHY CHURCH MEMBERSHIP, and want to share some of it with you. This is especially interesting since the trend today of many of our younger adults is thinking that church is no longer important. Some even say that God's Word doesn't speak to the issues we face today. To me, that makes it quite evident that they've not read His Word. Following is listed of some of what he says in his book about membership in the church.

1. It's biblical. Jesus established the local church, and all the apostles did their ministry through it. The Christian life in the New Testament is church life. Christians today should expect and desire the same.
2. The church is its members. To be "a church" in the New Testament is to be one of its members (read through Acts). ME SPEAKING: And you should want to be part of the church because that's where believers are taught and trained and grow spiritually to enable them to carry out the Great Commission. We are the church and as a church we are to proclaim boldly the Gospel message that's been given to us. That is a command of Jesus.
3. The church is where we gather around the Lord's Table to celebrate with believers what Jesus did for us on the Cross at Calvary.
4. It's how to officially represent Jesus. ME SPEAKING AGAIN: Membership is the church's affirmation that you are a citizen of Christ's Kingdom and a representative of Christ before all nations carrying out the message of Jesus as Lord and Savior and proclaiming John 14:6. "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." We are the ones chosen to stand boldly to proclaim that message.
5. It's how to declare one's highest allegiance. Your membership on the team, which becomes visible when you make a public testimony that your highest allegiance belongs to Jesus. Trials and persecution may come, but your only words are, "I am with Jesus."
6. It's how to embody and experience biblical images. It's within the accountability structures of the local church that Christians live out or embody what it means to be the "body of Christ." And you want to experience the interconnectivity of His body, the spiritual fullness of His temple, and the safety and intimacy and shared identity of His family.
7. It's how to serve other Christians.
8. It's how to follow Christian leaders. Membership allows you to fulfill your biblical responsibility to them.
9. It helps Christian leaders lead. Membership lets Christian leaders know which Christians they will give an account for.
10. It enables church discipline. It gives you the biblically prescribed place to participate in the work of church discipline responsibly, wisely, and lovingly.
11. It gives structure to the Christian life. It places an individual Christian's claim to obey and follow Jesus into a real-life setting where authority is actually exercised over us.
12. It builds a witness and invites the nations. Membership puts the alternative rule of Christ on display for the watching universe. The very boundaries which are drawn around the membership of a church yield a society of people which invites the nations to something better.

ME AGAIN: These thoughts bring to us the importance of being a part of the church family. We are brothers and sisters in Christ working together to share our witness to the lost in the way God has gifted us through the ministries and support of the church. Scripture tells us in Hebrews 10:25, "Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Continue to be in prayer as we proceed in the process of seeking to build the Family Life Center. We are in conversation concerning financing and receiving a proposal from the contractor and establishing the schedule for our stewardship campaign. More information will be brought forth as the process continues. Continue to pray also for our Personnel Committee as we seek a Youth Pastor.

*Dr. Richard Harrell*

# Deacon Ministry

## Deacons of the Week

### April 6

Heath Hunter  
(912) 596-8294

Dan Mehochko  
(540) 272-8137

### April 13

Gary Graham  
(540) 446-8814

Joe Pearson  
(540) 940-1762

### April 20

Chris Hudson  
(703) 350-1934

Jacob Nimeth  
(540) 408-3887

### April 27

Brock Lennon  
(979) 575-5627

Bob Peoples  
(540) 226-7083

Our church voted to proceed with the construction of the Family Life Center by a 91% majority. We thank everyone for the prayerful consideration of this project, participation in the months of discussions, and the unity displayed by the congregation. As we enter the stewardship campaign, our difficult work begins as a church. Just as we thoughtfully and prayerfully considered our votes, we must now thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how each of us can best steward the resources God has given us to make the Family Life Center a reality.

I recently had the opportunity to hear a speaker talk about the concept of “cathedral thinking.” This is the idea that those workers and artists who designed and participated in the building of the great cathedrals of Europe did so with the knowledge that they would never see the end result of their work. They were working on something to benefit future generations that had yet to be born. At Ramoth, we worship in a facility that is the product of those who engaged in cathedral thinking. Indeed, past members of this church who have gone to Glory that participated in the planning of the Family Life Center 10 years ago made the work of the current congregation much easier. They did not live to see the result, but we benefit from their vision.

We must adopt a cathedral thinking mindset. We are participating in a project to speak Jesus to our friends and neighbors and to generations that have not yet come to Ramoth. While we have different gifts, we must make equal sacrifices. God has given different spiritual gifts and different gifts of time, money, and talent as is pleasing to Him. Our job is to equally sacrifice those gifts with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Peter tells us,

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:4-5).

