



the BEACON

August 2025

Volume 44, Issue 8

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.

Ramoth Baptist Church
478 Ramoth Church Road
Stafford, VA 22554

rbcstafford.org

Events

Sunday Schedule Change

August 3, 2025

Please check the schedule handouts to get to your Sunday School and Worship Service on time.

Deacon Election Day

August 17, 2025

Members are voting for Deacons to serve the church starting in January 2026.

Backpacks for Appalachia

August 1-31, 2025

Check this Beacon for more information about how to donate and a list of items for your donations.

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Love God,

Love People,

Change Our World

Senior Pastor

Greetings,

The living church is always changing just as our individual lives change almost every day. Your workplace changes, your family situations change, life in general changes. Some of these changes are planned, others are not, some are good, others are not, but changes always occur and many times on a daily basis and most of the time they occur whether you're prepared for them or not. Changes are inevitable. If you thought about it, you'd probably say that your life today has very little resemblance to your life of just several years ago or even last year or even perhaps last week as it's constantly changing. And, I'm sure you haven't liked some of those changes, but you've realized that change is happening, often times it's necessary, and if you're going to survive this life, you'll have to change with them. You have either grown with the change or attempted to stay where you were and as a result of that went backwards, and life has kind of left you behind. So, if our individual and personal lives change in that way, why would we not expect the church to change as well? That's the real question all churches are dealing with today.

In any phase of life, especially in the church, we can't expect things to stay the same if you want to continue to grow both spiritually and numerically. If you want to remain as you are then you'll never be any more than you are at the moment. The responsibility of the church, the staff, the leadership team, and the members, is to be much more than a caretaker of what's already established. It's much more than just praying for and visiting the sick and burying the dead. Don't misunderstand, those things are very important, but the church and its ministry are all about proclaiming the gospel and ministering to its community and beyond for Jesus.

Our church is changing. Our new Sunday Schedule starts August 3rd with two Sunday Schools and two Worship services with a time change as well. The first Sunday School and Worship Service will be from 9:00-10:00AM. The second Sunday School and Worship Service will be from 10:30-11:30AM. This change will allow us more Sunday School space in which we can start additional classes and minister to more people. For some this will be challenging but it will be exciting to see what the Lord does as we walk in obedience to His leading. We are also in the process of building the Family Life Center which will greatly increase our ability to expand our ministries to our community. This is also a challenging change but also an exciting time to see God's hand at work in our midst. As the neighborhoods change and grow and expand, if the church fails to make the necessary adjustments to reach the new residents in our community, the church will die a very slow, painful death and we see that happening in many churches around us. No one likes to see a church die but the truth is that if the church isn't changing, if it's not reaching out to its community, it's dying!

We may be changing our schedule, we may be changing some of our methods of delivery, but we are not changing our belief in Scripture. We continue to stand upon and teach and preach the truth of God's infallible Word. We offer things of value like experiencing God's blessings, like the power of the Holy Spirit working among us, like realizing that God is a refuge and strength in our times of trouble and especially like the forgiveness of sin and eternal life as we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. That's the kind of church that's changing and exciting. Churches are always changing if they're alive. They're always tweaking what they do. They're never satisfied with what they've done in the past but are looking down the road to see what God's got for them next.



If you're having difficulty accepting change, just remember the description of the early church in Acts 2:42-47 that should be the model of every church today. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods to anyone as he had need. Every day they continues to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

So, remember, as life changes, so does the church or at least it will if it wants to stay alive and reach people. The only thing, though, that doesn't change in the church is God's Word.

