



September 2025

Volume 44, Issue 9

Worship Schedule

Wednesdays
5:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6:00 PM AWANA Clubs
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

Church Offices Closed
September 1, 2025
The church offices are closed due to Labor Day.

Vision Virginia Prayer and Offering Week
September 14-21, 2025
Pray about giving to the SBC state missions offering to reinforce their ministries.

Back to Church Sunday
September 21, 2025
To participate in this holiday, invite someone you know back to church.

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*Love God,
Love People,
Change Our World*



Senior Pastor

Greetings,

Food for though, so to speak! I read an interesting little book recently that I want to share a brief paraphrase of the book with you as it deals with everyday life changing situations. And, it deals with change. Once people have embraced a worldview, regardless of what it is, they usually have a challenging time letting it go. The reasons for such are both common and understandable. First, changing worldviews can cause considerable embarrassment for you. Why? Because it involves admitting, even if it's only to yourself, that you may have been wrong. Second, it can be extremely unpopular with others when you appear to change your mind about something. This could possibly bring to you both ridicule and exclusion from people that know you and from places you least expect (from the world and from other believers).

Many times that's one of the reasons atheists are so difficult to reach for the Lord. They have proudly and boldly rejected Jesus and the church, sometimes for many years, and have been very open and boastful about their disbelief. For the vocal atheists to make a realization that if God really does exist, they've been wrong, and in this transition from atheist to Christian, that they will now have personal accountability. This is stated by many who say, more than anything else, this is why so many prefer atheism, no matter how compelling the case against it. There's no one to hold you accountable and many people just do not want to be held accountable for their beliefs or actions.

I'm sure you have witnessed to those who deny that Jesus Christ died for sinners and that we're all sinners and that His death and our acceptance of Him as Lord and Savior frees us from eternal death to eternal life. Let me share a few things about God that might help you witness to such a person, and they might just be a total surprise to them.

Here's just a few things the bible say about God: (1) God is transcendent (supernatural), declaring that not even the heavens can contain Him. (2) God is exceedingly powerful. (3) God is intentional, acting with purpose. (4) God is personal, having a mind that thinks. (5) God is righteous (moral) in all His ways. (6) God keeps His promises. And on and on that list could go.

One thing that many have difficult with is the statement that God is righteous. This not only makes God the most logical source for our objective morality, but it also makes Him the perfect judge of all unrighteousness. God is all knowing and the Psalmist says that He even knows the secret sins of our heart. And this leads us to a really sobering realization. This is a quote from one that I don't know who wrote it: "If our moral standards come from our Creator who is both morally perfect and perfectly just, and if some of our actions are intentionally immoral, our Creator not only has the right to cast righteous judgment on our moral shortcomings, He would disqualify Himself as being perfectly moral if He didn't." For God to overlook a moral trespass (sin) would mean He has a moral flaw, which is decisions and accepting or rejecting changes in our lives, so that we are not caught up in the world or our own personal desires when change comes about in our lives. It could just be the change that God knows we need in our life.

Dr. Richard Harrell



Deacon Ministry

Deacons of the Week

September 7

Jeff Johnson
(540) 836-7535
Chris Turman
(540) 272-1914

September 14

Heath Hunter
(912) 596-8294
Matt Wheeler
(760) 401-4708

September 21

Peter Johnson
(562) 234-0107
Bob Peoples
(540) 226-7083

September 28

Chris Adams
(540) 426-6722
Greg Kolandjian
(617) 799-1391

September through December is my favorite time of year at Ramoth. So many of our annual events and ministries happen during this time. We have the Car Show, Fall Festival, AWANA, Home School, the Widow/Widower luncheon, and Christmas events, to name a few. Right here at Ramoth we get to enjoy legendary apple cider donuts, incredible Christmas music and decorations, and fellowship with friends and neighbors, many of whom are experiencing the wonderfulness of Ramoth for the first time. These ministries have a wide-ranging impact on our county and commonwealth. In a time when many churches are closing, Ramoth is growing and thriving because of God's providence and the outreach ministries we provide.

All these wonderful events and ministries don't magically happen. They happen because we have an army of volunteers responding to God's call on their lives. I challenge each of us to avoid being solely a consumer of Ramoth's wonderful ministries. Be a participant. I got involved in children's ministry because I knew that if I wanted my children to be a part of a great ministry, it would only happen if parents were involved. The same goes for all the ministries. We have several acute volunteer needs at Ramoth. Do you enjoy the music? Ask Pastor Chuck how you can serve. With the Sunday morning schedule change, we need more volunteers in the worship ministry, both on stage and in the sound booth. Do you like that your teens have a safe place to go and activities where they will hear the Word of God? We need additional volunteers in youth ministry.