As believers, we are a holy priesthood called to make spiritual sacrifices. Our prayer as a church is that we will engage in the cathedral thinking Ramoth Baptist Church has done for 158 years, and equally sacrifice the resources God has given us.

*Pete Johnson*

# Exalted Worship Ministry

## Jesus Calls

'Suddenly, the curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom, the earth quaked, and the rocks were split. The tombs were also opened and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. And they came out of the tombs after his resurrection, entered the holy city, and appeared to many.' Matthew 27:51-53

## The Curtain

As Jesus died on the cross, the curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two. For the first time since the Garden of Eden, man was allowed to have total access to God. A priest, a pastor, a minister was no longer needed to come to the Father. Jesus, in his death, had opened a door for all of us to come to God.

## The Empty Tomb

But it was the empty tomb, the resurrection, that defeated death and allowed us to have our sins forever forgiven. It was the defeat of death that gave us the victory that we experience through Jesus the Christ.

## Other Tombs

Notice that Matthew writes that other tombs were cracked open, and after Jesus' resurrection, many of the saints who had died, arose, and were seen by many.

I remember the first time I realized this had happened. I was at a friend's house on Easter, and we were watching an Easter story on TV. I couldn't believe what I was watching. As Jesus died on the cross, people came out of their tombs and began to walk into the village. I told my friend that that was not in the bible. Jesus alone was resurrected. No one else.

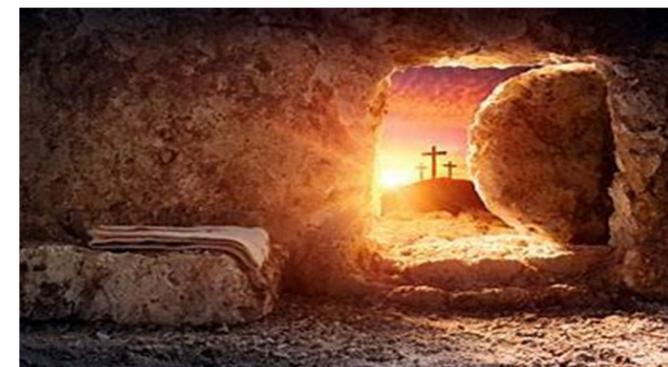
My friend grabbed his bible, and we read Matthew 27. I couldn't believe it! I had read over that passage time-and-time again, but I had never realized what I was reading. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead raised other saints from the dead as well. And they walked around the town and were seen by many. But they were not raised until Jesus was raised and unlike Jesus, they were to die again.

## The Power!

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead, created the world. Jesus was the first born of the dead. He was the first to be raised and forever live. We experience that same power when we believe. We are raised from the dead in the same way He was, and we too will live forever.

In John 11 we read the account of Lazarus. What if Jesus had said “Come out!” instead of “Lazarus, come out!” Would everyone have been raised from the dead? I dare not place limits on the power of Jesus. But Jesus was specific. He is specific with us as well. He calls us to Him. He doesn't make us come to Him. He allows us to come, but we must come in faith, in belief, in surrender.

Look at the picture below. From the empty tomb we see the cross and the terrible price that was paid there. Our freedom from death has already been bought. The curtain is torn, and access has been granted. The tomb has been cracked open. He calls, “Come out!” Will you come?



*Pastor Chuck Hite*

# Refuge Ministry

Greetings and blessings, once again brothers and sisters in Christ. Springtime is upon us and there are lots of things to be excited about. We have the warmer, longer days to look forward to enjoying. We have the Easter season, when we acknowledge the finished work of the Cross. We have more outdoor activities to participate in and even more places to visit. All of these things are a blessing to us, not everyone will be enjoying these things.

There is a portion of our local community, state and nation that have been engulfed by fear, anxiety, frustration, and a loss of perspective. These people are looking at changes in the marketplace and wondering if they will be able to afford the basic necessities. They are looking at job situations changing and becoming more demanding and wondering if they can last much longer. They are frustrated by the outcome of events not matching their expectations and wonder how or why things have turned out so differently. They have come to the conclusion that things are in peril, and they do not know how much more they can stand.

We have all seen and heard of these types of things through the years. However, more now than ever these fears are causing people to behave in unusual ways. It is causing them to blame others. It is causing them to say things that are not appropriate. It is even causing them to be a part of actions that are disturbing. And why are people responding the ways that they are? Because they have allowed their fears, anxiety, frustration, and loss of perspective to run their lives.