Dr. Richard Harrell



Deacon Ministry

Deacons of the Week

August 3

Shawn Blake
(540) 226-2308

Bob Peoples
(540) 226-7083

August 10

Tim Eicher
(540) 907-1545

Dan Mehochko
(540) 272-8137

August 17

Paul Germain
(540) 216-1250

Jacob Nimeth
(540) 408-3887

August 24

Gary Graham
(540) 446-8814

Joe Pearson
(540) 940-1762

August 31

Chris Hudson
(703) 350-1934

Flavius Lungoccia
(540) 840-5689

I would like to provide an update on our new Family Life Center. Even though we have not broken ground, we have made much progress on the project. The civil engineers have completed their survey work. The architectural team has completed the siting of the Family Life Center. They are working on the code analysis and the schematic for the project. We also had a great in-person meeting with our lender, Waters Edge. They offer loans to Southern Baptist churches and organizations. Importantly, the interest paid on the loan is reinvested in causes such as missions, church planting, and disaster relief. Waters Edge approved financing for more than we need for the Family Life Center, and we should close on the loan in the next couple of weeks. This is a testament to God's provision and the faithfulness of generations of believers who have called Ramoth home. Indeed, the physical legacy of our campus and the spiritual legacy of our church reputation that were left by those before us, and are maintained by those of us here today, contributed to our ability to secure financing.

Please continue to pray and act in several ways for the Family Life Center. First, pray for steady progress as we work through the planning and permitting phase of the project. Pray for our future interactions with Stafford County officials that we may break ground quickly. If you have pledged future contributions, faithfully follow through on those commitments. Pray that our Sunday morning schedule change will bear fruit and enhance our ability to minister to the different groups in our church. Continue to be enthusiastic even during the "boring" parts of the construction process. I look forward to an awesome groundbreaking ceremony when that day arrives!

Pete Johnson



Exalted Worship Ministry

Love

Love is the greatest of the Christian virtues because it is the very heart of God's character and the foundation of all Christian living. The apostle Paul, in his famous discourse on love, declares, "So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13, ESV). This statement is not merely poetic; it reveals a profound theological truth. But why? Faith and hope will soon pass away when faith becomes sight and hope is fulfilled in seeing Jesus face-to-face. Love, however, lasts forever. Here are four reasons why love is so important.

First, love is supreme because God Himself is love. "The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love" (1 John 4:8). Love is not just an attribute of God; it is His very essence. Everything God does flows from His love, including creation, redemption, and the ongoing work of salvation. When Christians love, they reflect the very nature of God to the world. This is what we do when we mirror Jesus. We show God's love to the world and there is no greater example of love than sharing the gospel with the world. To stand against sin, to stand for truth, and to lovingly share Jesus with another illustrates the love the believer has for the lost and the desire that they too will experience the incredible gift of Heaven.

Second, love fulfills the entire law of God. Jesus summarized all the commandments with two: love God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-39). Jesus put these commands together for the very first time. Paul reiterates this by saying, "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:10, ESV). Every act of obedience, every good work, finds its root in love. Even when we are wronged, we forgive and continue to love.

Third, love is eternal. While faith and hope are essential, they are temporary in nature. Faith will become sight, and hope will be realized when believers are united with Christ. But love endures forever (1 Corinthians 13:8). In eternity, love will remain the bond that unites God's people with Him and with each other.

Finally, love is the distinguishing mark of a true Christian. Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35, ESV). Love is the evidence of genuine faith and the greatest testimony to the world of God's transforming power. It allows us to reflect Jesus to everyone we meet.

Are you filled with love? Is love the driving force behind all you do? Are you reflecting the love of Christ to the world? I hope so! Our love for God and others is our defining mark and our testimony that we belong to Him! We can tell the world about Jesus, but if we do not love, no one will listen.

Pastor Chuck Hite



Refuge Ministry

Greetings and Blessings, One and All,

It is so great to be writing to my brothers and sisters in Christ. We have had an amazing summer, filled with God's blessings and grace. We have had new and old events take place with incredible success. We have new members join the church and even more take part in believer's baptism. These are all incredible things to witness, but God has even more things that we can take part in, personally.

As we wind down this incredible summer that we have had, let us consider the things that are just around the corner. Children will shortly be returning to school and learning all that they can. This time of year, signals the beginning of our outreach efforts. Starting in August we will begin our Back-packs for Appalachia. This initiative has been an ongoing endeavor by the Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia (SBCV) to help those in impoverished areas get the resources for their children to have a productive start to a new school year. There will be a list of items provided that all can contribute to and there will even be chances to organize backpacks for delivery, so be on the lookout for more information.