Don't sit back and say, "That was a great time," and leave. Instead, ask yourself how you can serve in whatever way God has spiritually gifted you. So much of service is simply being available and willing. Don't just consume. Contribute.

Pete Johnson



Exalted Worship Ministry

Jesus Came to Save the World

In *John 3:16* we are told "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." This is the "why" of Jesus' mission. God loves us! His purpose is revealed in *John 3:17*. "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

First, *John 3:17* reveals God's purpose in sending Jesus. Contrary to the expectation that the Messiah would come to judge or punish, Jesus' first coming was motivated by love and a desire to save. The word "condemn" means to declare guilty or to pass sentence. Jesus did not come to bring immediate judgment, but to offer salvation to a world already under the curse of sin (*Romans 3:23; 5:12*). This demonstrates God's mercy and patience, giving people the opportunity to repent and believe (*2 Peter 3:9*).

This idea is missed by so many. The lost are afraid of condemnation. They are afraid of the judgement. They are so afraid that many will lash out at the believer before the "saved" can pass judgement on the "lost." Jesus came first to offer salvation.

This idea was illustrated well during COVID. People were so afraid of being condemned for not following the prescribed cautions to keep from getting COVID that when they got sick, they did so in private and told few, if any, that they had COVID. They were more afraid of the judgement for getting sick than they were of the illness.

Second, the verse emphasizes the universal scope of Christ's mission: "the world might be saved through him." Salvation is not limited by ethnicity, nationality, or background. Jesus is the Savior for all who believe, fulfilling God's promise to bless all nations through Abraham's offspring (*Genesis 12:3; Galatians 3:8*).

No one is left out. It doesn't matter who you are, what you've done, or where you've been. It doesn't matter where you live or where you grew up. It doesn't matter who your parents were or what your social status is. Jesus offers salvation to everyone.

Finally, *John 3:17* highlights the exclusivity of salvation through Christ. The phrase "through him" makes it clear that Jesus is the only way to be reconciled to God (*John 14:6; Acts 4:12*). While God's love is extended to all, only those who trust in Christ receive forgiveness and eternal life. There is no other way. There is no need for scolding, yelling, or judgement. There is just a hard and simple truth. Jesus is the only way. No other way works. It doesn't matter how "good" you are. It doesn't matter how much "good" you do. It doesn't matter how many people you love or care for. Without Jesus, there is no way to the Father.

To sum it up, *John 3:17* beautifully encapsulates the gospel: God's loving initiative, the offer of salvation to all, and the necessity of faith in Jesus. It calls every person to respond to God's grace, turning from sin and trusting in Christ alone for salvation (*Ephesians 2:8-9*).

Do you get it? Are you afraid of the judgement? Don't be. Everyone here is a sinner who has been forgiven. The consequence of sin is death, but the benefit of following Jesus is life. Everyone makes a choice. In the end there is judgement or forgiveness. Which one would you like to take with you when you meet Jesus. I chose forgiveness.



Pastor Chuck Hite



Refuge Ministry

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we greet in you love and peace. As we said in last month's article, we are entering into a terribly busy time of year. It's not just a busier time with school restarting, activities beginning, and major events happening. It's a busier time because it is now that the seasons begin to change, moods shift, and there are thoughts about how the year will end. While we are not quite there, yet. There are a number of things that our minds shift to, and they require our attention.

We think about the lengthy list of things that we set out to accomplish at the beginning of the year. How well have we done in our efforts? Did we hit the mark or are we a long way off? Did we ponder holiday arrangements, to include whose parents we will visit and for how long? Or is it that we are thinking about who will be coming to our homes? Then there are the concerns about the weather and all the things that go along with it.

However, what are any of these thoughts really about? Are all of our thoughts, in the coming days, about our plans, our goals, our desires? As we entertain those thoughts, let us ponder a few more. Has God approved those plans? Are they in alignment with the thoughts and plans, He has for us. What about those goals, do they serve to bring honor and glory to God? Or are they self-serving and leading towards our worldly fulfillment? What then about those desires, are they rooted in the desires of the Lord or are they desires that grow from dark places?

This line of inquiry was designed to cause us to pause for a moment as we enter into this much busier time. That pause is for us to reconsider our motivations and the things that we are driven to do. What should we be thinking about first? **Matthew 6:34-35** would be a suitable place to start. It reads, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."³⁴ Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Seeking God's kingdom before the world is always a grand place to start and it assures that we are in alignment with God.