While the things that have been mentioned might be understandable if they were speaking to those in the world. The truth is more and more believers have found themselves struggling with these things and they have forgotten the words of God. Romans 8:31-39 declares the following,

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

What manner of thing is so great that our God cannot address it? What set of circumstances or dynamics catches God off-guard? Is there anything that is bigger, greater, more powerful than the Creator of Heaven and Earth? Have we taken the things that have caused us to be fearful, anxious, frustrated or lacking hope and perspective to the Lord? If we have not, and we do not remember His word, then we are doomed to find ourselves in distress. But that’s not what God wants for us, and if that’s not what He wants for us...why then are we assuming that how we should be acting? Let us get back to reading, heeding, and believing in His word. And by doing so, we can, and we will be reassured that there’s nothing that can separate us from the love and blessings of God...except for letting the struggles of the day cloud our judgment of just how much God truly does love us.

If you are struggling, or someone you know is...there is help and there is hope. If you are in need of support or encouragement...there is help and there is hope. If you just want to be heard, validated, and seen...there is help and there is hope. That is why the center exists, so that you do not have to struggle anymore. If you need or want help, please contact us at 540-602-7986 or via email at [counseling@rbcstafford.org](mailto:counseling@rbcstafford.org) or [counseling2@rbcstafford.org](mailto:counseling2@rbcstafford.org). Our office is open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to noon. You no longer have to live in fear, with anxiety, constantly frustrated, and lacking in hope...we are here to help.

Your Brother in Christ,

*Sergio “Woody” Wooden*

## DIVORCECARE

The Refuge Ministry Center is offering DivorceCare on Tuesdays. DivorceCare is a thirteen-week Christ-centered support group for those who have experienced the devastating breakup of a marriage. For more information, please contact Kim Colson at [counseling2@rbcstafford.org](mailto:counseling2@rbcstafford.org) or Sergio Wooden at [counseling@rbcstafford.org](mailto:counseling@rbcstafford.org).



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 the Ramoth Chapel. For more information contact:

Sergio “Woody” Wooden: [counseling@rbcstafford.org](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. For more information,

or to sign up for this group, please contact Pattie Foster at [pattiecakes84@comcast.net](mailto:pattiecakes84@comcast.net)

**April 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1PM in Room 306.**

# Women's Ministry

## Discipleship at Ramoth

God designed women to grow in faith alongside one another. In Titus 2:3-5 (NASB 1995) Paul instructs, "Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young woman to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored."

Every believer in Christ has wisdom to share. Whether it's faith, marriage, motherhood, or daily struggles, someone needs your encouragement. The world sends confusing messages, but biblical mentorship helps women find clarity and strength in Christ. When we invest in others, we build up the body of Christ. No matter how long we've walked with the Lord, we all need guidance. Proverbs 27:17 reminds us, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." A godly mentor provides encouragement, accountability, and wisdom for life's challenges.

If you currently don't have someone mentoring you, pray that God would help guide you in finding one and be bold to ask for help! Discipleship is a blessing both to give and receive. Let's answer the call to grow together in Christ!

*Racquel Balsavich*

Hello RBC Family,

### Upcoming Events:

#### **FIT Workshops – Sign-Up in the foyer or online today!!**

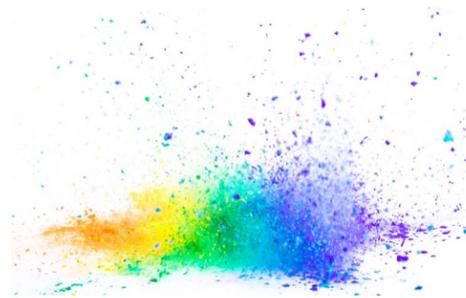
Wed - Apr 2nd – Creating Cards 10:00a-12:00p. Rm 307

Sat Apr 19th – Creative Connections. 10:00a-12:00p. Fellowship Hall.

(Creative Connections includes your choice of: Fiber Fellowship / Canvas & Acrylic Painting / Creating Cards

Thur Apr 24th – Watercolor His Word 6:00p-8:00p. Rm 307

Wed - Apr 30th – Canvas & Acrylic Painting 10:00p-12:00p. Rm 307



**Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>: Ladies Prayer Group-** starting April 1<sup>st</sup> and continuing bi-weekly on Tuesdays, join us in the prayer room (located in the Sanctuary to the left of the stage) at 6pm. Contact Lidia Lungoccia for any questions 540-840-5729.

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>: Hat Sunday-** every first Sunday of the month. 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!

**Save the Date! Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>: RBC Men's Conference Helpers**

**Location: Ramoth Baptist Church**

**Time: TBD**

I urge that  
SUPPLICATIONS,  
PRAYERS,  
INTERCESSIONS,  
and THANKSGIVINGS  
be made for everyone ...