If that kind of event is to your liking, you will genuinely enjoy this next one as well. While we are still several months ago from Christmas, it is never too early to think of ways to help others. That is exactly what we will be doing in the month of September, as we are making preparations for Operation Christmas Child. This initiative is part of the efforts of Samaritan's Purse, which provides children around the world with Bibles, toys, and reminders of God's great love for them. There will be plenty of information to come in the following weeks, so keep your eyes and ears open for the particulars with this outreach.

Want more things to be involved with around the church? Well, we have a few more coming as we welcome fall into the area. In early October, we will kick things off by celebrating our 159th year of existence, during Homecoming 2025. If that does not get you to talk, later in the month we have the potential to have our Annual Car and Fall Festival. Both of which are crowd pleasers, as we engage our local community with food, fun, and fellowship. Keep your calendars open for these festive events and happenings, because you will not want to miss any of them.

We keep things moving right along through December, as we enter into the Advent Season. There will be the Hanging of the Greens, the Christmas Cantata, and the Christmas Eve Service to name just a few things. There will be Christmas Parties throughout the month, as well as a chance to take part in Christmas Caroling. What more could any of us ask for with all these things to come? We could look for any opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor. We could look for a chance to volunteer and be a part of bringing joy and cheer to others' lives. Or we could look and see what all God is doing in and through His people. Whatever the case, we want you to know what is going on and we want you to be a part of all the excitement.

The Refuge Ministry Center is not just about helping people with their struggles. It is also about pointing people in the right direction. It is about getting them informed and involved in the things of the church. It is about showing that we care for them and their need to belong and to be part of things that are positive and that grow the Kingdom of God. And if by chance, a person needs our help, support, or words of encouragement, then we want to be there are well. So, if you did not know about the things to come, now you do. And if it should happen that you need or want more assistance from the Refuge Ministry Center, we will be right here for you or anyone that you might send our way. We are readily available,

Monday through Thursday, from 9:00AM until 5:00PM, and then on Fridays 9:00AM to noon. If you need to reach us outside of those hours, feel free to leave a voicemail at 540-602-7986 or email us at counseling@rbcstafford.org or counseling2@rbcstafford.org. May God continue to bless you and keep you, now and always.

Your Brother in Christ,

Sergio "Woody" Wooden
GRIEF SHARE

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 in Room 307. Evening GriefShare is returning August 11th at 6:30PM. 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.

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 or Sergio Wooden at counseling@rbcstafford.org. This support group will begin again on **Tuesday, August 5th at 6:30PM.**

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

August 12th and 26th at 1:00PM in Room 306.

Women's Ministry

In His Presence (Part 1)

By: Melody Hunter

Clip-clop, clip-clop went the sound of hooves as they kicked up dirt and dust across the well-worn path. I looked up to see my daughter, Ellie, returning from tacking up her horse, Whisper. I had been waiting longer than usual, and I was beginning to grow impatient.

"What's taking so long?" I asked.

"Mr. Bill said she is not ready," Ellie replied. "He wants her to go into the round ring so he can lunge her."

"Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit."
— Psalm 32:2

— Psalm 32:2



Puzzled, I watched as Mr. Bill, Ellie's instructor, or the "Horse Whisperer," as I referred to him, led the horse into the ring. He picked up a long whip and held it up for her to see. Immediately the sight of the whip caused Whisper to increase her speed. In fact, she ran or "cantered" around the ring several times. He held out the whip in front of her again. She turned quickly and cantered in the opposite direction. This exercise continued for several minutes—turning, cantering, turning, cantering. Obviously, the horse did not like the sight of the whip.

When Mr. Bill sensed the horse had released enough energy, he dropped the whip. He held out his hand. Whisper approached him and sniffed his hands. He lovingly patted her on her neck, fixed her bridle, and gently led her outside the ring. Ellie mounted Whisper and began her lesson.