Where should we go from there, you ask? Simple, read the instructions that we are given in **Psalms 16:2-4**. It speaks to us like so, "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."³ Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established."⁴ The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble." Take what you have deemed worthy of doing and present to God for approval and if not approved, acknowledge that God is sovereign and knows what is best for us. In this you will avoid the wick days of unnecessary trouble.

And then we should follow things up with what? Glad you asked, we will find the answer in **Proverbs 3:5-6**. This guidance is as follows, for all of us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;"⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." This makes it clear that we should be trusting God in all things. And more importantly when we do trust God will take care of the rest. This is incredibly reassuring when there are too many things going on and we are getting overwhelmed.

We presented these thoughts and answers, because when things get too busy we often forget where to look for help. Sometimes we think our issues are too trivial for God. Other times we think that we have everything under control. Even still, in other moments we think that if we compartmentalize things, they will just go away. But in any of these situations, the answer is not what we can do in our own power, but what can God do in all of His power and authority? If you are ever struggling and looking for answers, encouragement or support, we are here. We are readily available, Monday through Thursday, from 9 am until 5 pm, and then on Fridays 9 am 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. Remember, my hope is built on nothing less, Jesus' blood and righteousness.

Your Brother in Christ,

Sergio "Woody" Wooden



Operation Christmas Child

We will kick-off our season of collecting items for this outreach effort. Things that we could use: School Supplies, Personal Care Items, Accessories, Small Toys, and "WOW" Items...

This is just one of the ways that you can help this year. We would love for Sunday School class families, or individuals to consider sponsoring a number of shoeboxes towards our goal of 150.

You can also be part of the gathering that will take place in October when we put the shoeboxes together and pray over them. There will be more information about that in the weeks to come.

If you have any questions please contact Sergio "Woody" Wooden or Kim Colson at (540) 602-7986. This outreach is sponsored by the Acts 1:8 Missions Team.



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 on Mondays 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 is on **Tuesdays at 6:00PM**.

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
September 9th and 23rd at 1:00PM in Rm 306.

Women's Ministry

In His Presence (Part 2)

Last month we learned the importance of heart-driven obedience so that we are not like the horse or mule that must have a bit and bridle, or it will not obey (Psalm 32:8-9). We also recalled the life of David and how he understood the importance of acknowledging his sin and receiving God's forgiveness. Here is Part 2 of In His Presence:

"Because she is well-trained."

The words Ellie spoke about her horse, Whisper, played again in my mind as I thought about what God desires for His children. I wanted to be *well-trained* in my relationship with God and to please Him through my actions. First, I needed to obey the first and greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36-38). Loving Christ with my whole heart, soul and mind meant that I would also need to become intentional with the following:



1. Daily spend time with Him by reading His Word and praying (through personal Quiet Time).
2. Meditate on Scripture.
3. Pay attention to the Holy Spirit's guidance, promptings, convictions, nudges, etc. and obey right away.
4. Confess and repent of sin and ask Him to renew a right spirit within me.
5. Accept His forgiveness, discipline, and correction as part of my life-long training.

These practices became my daily training with the Master. This is what it meant to abide in Christ, and the training did not cease.

In seeking to love Christ with my whole heart, soul, and mind, I also desire to share these practices with others so that they too can walk in obedience to God's commands and live abundantly. I want others to experience His kindness that leads to repentance (Romans 2:4), knowing that He is faithful and just to forgive and to cleanse from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).



Forgiveness is a gift from a compassionate and loving Father. He desires to forgive us, but when we refuse to listen, it can hinder our prayers and prevent us from hearing Him. Also, the consequences may have lasting effects. "What we refuse to learn through instruction, God may teach us through struggle," says author and Bible teacher, Wayne Stiles. "God's Word is our teacher-a great teacher- but struggle is a substitute teacher."

God's Word clearly states to not be like the horse or mule who must be controlled by the bit and bridle. He desires a teachable spirit, and obedience is the mark of every transformed believer. When we spend time in His presence and heed His commands, we become more than well-trained followers of Jesus. We become willing vessels ready to be used for His kingdom and for His glory.

Ellie returned to the barn for her lesson on Whisper. This time her horse did not need to be led to the round pen to release energy. Tacked with saddle, bit, and bridle, she was ready. Whisper's calm demeanor

revealed that she had been regularly training with the instructor.

I listened carefully when Mr. Bill said that his chief goal in training a horse is to develop a positive relationship so that there is no need for the whip AT ALL! Instead, his goal is to instruct using only his body, his hand movements, and really, just *his very presence*.

"Hmm." I pondered. "*His very presence*."