1 Timothy 2:1, NRSV

### **Possible Upcoming Events to look out for:**

Spring Cleaning Day – tentative date: Friday April 25th

Museum of the Bible trip – tentative date: Saturday May 3rd

### **Needs and Thank You's!**

Thank you church family for supporting our recent IMGN Life Baby Bottle Campaign. As a church we provided \$6,040.10 (\$700 more than last year) to run the pregnancy center and help our community choose life!

Thank you for making the Mission's Tea Party such a success! We raised over \$1,900 for Adult and Teen Challenge of Virginia. We appreciate all of the silent auction donations, the table decorators, young men that served, and all of the helpers that helped setup, prepare food, and cleanup. We are so blessed by our church family, and your heart for helping others!

Need: We are looking for someone interested in sharing their expertise on felting, beaded painting, or croch machines in a relaxed workshop setting.

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



*Pachess & Denise*

# Integritas Men's Ministry

**1. May 17th—2025 Men's Conference & Woodsman Skills Challenge.** Yes, you've been waiting for it since last year's competition, a chance to redeem yourself. In conjunction with a morning **Men's conference—Are you leading the hearts of your family?** with a **Mission BBQ lunch** leading into an afternoon of zealous competition. Ten challenging events making up the **Woodsman Skills Challenge**. These events will test your skills and patience as we enjoy fellowship in the fields.

## 2. Basics: The 10 Commandments - #4

How are you doing? Can you recite the 10 Commandments yet—short or long version? We had one young man in our pre-school Sunday School class who was able to recite all ten of the shorter version in the graphic.

Let's quickly review what we learned on the first three commandments. The First commandment is *Who?* ~ **No other God**, the second is *How?* ~ **No Idols**, and the Third is *Why?* ~ **Respect God's Name**.

*Why?* Because God is a Holy God. He deserves all the Honor, Glory and Praise far above and beyond all else.

Now, let's look at the 4th — **Keep the Sabbath**. This is the *When?*

Our total devotion of heart, life and belief should belong to God alone. Remember that first someone forms an idol and then that idol molds the person. That which becomes our focus becomes our character, When we focus on God through prayer, worship and Scripture, we become more Christ like. And as we become more Christ like, we shine a light for others. Particularly your family. Are you leading them? Is your light guiding them? Are you reflecting Christ?

## Men's Ministry

Men's ministry doesn't just stop with a men's event or a Bible study. Men serve throughout the church in many places in many ways. Come alongside us. Get to know the other men in church. Have some fun in fellowship at Ramoth while we reach out to witness for Christ.

If you'd like to get involved and join the fun and fellowship, you can get more information by contacting the church office, or Rod Montgomery, (540) 623-7651 or e-mail at SitNChip@gmail.com



## 7 AM Saturday Study

Fellowship Hall – Rod Montgomery

Integritas Weekly Men's Bible Study & Prayer is focused on many aspects of the Bible undergirding our Christian foundations and heritage for family, church & country.

*Come enjoy some breakfast with us, too.*

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

Apr 25—We will be continuing to study Isaiah. There is much to learn about Israel, their future and our own future

## Iron Sharpens Iron

April 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM

Kerry Knowles



Join with men of Iron Sharpens Iron as we study Paul's letter to the Romans. We meet the first and third Mondays of the month. Our next meetings will be on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a dessert with us!

## Every Man a Warrior

**Sunday 5:00PM** - 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

**Heath Hunter** (912) 596-8294

philliphunter38@gmail.com

**Tim Eicher** (540) 907-1545

teicher93@gmail.com

**Flavius Lungoccia** (540) 840-5689

flungoccia@gmail.com

## The Ten Commandments – 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment – Keep the Sabbath

**Exodus 20:8-11** *“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.*

The Commandments can be looked at as a form of the Cross. The first 4 commandments are the vertical component of the Cross. They deal with our relationship with God. The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandments sets as the foundational point looking up at the Cross.

What is called the Sabbath, we now look at as the first day of the week – Sunday. Why? Scripture gives us a number of verses that establish the “first day” of the week, Sunday, as the day we have designated as a day of worship & rest. Jesus rose from the grave on the first day of the week. **Mark 16:9** *Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.*

Jesus came to the disciples on the first day of the week as they gathered to worship.

**John 20:19** *Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.*

In Acts, as the church began to develop, again the disciples gather to worship, break bread, and listen to a sermon from Paul. **Acts 20:7** *And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.*

We no longer practice the Sabbath because we are under a new covenant. The Sabbath of the Old Testament had many rules that actually required the life of an individual if they were broken. The Sabbath was meant to be a day of rest. No work, no matter how minor could be done.

