



# The Messenger

Volume 14, Issue 2

June 2009

## From the Pastor's Desk

### LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO

There seems to be so much "bad news" these days. There are constant reports of bank failures, bankruptcy among the nation's top auto makers, home foreclosures, job losses, the senseless taking of human lives, etc. The list seems endless. One is made to wonder sometimes, "Is there any good news anywhere?"



In a world filled with so much uncertainty, it is often tempting to throw one's hands up and simply "give up the good fight of faith." However, in the face of seemingly impossible odds, you and I are encouraged to "be strong and very courageous." This is the encouragement Joshua received from God as he prepared to take leadership of the nation of Israel after the death of God's servant, Moses. This is the same encouragement that comes to you and me during these times of uncertainty, from the very same God.

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## The Rev. Ronald Stroy: Transformed by God by Lawrence Smith



*My aunt used to tell me, "don't let other people predict my future. I listened to that down the road..."*

The Rev. Ronald Stroy was born August 7, 1971 in Columbus, Georgia. There he attended school, played ball and lived with his parents. "Columbus was not a really big city; it was an 'adult city' providing a lot of time for young people to get in trouble." It was in the streets of Columbus that Ronald Stroy became what he called a "troubled teen." "Children want to be like the people they see in the community who drive the nice cars, wear the expensive clothes and have all the women. They are not always aware of what goes on behind the scenes, what has to be done to maintain the lifestyle that catches their eye. When you don't want to take the route of education, the call of the streets leads to trouble."

For so many years people told Ronald that he was going to be dead by 18. He heard so much negative talk; yet, he has an aunt who continued to tell him that he could change his life if he did not let people predict his future.

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## **Pastor's Desk (continued from page 1)**

As a people of faith, and a people of color, we are, in a very real sense, not unaccustomed to times of uncertainty and difficulty. Ours is a very rich history and heritage which documents our many successful struggles through adversities. A retrospective look back reveals that we were successful only because we had a strong God at our sides, directing us every step of our way. The song writer Isaac Watts was correct as he penned the great hymn of the church, "Amazing Grace," "Thro' many dangers, toils and snares we have already come. It was grace that brought us safe this far, and grace will lead us home" (paraphrased). It has been by the grace of God that we are where we are now, and it will certainly be God's grace that will lead us to where God wants us to be.

We are encouraged in these economically stressed times, these times of so much uncertainty, to trust in our God Who is not constrained by the circumstances that confront us, nor is He limited in His ability to "make a way out of no way." You and I are able to rejoice in spite of what the situations are because we know that God is ultimately in charge. While we are incapable of many things in and of our own strength, we know from personal experience that we "can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us."

As the redeemed of the Lord, you and I are encouraged to tell a dying and disparaging world that the answer to this world's problems resides in the One Who made the world in the first place. With God on our side we are able to make it through these times and whatever other times we might have to face in the future. While others may be in great despair, let us, the children of God, rejoice and thank God for His presence with us. God truly is the center of our joy. We will not allow Satan to steal that joy from us. To God be the glory for the great things He has done and is still doing! Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

## **RICHMONDERS INVOLVED TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITIES (RISC)**

by Virginia Lynch

On April 20, 2009, Good Shepherd Baptist was the host of the annual Nehemiah Action meeting for a group of congregations called RISC or **Richmonders Involved to Strengthen our Communities**. RISC works to bring congregations together to answer the call in Micah 6:8 to "do justice" and get to the root causes of some serious community problems.

Good Shepherd joined RISC last fall and had over 200 people at the Nehemiah Action. All together, there were over 1,000 diverse representatives from 16 area congregations at the Nehemiah Action. There, we received commitments from Mayor Dwight Jones to support funding for an evidence-based substance abuse treatment program in the Richmond City Jail and commitments from VCU Health System to make primary care more accessible for the low income uninsured using \$108 million dollars of state and federal funds made available to VCU to compensate their care for the uninsured.

Over the summer, RISC will be conducting an Investment Drive to continue our work together and will begin conversations to discuss community concerns as priorities are set for the year at the Annual Assembly in the Fall. To get more involved with RISC, please contact Pastor Smith, Audrey Hawkes, or the RISC office (497-4777).

### **Rev. Stroy: Transformed by God (from page 1)**

Rev. Stroy's day of reckoning came at the age of 21. Ronald was badly injured, stabbed for something he did when he was 18. His take on the stabbing is "you reap what you sow." While in the hospital, faced with surgery and the loss of his gall bladder, Ronald realized that he did not want to die, he wanted to live! Prayer changes things and Ronald's life from then on took a very different direction.

Rev. Stroy says that it was the divine intervention of God in his life that took him from being a "troubled teen," to a minister of the Gospel who did ministry with teens. Ronald accepted his call to the ministry in 2000, responding to a voice he had been hearing since 1996. He joined the Temple of Glory Community Church in Savannah, Georgia where he was licensed into the ministry by Bishop Matthew Odum in August of 2005. While at the Temple of Glory, Rev. Stroy served as the Youth Pastor from 2005-2007, serving over 300 youth.

Bishop Odum suggested that Ronald volunteer with "troubled teens" and it was in that environment that Ronald's "calling" became apparent to him. Rev. Stroy feels called to work with troubled teenagers with a light for change. The experiences of his teen years allow him to relate to teenagers who should not let other people predict their future. Currently, Ronald is a staff supervisor for Intercept Youth, an assessment home for troubled boys ages 10 - 18. In this organization Ronald lives out his calling daily.

Rev. Stroy says that he "loves his life" because there were times when he did not think he could have the life that he lives today. Rev. Stroy met his wife, LaShirl, in Columbus. LaShirl grew up in GSBC and is the daughter of our own Mrs. Nellie Jones.