Prayer: Gracious Heavenly Father, You are my Counselor who instructs me in the way I should go. You love me with everlasting love. You call me your child, and you impart wisdom and understanding. Forgive me when I have chosen my own desires over your will and when I have not kept your commands. You tell me in your Word how to live for you and you promise to help me live for you. Help me to yield to you. Help me to confess my sin to you as you convict my heart. Help me change so that I can be used by you. Give ME **heart-driven obedience** and help me become a woman after your heart. Amen.

Melody Hunter

Upcoming Events:

Fall FIT Workshops are starting up again!! Keep an eye out for upcoming workshops (see below) and the complete Fall calendar at the Women's Ministry table or online.

Sunday, Sept 7th: 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!



Sept 2nd, 4th, 6th, 9th & 11th: Beauty for Ashes Workdays

Location: Beauty for Ashes Women's and Children's Home 6806 River Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407
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. **Signup:** <https://forms.gle/R6yvwPs7vnuZdvg9A> or on the Women's Ministry page

Tuesdays, Sept 2nd & 16th & 30th: Prayer Group

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

Time: 6:00PM

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



Sat, Sep 13th: Adult and Teen Challenge VA Run/Walk for Hope 5K

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

Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM

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

Come out for a morning of running or walking as we support ATCVA and bring more awareness to their ministry. You can also find the link on the Women's Ministry page.





Sat, Sep 13th (Oct-Nov-Dec TBD): FIT Workshop – Fiber & Fellowship

Location: RBC Fellowship Hall

Time: 10:00AM-12:00PM

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 this fall as we create baby items for IMGNLife. 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 natasha25461@gmail.com.



Saturday, Oct 18th Graves Mountain Apple Harvest Festival

Location: Graves Mountain

Time: 10:00AM-5:00PM

Prime Timers and Women's Ministry are sponsoring a fun filled day at Grave's Mountain Apple Harvest Festival. The busses will leave the church at 10:00am and return approximately 5:00pm. Admission is \$5.00 and the buffet lunch at the lodge is \$25.00. Space on the busses are limited and lunch reservations at the lodge are required. Sign-up in the foyer or online to reserve your spot today!! For more information visit <https://gravesmountain.com>



Save the Date

Sat, Oct 4th IMGN Life Walk 4 Life

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

Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM



Save the Date

Fri, Oct 10th: FIT Workshop – Walk & Worship

Location: Please contact Suzanne Battle at 540-903-7096 for address.

Time: 4:00PM-6:00PM

Join your sisters in Christ for a walk of prayer, reflection on scriptures along park-like trails and a devotional around the fire pit. May it strengthen your physical & spiritual heart for Jesus, boost your mood and reduce anxiety! (Three times around on the trails is a little over a mile. All are welcome to come sit by the fire pit, reflect & fellowship even if you are unable to walk the trails!) * **Bring a lawn chair to gather around the fire pit for devotional & prayer time.**

Save the Date

Fri, Oct 24th: Choices Women's Center Baby Memorial

Location: Riddick House at Stevenson Ridge, 6901 Meeting St, Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Time: 6:00PM-7:00PM

RSVP by October 17, 2025, by emailing Choices@CWCVA.ORG

Please join Choices Women's Center for a time of reflection as we gather to remember all babies who have passed on, regardless of circumstances. This sacred time will give families an opportunity to honor their baby(ies) by lighting a candle in their memory, and to say a few words if they so choose.



Save the Date

Sat, Nov 1st RBC Fall Festival Volunteer Opportunities – Look for more information coming soon!

Location: RBC

Time: 11:00AM-3:00PM

Save the Date

Sat, Nov 8th: FIT Workshop – Women's Health

Location: RBC Fellowship Hall

Time: 10:00AM-12:00PM

Needs and Thank You's!

Needs:

We are always looking for new ideas for F.I.T. Workshops to add to our 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.) please reach out to the Women's Ministry. Any and all ideas are welcome!



Thank you's:

Thank you for all of your help with the Christmas in July Food Drive! The RMC Pantry is so grateful for your support as we minister to the community as a church family! Together we generated 2,300lbs of donations! Praise the Lord and thank you for your faithfulness and willingness to support this wonderful ministry!

Thank you to all the ladies who came out to help serve at the concessions stand at the Fred Nat's game last month to support Choices Women's Center. It was a great night of fun, fellowship and service and we raised \$481.22 to support the center and ladies of our community to choose life!



Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and amazing skill to make almost 150 hats for Backpacks for Appalachia! Every child will be blessed by your hard work and dedication, you are very appreciated!

Thank you to all who came out for a great night of food and fun at the Fred Nat's ball game! We look forward to continuing to partner with Prime Timers for future events to get to know each other better as a church family and foster unity and community!

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

A Fun Night at the Fred Nat's Game!!