So, how should we look at the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment today? Well, even in creation, God rested on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. Was it because God needed a rest. No, no!! The intent was to model a way of life for man. We are to work 6 days and rest a 7<sup>th</sup> to recognize God's care for us. **Gen 2:2-3** *And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.*

Today we recognize, or should recognize, this rest. God sanctified a 7<sup>th</sup> day for rest. We recognize God thru worship and we should be resting as well.

Many of you have heard the following story. This leads us into a better understanding of what rest can really do for us and our families in our own lives if we will just slow down.

**Two Woodmen** Once upon a time, there were two woodmen named Peter and John. They were often at loggerheads over who chopped more wood. So, one day, they decided to hold a competition to determine a champion. The rules were simple— whoever produced the most wood in a day wins the challenge.

So, the next morning, both of them took up their positions in the forest and started chopping away at their fastest possible speed. This lasted for an hour before Peter suddenly stopped. When John realized he could hear no chopping sound from his opponent's side of the forest, he thought: “Ah Ha! He must be tired already!” Excitedly, he continued to cut down his trees with double the pace.

A quarter of an hour passed, and John heard Peter starting to chop again. Both woodsmen continued on with their challenge. John was starting to feel weary when the chopping from Peter stopped once again. Feeling motivated and smelling victory close by, John continued on, with a smile on his face with a certainty that he was headed for victory.

This went on the whole day. Every hour, Peter would stop chopping for fifteen minutes while John kept going relentlessly at a ferocious pace. So, when the competition ended, John was absolutely confident that he would triumph with the win.

But - to John's astonishment, Peter had actually cut down more wood. How was this possible? “How could you have chopped down more trees than me? I heard you stop working every hour for fifteen minutes!”, exclaimed John.

Peter replied, “Well, it's really quite simple. Every time I stopped work, while you were still chopping down trees, I was sharpening my axe.”

We're all in a hurry. We're all busy. Everywhere, people are over committed Most people are just too busy doing and trying to get ahead that they do not take the necessary time to renew themselves, to learn and grow—to rest and sharpen the “axe.”

We as Believers, need to renew ourselves with a focus on our Savior each week through worship, song, study and fellowship. We need to slow down. We need to take time to enjoy and appreciate our family. We have been richly Blessed. Take time to give back to the one who gave all for us. Glorify God on our day of rest. Sharpen your “axe .”

**10 COMMANDMENTS Simplified**

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall make no idols.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Keep the Sabbath day holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

**10 COMMANDMENTS for Kids**

1. No other god.
2. No idols.
3. Respect God’s Name.
4. Keep the Sabbath.
5. Honor your father & mother.
6. No murder.
7. Respect your spouse.
8. No stealing.
9. No lying.
10. No coveting (wanting others things).

*Rod Montgomery*

Opportunity to help Camp Red Arrow Get ready for the summer.

Saturday, April 5, from 9:00AM-4:00PM  
 Camp Red Arrow  
 22338 Arrowhead Trail, Stevensburg, VA 22741

Necessary work includes raking leaves, painting, cleaning, and wood cutting. Bring gloves, rakes, chain saws, painting supplies, etc. Lunch is provided.

POC is Matt Giles at (864) 207-0787 or msgiles171@hotmail.com

# 2025 Ramoth Men’s Conference & Woodsman Outdoor Skills Challenge



## Leading Your Family

**Ramoth Baptist Church, Stafford, Virginia  
 17 May 2025**

1. **Must attend Conference to participate in the Ramoth Woodsman Skills Challenge.**
2. **Families are welcome to come cheer for your favorites.**
3. **Challenge Opening Ceremony at 12:30PM in the field behind the Youth Pastor’s house**
4. **Register online at [rbcstafford.org](http://rbcstafford.org)**
5. **Or, email Rod Montgomery: [sitnchip@gmail.com](mailto:sitnchip@gmail.com)**

# Prime Timers Ministry

Have a Blessed Easter—Praying that the Lord blesses you on Easter and always!

Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. I Peter 1:3

He is not here; He has Risen. Luke 24:6

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

## Upcoming Events

April 17, 2025 Prime Timers Luncheon

Revival—May 5-7, 2025

Please watch church bulletins and announcements for more information on these upcoming events.

Be sure to come to our April 17th meeting and bring a friend. No reservations needed.