Did the horse have any understanding of the exercise? Did she know this training was to prevent her from throwing her rider? Of course, the instructor knew and understood the dangers of riding an undisciplined horse. Ellie did too. Her lesson could have had a different outcome such as possible injuries.

On our way home I pondered how the horse did not even need to be tapped with the whip before she began her cantering spree.

"Ellie, how did Whisper know to start cantering without being tapped by the whip?"

"Because she is well-trained."

Like Ellie's instructor, God does the same thing for His children. He disciplines those He loves; however, He gives understanding to move forward in obedience to His commands. In fact, His design for the Christian is that he matures in his faith by following His Word, sinning LESS, and living abundantly.

In Psalm 32:8-9 King David wrote:

"I (the LORD) will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you."

Despite his very public sins, David understood heart-driven obedience.



Called “a man after God’s own heart,” (Acts 13) David truly loved God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength. He also understood what it felt like to be forgiven and free.

In Psalm 51, David penned his penitent prayer over his sin with Bathsheba, yet this same prayer speaks truth for all believers:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (verse 10).

Also in Psalm 32:5, he wrote “I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.”

David understood the importance of acknowledging his sin to the Lord and receiving forgiveness. We can have that same love for God that David possessed by regularly confessing our sin and yielding to God’s commands. How do we do it? What does that look like for the believer? Stay tuned....

Melody Hunter

Hello RBC Family,

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, Aug 3rd: 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!

Tues, Aug 5th - Sat, Aug 9th: Beauty for Ashes Workdays- The Beauty for Ashes Home and property have been very much lived in and on for the last 10 years, and they are at a place where they need hands and feet to make some updates and upgrades. Please consider donating your time over the next couple of weeks, various days/times are available, and all types of tasks are needed—no special training required.

Location: Beauty for Ashes Women’s and Children’s Home 6806 River Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Signup: <https://forms.gle/R6yvwPs7vnuZdvq9A> or on the Women’s Ministry page

Tuesday, Aug 5th & Aug 19th: Prayer Group- Join with other women for a bi-weekly prayer group. The meeting will be in the Prayer Room (located in the sanctuary to the left of the stage). For more information, please contact Lidia, 540-840-5729.

Time: 6:00PM

Sunday, Aug. 24th Fredericksburg Nationals Game with the Prime Timers- Come out for an evening of fun, food, and baseball as we cheer on the Fred Nats. We have rented a skybox where you can comfortably view the game from inside or outside, and enjoy a 90-minute all you can eat buffet.

Location- Fredericksburg Stadium

Sign up in the foyer or on the website.

Cost: \$40/person due no later than August 3rd

Save the Date

Saturday, Aug 30th Desperate for Jesus Watch Party- Join us at the simulcast with Chrystal Hurst and Priscilla Shirer for an inspiring experience centered on this year’s theme, LEGACY! With a focus on Psalm 78:4, we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders he has done. Instead of a fee to watch the simulcast, we ask that you bring donations to make Self-Care Bags for the IMGN Life pregnancy center. Pick up your packing list in the foyer or online.



Location: Ramoth Baptist Church

Time: 9:00AM-3:00PM

Cost: Free! Please bring your own lunch, we will provide water, coffee, and snacks.

Save the Date

Sat, Sep 13th Adult and Teen Challenge VA Run/Walk for Hope 5K- Come out for a morning of running or walking as we support ATCVA and bring more awareness to their ministry. **Please register by August 13th to receive a t-shirt.** Link on the Women’s Ministry page.

Location: Old Mill Park-2201 Caroline Street Fredericksburg, VA

Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Cost: \$35/person <https://runsignup.com/Race/Register/?raceId=162058&eventId=100749>



Save the Date

Sat, Oct 4th IMGN Life Walk 4 Life-more info coming soon on registration

Location: Old Mill Park-2201 Caroline Street Fredericksburg, VA

Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Needs and Thank You’s!

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

We are looking for new ideas for F.I.T. Workshops to add to our fall schedule. If you have a talent you would like to share with our ladies, or lead a workshop of any kind (crafty, fitness, educational, cooking, etc. Any and all ideas are welcome! Please reach out to Pam Null or the Women’s Ministry.