Integritas Men's Ministry

1. Taking care of your family (Part 3). We've talked about documents and home First Aid. **Weather** is probably the most frequent thing people are concerned with. Preparing doesn't take much. Just a little awareness & forethought.

Ramoth Inclement Weather Policies. Condensed: Stafford Public Schools closed - Ramoth is closed.

Cancellations: RBC's Website, FB, emails & text. Sunday cancellations - Radio (93.3 WFLS; 99.3 The Vibe; 90.5 WPER)

Or, call RBC -540-659-4588 and press 1.

Weather preparedness sites

<https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather>

<https://ph.health.mil/topics/emergencyresponse/Pages/default.aspx>

Survival Food Supply sites

<https://products.4patriots.com/food/4week-bogo/double-your-calories?>

<https://www.beprepared.com/>

DO IT!

2. Basics: The 10 Commandments - #9 — Thou shall not lie. As we continue to build the horizontal piece of the cross, we add the 9th Commandment. Are there "unspoken lies". Lies don't have to be spoken to have impact. Is there such a thing as "white lies"?

3. An easy way to learn and remember the 10 Commandments. This Instagram came up. Using your fingers to count and make an image memory, you can learn the 10 Commandments in just few minutes and remember them much longer. Watch and learn: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DLz8fbFs-AQ/?>

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.



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.

Sep 2025—We will be continuing to study Isaiah. There is much to learn about Israel, their future & our own future—The Millenium and The Kingdom



Iron Sharpens Iron

September 1st & 15th 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.

Join us for fellowship.

Every Man a Warrior

Sunday 5:00PM and 6:30PM - 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

philliphhunter38@gmail.com

Tim Eicher (540) 907-1545

teicher93@gmail.com



The Ten Commandments – 9th Commandment – Exodus 20:16
You shall not lie.

The positive side – **Tell the Truth** or **Let your word be honorable**

In America today, two out of three people believe that nothing is wrong with telling a lie. Their thought is, “It really doesn’t hurt anybody.” This runs along the same line that people regard sin, or, with many today, disregard sin. Doing wrong is a sin; not doing right is a sin as well. Again the 9th Commandment, is like two sides to the same coin. Remember, we can always see that there are two views of every commandment. What we see as the negative – *Don’t Lie*, also has a positive side – *Tell the truth*. So, just as it is a sin to tell an outright lie, it is also a sin to know the truth and not tell it. Not speaking a truth you know when you know it should be told – is it a lie. It all comes back to being honest with the truth to start with.

Wait a minute, what about “White Lies”? Are White lies Okay? Aren’t they protecting someone or just not hurting their feelings? The problem here is that “Little White Lies” tend to grow up, and when they do, they cause havoc and pain in our lives. Then, we must either tell more lies - or bigger lies - or more bigger lies to cover our other lies. Plus, we must remember the lies we’ve told and who we told them to. Besides being so dishonest, that’s a whole lot of work with a pile of anxiety added to it wondering if you’ll be found out. And, it’s all about your reputation, your name and perhaps the reputation of someone else.

There are opinions, ideas and impressions attached to your name. The NKJV has 1013 uses of “name”. Scripture says that *“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold.” Prov 22:1* And then there’s the two paths for a name - *The memory of the righteous is blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot. Prov 10:7*

Now we arrive at a question many of us have heard and perhaps have either forgotten or do not know where it came from. So, most of you probably wouldn’t guess that I was an English major. (I’m still larnin’ to speak it I recon’.) However, I do remember a little Shakespeare. Romeo & Juliet, to be specific. Jacob Nimeth, remember what Juliet said of Romeo? In the famous speech of Act II, Scene II of the play, the line is said by Juliet in reference to Romeo’s house: *Montague*. The line implies that his name (and thus his family’s feud with Juliet’s family) means nothing and because the name means nothing to her, they should be together. The line by Juliet reads: *“What’s in a name? That which we call a rose By any other name would smell as sweet;”* The idiom, ‘What’s in a name?’ is one that dates back to the 16th and 17th centuries. The era Shakespeare was writing. (If you’ve ever said it, I bet you didn’t know you were quoting Shakespeare!) The question itself is reflecting on someone’s title, rank, family designation or station. The deeper view of the question is whether a name is one that is deserved or can be trusted. Is it a meaningful name or does it have no value? What is the implication of that name? What gives it value? Can the name and what it stands for be trusted? While Juliet was saying that her name had nothing to do with who she was, it was the beauty and aroma or fragrance of a rose are the same no matter what name you assign it.