*Margaret Canter*

# Rise-up Children's Ministry

## The Cave of Wonders

Somewhat hidden within the walls of this building is a space dedicated to the "little blessings" of this church family that we will refer to as the "Cave of Wonders". Devoted volunteers and Sunday School leaders spend their time each week pouring the love of Jesus over these "little blessings" and planting seeds that may one day grow deep roots and sprout up to the sky and flourish in the love of the Son. Each volunteer and Sunday School leader comes with a purpose; not to babysit or provide childcare. Each person is here to "speak Jesus" into the lives of the children and help them grow in a relationship with Jesus. God has done so much through these volunteers and Sunday School leaders. Many volunteers on our team serve multiple times a month. As time goes by, some of our devoted volunteers must move on or take time away for various reasons. When this happens, there becomes a gap that must be filled. We continue to have the need for additional volunteers during the second service. With enough volunteers, each person would only need to be scheduled once a month.

Example for those who prefer to see numbers:

2nd Service (11am) = 14 volunteers per week

4 weeks = 56 volunteers

5 weeks = 70 volunteers

Current Team = 29 volunteers

The door of opportunity for new volunteers or refreshed volunteers to step into these halls and enter this "Cave of Wonders" is always open. Discover how God will use you to minister to the "little blessings" of this church family.

Do you hear the call? What talents and gifts have you been blessed with? Take the time to thank the ones who are graciously caring for the "little blessings" of this church family and consider how you can serve. Together we can heed the call to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Matthew 19:13-15 (ESV)

Then children were brought to Him that He might lay His hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." And He laid His hands on them and went away.

Matthew 21:15-16 (ESV)

But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, and they said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies

You have prepared praise?'"

Memorial Day   
**CHALK** Art Contest  
 Remembering Our Heroes  
 May 23rd-24th  
 Register Online:  
 ★ Family  
 ★ Group  
 ★ Individual



Prizes for 1st Place in each category announced on May 25th



Save the Dates:  
 April 13: Palm Sunday  
 April 18: Good Friday  
 April 20: Easter Sunday  
 May 11: Mother's Day  
 May 23-24: Memorial Day Chalk Art Contest  
 June 15: Father's Day  
 June 16-20: Vacation Bible School  
 July 7-11: Camp Red Arrow



June 16-20, 2025  
 Morning Session: 9am-12pm  
 Evening Session: 6pm-8pm

Decorating Week June 9-15

Volunteer Sign-Ups open Now  
<https://vbspro.events/p/ramoth25>  
 Trusting Jesus in a Wild World



Children's Sign-Ups Open in April



Family Spotlights




What is your family's favorite outing?  
 Hiking! Especially at Government Island!

What is your family's favorite game to play together?  
 We like to play "Taco, Cat, Goat, Cheese, Pizza", "Taco vs. Burrito", and "Farkle".

What do you love about the children's ministry at Ramoth Baptist Church?  
 The fact that the Gospel is taught, friends, and the games played.



What is your family's favorite outing?  
 Our favorite outing is when we have any opportunity to travel. Over the summer, one of our favorite places to visit is Hilton Head Island in South Carolina. While there, we enjoy swimming at the beach and pool, exploring new adventures and spending quality time together. We also love live theater and music, most recently going to a Toby Mac concert where our children sang the lyrics to every song.

What is your family's favorite game to play together?  
 Although some of us may be more competitive than others, as a family, one of our favorite things to do is play games. Our favorite games include Clue, a card game called "Trash", and Mario Kart on the Switch.

What do you love about the children's ministry at Ramoth Baptist Church?  
 The Children's Ministry is a really valuable part of our family. Both of our children were saved through the Children's ministry at Ramoth and both stated that their favorite part is "learning more about God". As parents, we have seen their growth influenced by the Children's ministry as they are eager to learn and memorize scripture and share the love of Jesus with their friends. We are blessed to have this ministry in our church.

## Volunteer Spotlights

*The McNulty Family*



Why do you volunteer?

We volunteer because serving others brings us joy. We love our church family and genuinely love to be around them. We also make an effort to prioritize serving God and his Church.

What is one thing that your family loves to do together?

We love to explore the historical places all around us, and of course, we love exploring our different gifts through theater production at Christian Youth Theater Fredericksburg. The next main stage show will be Willy Wonka. We'd love to tell you more about it! Ask us!

If your family could choose anywhere to go to take a vacation, where would you go?

Jaidyn- Bahamas to relax on the beach

Nate- Croatia to swim in the clear blue water.

Casey- Israel to walk in the places Jesus walked.

Brian- Switzerland

### **RISE-UP CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

*Upcoming Events & Reminders*

#### AWANA

- April 2: Regular Club Night
- April 9: Face Paint Night ~ \*\*Come with your face painted
- April 16: AWANA STORE
- April 23: NO CLUB ~ \*\*Quarterly Business Meeting
- April 30: AWANA Award Night ~ \*\*Parent must attend with clubber

#### MEMORY VERSE:

"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name goes all the glory for your unfailing love and faithfulness."