Thank you’s:

Thank you for your help with the Christmas in July Food! The RMC Pantry is so grateful for your support as we minister to the community as a church family!

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. Taking care of your family (Part 2). Last month, we looked at the document side of preparing our next of kin to manage your home, possessions, online accounts, assets, finances, and wishes – The NOKBOX. This month let's start to look at what you can do and how you can prepare for some of the different situations or emergencies you or your family may encounter. The volume of info can be huge, the basics will be discussed here, but URLs will be included for your own deeper dive.

First Aid Kit. This will contain the most frequently used items in your house. Include an Up-to-Date First Aid Manual. Having a manual to consult in stressful situations can help to ensure that you're taking the right steps necessary to administer first aid. Check the URLs below to build or buy a family specific kit.

Build an Emergency List. Record nearby phone numbers: police, fire department, ambulance services, poison control center, your doctors, and family/friend emergency contacts. Include a list of prescription medications for each person.

www.wikihow.com/Create-a-Home-First-Aid-Kit

www.nextlevelurgentcare.com/blog/what-you-need-in-your-family-first-aid-kit/

www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/anatomy-of-a-first-aid-kit.html

DO IT!

Weather is probably the most frequent thing people are concerned with. We'll speak to that next month.

Men's Ministry

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.



The Ten Commandments – 8th Commandment – Exodus 20:15

You shall not steal.

The positive side - **Respect Other's Property or Be Honest**

So, what is stealing? Is it merely picking up or taking something someone else owns? Or, is it more than that? Well, as we look at this commandment, let's think about some other categories – time, money, affection, possessions, appreciation, love, and probably others you'll realize after we take a closer look at what comes down to honesty and integrity that we should live and be inculcating into our children.

Since we know that principles established by the Ten Commandments are eternal, we know they are applicable in the New Testament as well. Thus, a great New Testament verse to demonstrate this principle is **Eph 4:28** *Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.*

This verse contains three principles that can be used to amplify the meaning and principles that can be associated with the 8th Commandment. The first principle is Integrity: *Let him who stole steal no longer.* This includes such things as theft, shoplifting, armed robbery and burglary. It's easy to define these as categories of theft. But consider fraud, gambling, withholding love, and stealing from God. Gambling? Yes! A person goes to a casino or buys Lottery tickets, and it's called "gaming". It is an attempt to get something from someone else while giving them nothing in return.

What about stealing from God? Are we going to talk about tithing? Well, God really owns everything. We are merely giving back some as a token acknowledging His ownership as it says in **1 Cor 6:19-20** *Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.* Scripture also speaks of tithing. **Malachi 3:8** *"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.* Give to God. You'll find you get more in return than what you ever give.

The second principle is Industry: *let him labor, working with his hands what is good.* Industry deals with work and the value of it. God intended work to be a blessing to man as evidenced in **Genesis 2:15** *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.* There is a deep sense of satisfaction in finishing a work done well. It is also an important part of our character and how we interact with others. Paul desired to pass on an example of honest work when he wrote to the Thessalonians saying, *If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat."* (**2 Thess 3:10**). Better yet, Ecclesiastes tells us that work, and the rewards realized are gifts from God meant to be savored and enjoyed. **Ecc 5:18-19** *Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labor—this is the gift of God.* This is the ethic we need to instill in our children. Without this ethic, we create a generation that feels they are entitled and thus owed a living rather than making a living. Work takes many forms – schoolwork, lawn mowing, babysitting, music lessons, sports, and more are all forms of work that require consistency, accuracy and persistence to realize a reward. Teaching diligence in all things will develop that work ethic.

The third principle is Generosity: *that he may have something to give him who has need.* We have talked about opposites within the commandments. This one has an opposite as well. It's all about meeting

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.