Then the question becomes, what name should we be running to? *The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe. Prov 18:10* Our Lord and Savior, Jesus is the one we should be running toward. When we become a New Creation in Christ, we take on a new name. We are adopted into God’s family. We actually take on a fragrance, too. *For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. 2 Cor 2:15.* Are you being the fragrance of Christ before others? Do people see Christ in your daily life. Men, are you reflecting Christ to your family as you lead them. We should be truthful in a world that is questioning truth. Point them to Jesus. Point them to The Truth in Scripture where He said, *“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father but thru me.” John 14:7* Spread His fragrance. Give Glory to His Name!

Rod Montgomery



Prime Timers Ministry

HARVEST TIME

Looking so forward to our Fall upcoming events. Please watch your calendars close and join us in our upcoming luncheons and events. Come and bring a friend. All are welcome.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18th

12:00PM Noon

Fried Chicken and Mashed Potatoes (supplied by Prime Timers)

Please come, bring a side dish and/or dessert.

Speaker is Pastor Chuck Hite

Hosted by Virginia Armstrong and Helen Young

Lots of fun, Lots of Singing, Gift drawing every month

EVENT IN OCTOBER:

Prime Timers and Women’s Ministry are sponsoring a fun filled day at Grave’s Mountain Apple Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 18. The busses will leave at 10:00 AM and return approximately 5:00 PM. Admission is \$5.00 and buffet lunch at the lodge is \$25.00. Space on the bus is limited and lunch reservations at the lodge are required. A sign-up sheet is available at the Women’s Ministry table in the foyer. For more information, visit Grave’s Mountain website at <https://gravesmountain.com>. Or contact Pachess Wooden, Denise Johnson, or Linda Buckles.

Plan for this and get and come enjoy the festivities with us.

The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest. Matthew 9:37-38

Blessings,

Margaret Canter





Rise-up Children's Ministry

Cave of Wonders


Dear Church Family,

For the fourth year in a row, I had the opportunity to spend my summer as the Children's Ministry Intern. It may have only been ten short weeks, but those ten weeks held so many amazing things. Over those ten weeks, I helped plan and implement Vacation Bible School, helped with some housekeeping in the Children's Ministry, and had the opportunity to review the new children's church curriculum.

My summer began by jumping straight into the planning for Vacation Bible School. Many people have heard me say this before, but VBS is my favorite week of the year. I love watching our church come together over two amazing, chaotic, wonderful weeks.

First, volunteers of all ages came together to transform the church building into a new setting for VBS. VBS is about so much more than decorations, but I love the way our volunteers manage to create the sensation of a new environment and give the kids the impression that they are starting an adventure somewhere new. We had so many helpers working to decorate the church building, from some of the kids who would attend VBS the next week to our senior saints. I am so thankful for all the time and effort everyone put in to bringing our theme to life.

The second week, we had volunteers from sixth grade to senior saints working together to lead the kids through VBS and into a closer relationship with God. Each of our volunteers was so amazing to sacrifice their time and energy to helping this week. Some people took the week off to serve. Others took half-days to serve in the morning before going to work in the afternoon. Still others worked all day before arriving at the church by six to serve at our first-ever evening VBS. Everyone made sacrifices in order to be there that week, and I am so grateful for everyone who did – we couldn't have done it without them.



This year, we traveled to the northernmost parts of the United States – to Alaska – where we all learned to “trust Jesus in a wild world.” VBS reminded us again and again that Jesus is our True North, the one thing that we can always rely on to show us the way. It is so amazing to see the kids spending the week learning about God, and I was overjoyed to see so many kids identify Jesus as their True North and ask Him into their hearts.

Our new children's church curriculum started on the second Sunday in August. Our first monthly memory verse was Psalm 119:89-90:

“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.” This verse tied in so well to our VBS theme.

“The Word became flesh and dwelt among us...” (John 1:14) and the “... Word is firmly fixed in the heavens” (Psalm 119:89). Jesus is our North Star, guiding us ever onward in the way that we should go. We can trust Jesus because He is trustworthy, because His “faithfulness endures to all generations” (Psalm 119:90).

It isn't just the children who got something out of VBS. Every year, VBS has something to teach me, too. I've been struggling with figuring out my path in life recently, and while I still don't know exactly where God is leading me, VBS was a great reminder that all I have to do is trust Jesus, and the new memory verse just reinforced that. I don't need to see the path or know the destination. All I have to do is follow my True North and He will lead me where He wants me to go.

It was so wonderful working as the children's ministry intern. Thank you to Dr. Richard and Jenny Forrester for allowing me to take up this role again. I'll still be around as a volunteer for now, until God leads me further on the path He has decided for me.