(Psalm 115:1)

Memory Verse Treasure Chest Dates:

May 4th, 11th, & 14th

# Wednesday Night Dinner

Register online or by phone every week by Monday at 5:00PM. Dinners are on Wednesdays at 5:00PM. Dinner costs \$5 per person. Max cost for families is \$25.

**Please note that there are only two dinners in April. After that we will pick them back up in the fall when AWANA starts for the new season.**

## Monthly Menu!

**April 2**

Ham, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans and Dessert

Prepared by Nate Ewoldt's Team

**April 9**

Hamburger, Hot Dogs, Macaroni Salad, Fries, Salad and Dessert

Prepared by Joshua Farrar's Team



# Join Us Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

6:30AM Sunrise Service

Continental Breakfast

8:45AM Easter Choir Presentation

10:00AM Sunday School

11:00AM Easter Choir Presentation



**BIBLE READING PLAN:**

**Choose YOUR OWN JOURNEY**

May God bless you as you journey through Scripture & grow closer to him!

PACK YOUR BAGS — & INCLUDE YOUR BIBLE!

Head out on a month-long exploration through God's Word. Each day's quest comes with some options. Choose from a prayer, a parable, a gospel reading or an epistle reading. If you have more time or use this Bible Reading Plan more than once a day, read the rest of the passages too.

<b>1. GRATITUDE</b> ○ Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 ○ Gospel: Luke 17:11-19 ○ Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	<b>2. TRUST</b> ○ Prayer: Psalm 28:6-9 ○ Gospel: Mark 5:21-43
<b>3. PRAISE</b> ○ Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18 ○ Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57	<b>4. LOVE</b> ○ Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11 ○ Gospel: Mark 12:28-33 ○ Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21
<b>5. PRAYER</b> ○ Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13 ○ Parable: Luke 18:10-14 ○ Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20	<b>6. OBEDIENCE</b> ○ Parable: Matthew 21:28-32 ○ Gospel: Luke 5:1-11
<b>7. PATIENCE</b> ○ Parable: James 5:7-11 ○ Epistle: Romans 8:22-25	
<b>8. WISDOM</b> ○ Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9 ○ Parable: Matthew 7:24-27 ○ Epistle: James 3:13-18	<b>9. CALLING</b> ○ Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8 ○ Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10
<b>10. FORGIVENESS</b> ○ Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53 ○ Parable: Matthew 18:21-35 ○ Gospel: Luke 23:32-34	<b>11. JOY</b> ○ Prayer: Psalm 16 ○ Parable: Luke 15:1-10 ○ Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9
<b>12. RESTORATION</b> ○ Prayer: Psalm 51:10-19 ○ Gospel: John 2:19-22	
<b>13. STEWARDSHIP</b> ○ Parable: Luke 12:16-21 ○ Gospel: Luke 21:1-4 ○ Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19	<b>14. HUMILITY</b> ○ Parable: Luke 14:7-14 ○ Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11
<b>15. REFUGE</b> ○ Prayer: Psalm 121 ○ Gospel: John 17:11-19	<b>16. MIRACLES</b> ○ Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21 ○ Gospel: Mark 9:14-24
<b>17. FRUITFULNESS</b> ○ Parable: Matthew 25:14-30 ○ Gospel: John 15:1-8 ○ Epistle: James 2:14-24	
<b>18. UNITY</b> ○ Prayer: John 17:20-23 ○ Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17	<b>19. PROVISION</b> ○ Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 ○ Parable: John 10:1-18 ○ Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34
<b>20. PEACE</b> ○ Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13 ○ Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14	<b>21. JUSTICE</b> ○ Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61 ○ Parable: Matthew 20:1-16
<b>22. PERSISTENCE</b> ○ Prayer: James 5:13-18 ○ Parable: Luke 18:1-8	
<b>23. EVANGELISM</b> ○ Prayer: Acts 4:23-31 ○ Epistle: Romans 10:9-15	<b>24. FAITHFULNESS</b> ○ Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13 ○ Parable: Matthew 21:18-22
<b>25. SUFFERING</b> ○ Prayer: Job 19:21-27 ○ Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10	<b>26. GROWTH</b> ○ Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14 ○ Parable: Mark 4:26-29
<b>27. MERCY</b> ○ Parable: Luke 10:30-37 ○ Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16	
<b>28. SALVATION</b> ○ Prayer: Acts 2:22-36 ○ Parable: Luke 16:19-31 ○ Gospel: John 3:16-17	<b>29. READINESS</b> ○ Prayer: Luke 1:46-55 ○ Parable: Matthew 25:1-13
<b>30. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN</b> ○ Parable: Matthew 13:31-33 ○ Gospel: John 14:1-4	<b>31. BLESSING</b> ○ Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27 ○ Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

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# Happy Birthday!