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

Iron Sharpens Iron

August 4th & 18th 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 August 4th and 18st 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 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

needs. The opposite of stealing is not stealing. The opposite of not taking from others what you have not earned is giving to others what you have earned. So, as we teach our children to work, we also need to teach them how to give. This instills a selflessness that is more rewarding than grasping tightly onto what they have. Once again Paul gives us a standard to look to in **Acts 20:33-35**, *I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*”

There are two kinds of people: *Givers* and *Takers*. We are building one of these two into our children. If we teach our children to give, they will give back to us. If we show them care, they will give care in return. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, said, *“Make all you can, save all you can, and give all you can.”* This is the essence of the 8th Commandment as found in **Eph 4:28** - *Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.* John Wesley's quote addresses Integrity, Industry, and the generosity of honest work. Finally, the commandments lead us to our own condition. The Commandments were intended to have us examine our own lives to see if they live up to the Law. We know we cannot. We trip over most, if not all, of the Laws in one way or another. However, there is a way we can give so that we will be redeemed. We must open our own heart to give of ourselves to God. In doing so, we return to God what he has given to us – our very life, our eternal soul. Scripture tells us in **Mark 8:34-38** *“Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”* Jim Elliott said it this way, *“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”* Have you given yourself away? Have you taught your children how to give themselves away. Have you lead or are you leading your children to the Savior as Scripture calls us to do in **Ephesians 6:4** *And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.*

Lead on Men!!

Rod Montgomery

Prime Timers Ministry

Hello Prime Timers,

Welcome to August!

We hope you are healthy and enjoying Summer.

We have been having some great Prime Timers' luncheons enjoying good food, good speakers and great fellowship. We have some great Fall meetings coming up. Be sure to attend and invite a friend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 21st, 2025

Grace, Grace, God's Grace (Theme)

Randy Colson, Speaker

Hamburgers and Hotdogs

Host—Paul Germain

August 24th—6:00PM

Fred Nats Game

Fredericksburg, VA

We have a sky box which includes a 90 minute “all you can eat” buffet and an indoor/outdoor seating. Cost is \$40 per person. Seats are limited. All payments due no later than August 3rd. Please contact Linda Buckles to sign up.

II Corinthians 12:9-10

Paul says that God's grace “is sufficient” (in the present tense), understanding the ever present availability and sufficiency of God's grace, for Paul and for every believer, regardless of how critical one's circumstances may be.

Grace indicates God's (unmerited favor) that brings blessing and joy.

John 1:16-17

“For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses: grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Grace & Blessings,

Margaret Canter

...by grace
you
have
been
saved...
Ephesians 2:5
NRSV

Rise-up Children's Ministry

The Cave of Wonders

~July Highlights:

~ July 7th-11th, sixteen children went to Camp Red Arrow.

They have some funny and unique stories to share about their experiences during the week. Make sure to ask. (Photos)

~ July 18th was an evening filled with fun and laughter!

Families came out to enjoy Paint, Pic, & Play Night. Each family made a handprint canvas and a unique abstract painting. Then they used props to take fun photos and played some wacky games. (Photos)

~ July 20th and 27th several baptisms were witnessed! It is such an awe moment when we see someone stepping out in obedience and professing their faith in Jesus, committing their life to Him, and being baptized.

Jenny Forrester



~Looking forward to August:

~ August 2nd is our Field-Day Fall Kick-Off where families of all ages will compete in tournament style games such as relay races, water balloon toss, and more!

~ August 3rd is Promotion Sunday and Schedule Change. If your child turned 4 this past year or is moving to 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th, or 9th grade, or has graduated, then promotion to a new class for Sunday School is in order. Our schedule will change to 9am for Children's Sunday School & 10:30am for Children's Church.

~ August 10th, our Children's Church will begin a new curriculum. We will be using Answers Bible Curriculum to study the bible chronologically. During August, the children will start by learning some foundational truths through lessons titled "God's Word Is Our Foundation", "Attributes of God", "We Can Know God Exists", and "The Trinity". We will continue foundational truths for the first 10 weeks, which will set us up for our chronological study.

RISE-UP CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

MEMORY VERSE:

FOREVER, O LORD, YOUR WORD IS FIRMLY FIXED IN THE HEAVENS. YOUR FAITHFULNESS ENDURES TO ALL GENERATIONS: YOU HAVE ESTABLISHED THE EARTH, AND IT STANDS FAST.