Agape,
Tiffany Truax

• AWANA

September

3 ~ Opening Night

10 ~ Beach Night

17 ~ Regular Club

24 ~ Club in the Dark

Children's Church

September 7:

God's Word Guides Us

September 14:

God Preserves His Word

September 21:

God's Word is Complete

September 28:

Don't Change God's Word

• RUHM

Homeschool Ministry will begin on September 4th with 2 sessions.

There will be a morning and an afternoon session.

Children's Ministry

• Needs

Toddler/Nursery could use some gently used clothes for boys and girls to have on hand if the need arises.

• Upcoming

Mark your calendars:

October 25: Car Show

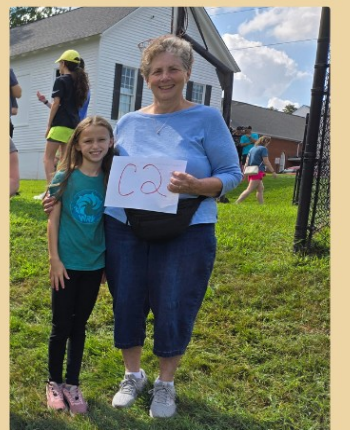
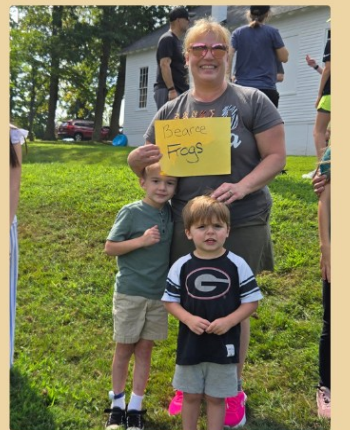
November 1: Fall Festival

• Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

Jenny Forrester

Field Day Fall Kick-Off
Obstacle Course Relay Race
Water Balloon Toss
Hoola Hoop Challenge
Lunch
Axe Throwing
Parachute Color Combo
4-Legged Race
Bubble Battle
4-Way Tug-O-War





Wednesday Night Dinners

Wednesday Night Dinner Are Back!

The first dinner of the season is Wednesday, September 3 at 5:00 PM. Sign up for the first dinner by Monday, September 1 at 5:00 PM.

For the rest of the dinners make sure to register for the dinner the Monday right before it at 5:00 PM on the church website or by calling the church office.

If you have questions or need help registering, contact Tammy Snyder at bookkeeper@rbcstafford.org or by calling the church office.

Menu:

September 3

Scott Family- Hamburgers and Hotdogs, Baked Beans, Chips and Cookies

September 10

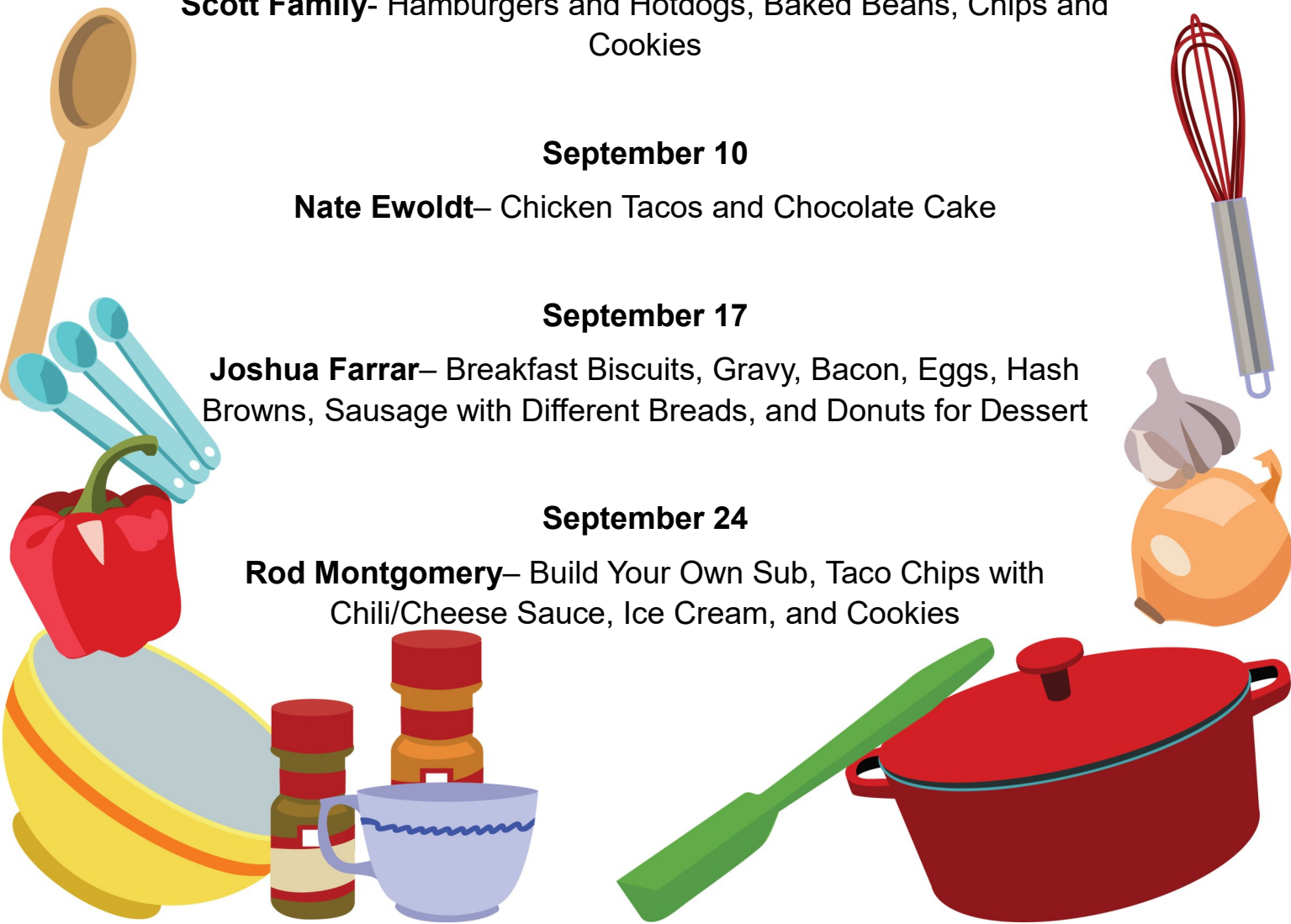
Nate Ewoldt- Chicken Tacos and Chocolate Cake