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>April 1</b><br>Candace Leggett<br>Jamison Spear | <b>April 15</b><br>Jennifer Atkins<br>Alice Peoples<br>Zachary Rice | <b>April 29</b><br>Patrick Caldwell<br>Ashlynn Lee |
| <b>April 4</b><br>Allison Cook                     | <b>April 20</b><br>Dan Mehochko                                     | <b>April 30</b><br>Shawn Blake                     |
| <b>April 5</b><br>Jon White                        | <b>April 21</b><br>Selah Balsavich                                  |  |
| <b>April 6</b><br>Deborah Pickeral<br>Wyatt Pollok | <b>April 23</b><br>Lou Buttgen                                      |  |
| <b>April 7</b><br>Erin Knight<br>Lambe             | <b>April 24</b><br>Stephanie Baltzelle<br>Trell Hudson              |  |
| <b>April 8</b><br>Kayla Aiosa                      | <b>April 25</b><br>Robin Caldwell<br>Wendy Micke                    |  |
| <b>April 9</b><br>Kristy Ferguson<br>April Ferraez | <b>April 26</b><br>Troy Skidmore                                    |  |
| <b>April 10</b><br>Glenn Sullivan                  | <b>April 27</b><br>Cindy Bennett                                    |  |
| <b>April 12</b><br>Lara Gleason                    | <b>April 28</b><br>Jay Cook<br>Jackson Mehochko                     |  |

## Hughes Home Riverhouse

### Birthdays

- Edward Sampson**  
April 4
- Jacqueline King**  
April 8
- Thomas McKinney**  
April 9
- Nancy Hoch**  
April 10
- Carla Jones**  
April 14
- Sylvester Roy**  
April 19
- Michele Walton**  
April 21
- John Willis**  
April 23
- Melvin Harper**  
April 26

### Mail a Card!

**Name of Person**  
c/o Hughes Home  
100 Caroline Street

### Donations

The Hughes Home Riverhouse Ministry is always accepting Depends, in all sizes. You may place them in the bins in the right hallway on the outside of the Chapel.

# Church Stewardship

Offerings and Attendance January 1– March 24

### Offerings

- General Fund
- Designated Fund
- Expenses

### Cemetery Fund

*Donations:*

- Donation
- Alice Carrington
- Wayne Raines
- Elizabeth Buttgen
- Byrd Pritchett
- Cynthia English

*Paid out for cemetery upkeep:*

- Mowing
- Paving
- Ramp

### Average Attendance

- Sunday Events
- Wednesday Events
- Other Weekly Events

## *In Christian Sympathy*

To the Studebaker family after the passing of Mary's brother

To the Hudson family after the passing of Joel Hudson

To the Peoples family after the passing of Bob's grandmother.

To the Raines family after the passing of Wayne Raines.

## *Welcome New Members*

Kelly and Phil Skowronek

Serenity Haubold

Charles, Raudelle, & Ashur Hickcox

Zachary and Elizabeth Rice

Thomas and Lisa Skeer

Sonia Stevens

Rob and Miriam Webster



# Adult Sunday School

## Young Adult: Three Truths

~Fellowship Hall (right)~ Nate and Sarah Ewoldt, Matt and Jasmine Sarkissian, Jorge and Chris Morales

## Adult 1: Book of Revelation

~Fellowship Hall (left)~ Pete Johnson, Matt Wheeler

## Adult 2: LifeWay Bible Studies for Life (Senior Adults)

~Chapel-2~ Gary Bennett

## Adult 3: LifeWay Bible Studies for Life

~Room 305~ Gary Graham

## Adult 4: LifeWay Bible Studies for Life (Senior Adults)

~Room 306~ Matt Canter, Paula Menteer

## Adult 5: Chronological Study through the Bible

~Sanctuary~ Heath Hunter, Chris Adams

## Adult 7: LifeWay Explore the Bible

~Room 301~ Ptr. Paige Bowman, Randy Colson

## Adult 8: OT Chronological Survey: Kings/Chronicles/Prophets

~Room 307~ Chris Turman, Sean Springer

## Senior Men: LifeWay Bible Studies for Life

~Library~ Kerry Knowles

## Ladies Class: God of Creation

~Chapel~ Terry Harrell, Kim Colson

# Contact Us

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## Ways to Give

Online: [rbcstafford.org](http://rbcstafford.org)

Download our App:



Mail: 478 Ramoth Church Road, Stafford, VA 22554