(PSALM 119:89-90)

MEMORY VERSE TREASURE CHEST DATES

AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 7

Answers
BIBLE CURRICULUM

SAVE THE DATES:

Answers
BIBLE CURRICULUM

BACKPACKS FOR APPALACHIA DONATIONS IN AUGUST

AUGUST 2: FIELD DAY FALL KICK-OFF 10AM-2PM

AUGUST 3: NEW SCHEDULE & PROMOTION SUNDAY

~ 9AM: CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ~

~ 10:30AM: CHILDREN'S CHURCH ~

AUGUST 17: DEACONS VOTE

AUGUST 20: CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING & AWANA TRAINING

SEPTEMBER 3: OPENING NIGHT OF AWANA

CALL for VOLUNTEERS

Ring..Ring..

Receiver: Hello...

Caller: Hello! Do you know that the Children's Ministry is growing and there is a need for volunteers in the Children's Ministry?

Receiver: Yes, but what does that have to do with me?

Caller: Can you rock a baby?

Receiver: Well, Yes

Caller: Then we have a place for YOU! Can you listen to children recite scripture verses, can you read a lesson to children, play games with children, sing songs, or do crafts?

Receiver: I am sure I can do some of those things.

Caller: Then we have a place for YOU!! Our Children's Ministry is looking for volunteers in various areas within the ministry. On Sunday mornings we need caretakers for the little blessings in our Nursery and Toddler Rooms. We need volunteers to assist teachers during Children's Church by handing out supplies, monitoring the halls, taking children to the restroom, taking attendance, etc. Once a month or once every other month is the request. We also need volunteers for AWANA on Wednesday evenings to disciple clubbers in their walk with God, monitor halls and rooms, or to listen to verses.

So, tell me, do any of these things sound like something God has given you the ability to do?

AWANA REGISTRATION >



Volunteers
needed

Wednesday Night Dinners



Starting September 3rd at 5:00PM

We are still in need of leaders.

We will be holding a meeting August 17th after Second Worship Service in Room 301.

Will you help?

To volunteer contact Tammy at bookkeeper@rbstafford.org.

BACKPACKS



August 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025

CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO HELP

First, choose the way you want to help. There are four ways to help. All ways help the greater need.

PACK A WHOLE BAG

Buy a backpack and fill it with all the supplies on the list. So, the backpack is ready to go.

BUY BULK OF ONE ITEM

Pick one, two, or as many items as you want off the list and buy them in bulk. The items are used to fill the backpacks that are bought by the case.

SUPPLY LIST

- Fill 1 school supply pouch with sharpened #2 pencils, a small sharpener, a pack of colored pencils, ink pens, and a pack of crayons.
- 1 Refillable Water Bottle filled with non-chocolate candy
- 1 Quart-size Ziploc bag with candy treats (non-chocolate)
- 1 Gallon-size Ziploc bag with personal items (toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, travel-sized soap, shampoo)
- 1 Gallon-size Ziploc bag with single-serve food items (cheese crackers, squeeze applesauce, granola bars, animal crackers)
- 1 Set of Winter gloves and hat
- 1 Pack of socks
- Add a personal note/card from you/your family.

OUR GOAL IS 125 BACKPACKS!

VA tax-free weekend is August 1-3!

BUY BACKPACKS IN BULK

Buy a case of backpacks (SBC sells to us for a little under \$3 a bag by the case) for the church to fill with donations that come in from others.

DONATE MONEY TO DESIGNATED BACKPACKS

If shopping is not for you but you still want to help give to the backpack designated fund, then let the church do the shopping and the packing of the bags for you.

OPTIONAL SUPPLY LIST

- 1 Small non-electronic toy (no toy guns or knives)
- Journal, coloring book, Activity book (age-appropriate)
- Kid-themed bandages/Band-aids
- Sunglasses
- Small stuffed animal
- Baseball Cap
- Deflated sports ball and pump.



BOOKKEEPER@RBCSTAFFORD.ORG

Happy Birthday!