September 17

Joshua Farrar- Breakfast Biscuits, Gravy, Bacon, Eggs, Hash Browns, Sausage with Different Breads, and Donuts for Dessert

September 24

Rod Montgomery- Build Your Own Sub, Taco Chips with Chili/Cheese Sauce, Ice Cream, and Cookies



BACKPACKS

Thank you for your donations!

OUR GOAL IS 125 BACKPACKS!

Thank you for your donations to fill backpacks for the students in the Appalachia Region. The church's goal is 125 backpacks. On September 14th after second service, we will be having a family friendly backpack packing party with refreshments sponsored by Acts 1:8 Ministry in the Fellowship Hall and shortly after we will have a count to see if we beat our goal. If you still need to turn in your backpacks and/or donations, please do that as soon as possible so we can have an accurate count and make sure it is delivered on time. Check the Supply List for any last minute donations.

DID WE MEET OUR GOAL?

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.

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.



Tammy Snyder

BOOKKEEPER@RBCSTAFFORD.ORG

Happy Birthday!

September 1
Susi Knowles

September 13
Hannah Hill
Khloe Jackson

September 26
Sharon Montgomery
Karleen Sullivan

September 2
Katelyn Skidmore

September 14
Beren Farrar

September 27
Chris Hudson
Jeanie Pritchett

September 3
Kim Colson
Trish Daely
Deborah Robinson

September 17
Julia Nimeth
Jackson Schneider

September 28
Ashley Montgomery

September 4
Fiona Farrar
Ashur Hickcox

September 18
Bethany Lies
Elizabeth Rice

September 30
Wyatt Delano
Joyce Vinson

September 5
Chad Kuczka

September 21
Claire Rogers

September 6
Kaitlyn Scott

September 22
Melody Hunter
Melissa Musselman
Jace Williams

September 7
Amber Adams
Paula Menteer

September 23
Lillian Gordon (104)
Helen Young

September 8
Mackenzie Hudson

September 11
Chris Turman

September 24
Emily Hooke
Ben Raines

September 12
Dr. Richard Harrell
Jeffrey Smith

September 25
Chuck Embrey

Hughes Home Riverhouse

Birthdays

Updated birthdays have not been shared with Ramoth Baptist Church.

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– August 25

Offerings

General Fund

Designated Fund

Expenses

Average Attendance

Sunday Events

Wednesday Events

Other Weekly Events

Cemetery Fund

Donations:

Paid out for cemetery upkeep:

Welcome New Members

In Christian Sympathy

New Worship Service & Sunday School Schedule

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	Journey thru Scripture: Book of Revelation

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
Chapel	Young Adults	M. Sarkissian & N. Ewoldt	Life Change Bible Studies: Job

Contact Us

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Director of Refuge Ministry

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Ways to Give

Online: rbcstafford.org

Download our App:



Mail: 478 Ramoth Church Road, Stafford, VA 22554