August 2
Suzanne Battle
Jamie Sellers

August 3
Patti Walls

August 4
Benjamin Blake
Betty Sharp
John Treida

August 5
Ashley Turman
Kayla White

August 6
Grace Fraley
Joan Nutton

August 7
Tony Sokolowski
Melanie Tutor

August 8
Johnathon Libby
Arthur Limerick

August 10
Chaz Hickcox
Heath Hunter

August 11
Henry Hooke

August 14
Mary Marshall
Thomas Skeer

August 15
Sarah Delano
Joe Pearson

August 16
Megan Williams

August 17
Lauren Bennett
Nancy Bryant
Nathanael Lungoccia

August 19
Rich Mehochko

August 20
Gary Bennett

August 22
Matt Wheeler

August 26
Brenda Ojibway

August 29
Violet Spears

August 30
Cydney Leech

August 31
Shayna Eicher
Linda Rochefort

Hughes Home Riverhouse

Birthdays

Henry Tate
August 8

Brenda Karhan
August 9

Earl Ralph House
August 16

Hilda Motley
August 21

William Hardenburg
August 22

Katherine Young
August 25

David Croner
August 29

Tom Huff
August 30

Ann Richards
August 31

Mail a Card!

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

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– July 21

<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Cemetery Fund</u>
General Fund	<i>Donations:</i>
Designated Fund	<i>Paid out for cemetery upkeep:</i>
Expenses	Mowing
<u>Average Attendance</u>	
Sunday Events	
Wednesday Events	
Other Weekly Events	

Welcome New Members

In Christian Sympathy

Contact Us

Senior Pastor
Dr. Richard Harrell
(540) 659-4588 ext. 3
(540) 484-3948
docharrell@gmail.com

Associate Pastor of Worship
Chuck Hite
(540) 659-4588 ext. 5
(540) 429-4291
worship@rbcstafford.org

Associate Pastor of Students
Position Open
(540) 659-4588 ext. 4
(703) 935-9485
students@rbcstafford.org

Children's Ministry Director
Jenny Forrester
(540) 659-4588 ext. 6
children@rbcstafford.org

Director of Refuge Ministry
Sergio Wooden
(540) 602-7986 ext. 1
(207) 632-8876
counseling@rbcstafford.org

Director of Media and Communication
Jessica Kelley
(540) 659-4588
media@rbcstafford.org

Administrative Assistant
Kati Justice
(540) 659-4588 ext. 2
admin@rbcstafford.org

Financial Ministry Assistant
Tammy Snyder
(540) 659-4588 ext. 7
bookkeeper@rbcstafford.org

Facilities Manager
Jim Garrison
(540) 659-4588 ext. 8
facilities@rbcstafford.org

Associate Counselor
Kim Colson
(540) 602-7986 ext. 2
counseling2@rbcstafford.org

Ways to Give

Online: rbcstafford.org

Download our App:



Mail: 478 Ramoth Church Road, Stafford, VA 22554

New Worship Service & Sunday School Schedule Begins Sunday, August 3, 2025

1st Service 9:00-10:00AM (Adult SS Classes)

Location	Class	Teachers	Curriculum
301	Adult 7	P. Bowman & R. Colson	Explore the Bible/Gospel Project
305	Adult 3	G. Graham	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life
306	Senior Men	K. Knowles	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life
Chapel	Ladies Class	T. Harrell & K. Colson	Gospel of Mark
Fellowship Hall	Adult 5	C. Adams & H. Hunter	Chronological Study through the Bible

2nd Service 10:30-11:30AM (Adult SS Classes)

Location	Class	Teachers	Curriculum
301	Adult 2	G. Bennett	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life
305	Adult 1	P. Johnson & M. Wheeler	Book of Revelation
306	Adult 4	P. Menteer & M. Canter	Lifeway Bible Studies for Life
307	Adult 8	C. Turman & S. Springer	OT Survey: Ezra & Nehemiah
Refuge	Young Adults	M. Sarkissian & N. Ewoldt	Life Change Bible Studies: Job