Ronald and LaShirl were married at Good Shepherd on April 25, 1997. (Ronald remembers almost passing out in Pastor Smith's study on his wedding day.)

Ronald and LaShirl are the proud parents of two children, Destinie, age 9, and Ronald, Jr., age 3. The Stroy family relocated to Richmond and joined GSBC where Ronald is currently serving as the co-director of the Youth Fellowship and is the newest Associate Minister.



### **YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

The Youth Fellowship would like to congratulate the following High School seniors who are active in this ministry:

Anthony Brown - James River HS

Malcolm Harris - Highland Springs HS

Michael Harris - Highland Springs HS

Jessica Rumph - Highland Springs HS

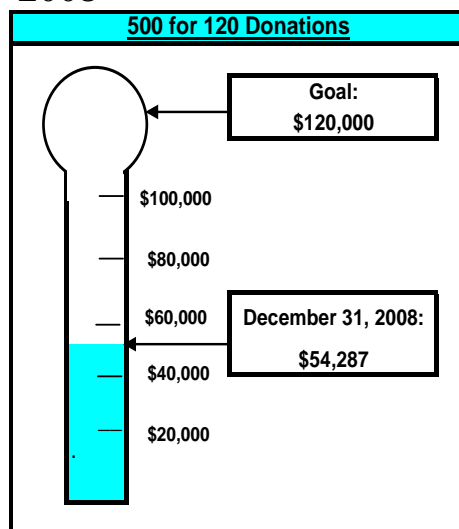
Tiffany Shell - L. C. Bird HS

LeSean Wimberly - Henrico HS

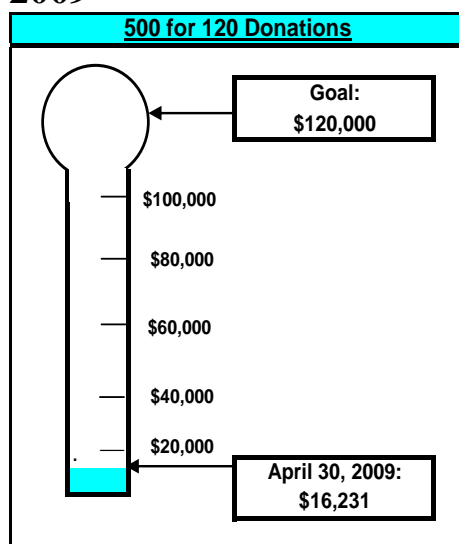
**!!! CONGRATULATIONS !!!**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**2008**



**2009**



500 for 120 contributions totaled \$54,287 in 2008. We have received over \$16,000 in 500 for 120 contributions so far in 2009. Continue to give your inspired offerings as we maintain God's house and glorify God's name!

**THE MID-YEAR CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING** will be held on Monday, June 29, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. on Level B. Please be present to receive updates on our progress and insight on where we stand at this time. Bring your questions and suggestions.

## **ARE WE OUR BROTHERS' KEEPER? YES WE ARE.**

The Trustee Ministry would like to supply food, periodically, to persons who may have a temporary need. It's only because of God's grace that we may not be in need ourselves at this time as we experience a stressed economy. Labeled boxes have been placed in the lobby and on Level B for donations of can goods and other non-perishable foods.

The Trustee Outreach Committee will prepare as many gift bags of groceries as possible and distribute them in the near future to persons who have a temporary need. Please be generous and help bless others as God continues to bless us.

## **SHARING GOD'S HOUSE**

The Lord has blessed us with this beautiful structure called Good Shepherd Baptist Church in which to fellowship with one another, study and spread His word, and reach out to the community.

One way of serving the community is allowing the occasional rental of our building to community organizations, individuals, and members of Good Shepherd. There will be guidelines and the rentals will not interfere with Good Shepherd's activities.

Methods of communicating the availability of our church building and all we have to offer are aggressively being sought.

Check us out on MySpace, Twitter and Face Book!

## **NEW THERMOSTATS**

Programmable thermostats, which can only be operated by the building managers, have been installed throughout the church. The hope is that this will eliminate the fluctuating temperatures throughout the building to ensure our comfort.

## **BOWLING CHALLENGE**

Several Trustees participated in the Bowling Challenge sponsored by the Men's Fellowship on June 13, 2009. A great time was had with members of the other ministries of the church. It was good exercise and fun! Trustees are looking forward to doing it again.

Enjoy your summer!

## **DEACONS' MINISTRY**

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from the Deacons' Ministry. God continues to bless our ministry and our church and He is given the glory, honor, and praise.

The Deacons' Ministry has recommended the creation of a Pallbearers' Ministry for the church. A list of members willing to be pallbearers will be solicited. Deacons will continue to serve at funerals; however, sometimes extra help is needed with providing pallbearers. When requests are made to the church for pallbearers, persons on the list will be contacted until the request is fulfilled.

The first birthday gathering was held on April 19, 2009. Many persons attended and honorees had a good time and enjoyed the snacks. During the ice breaker, attendees talked to the person who sat next to them and presented that person to the group. The next birthday celebration for persons born in May, June, July and August is scheduled for August 16, 2009 following morning worship service.

*Family Night Dinner* was held on Friday, May 1, 2009. Members who attended wore the colors designated for their age group and shared their talents.



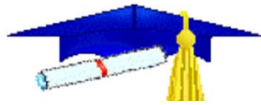
The Outreach Committee will participate in a cell phone donation program to collect old cell phones for victims of domestic abuse. Sargeant Adams of the City of Richmond Police Department spoke to the congregation on Sunday June 7, 2009 about this recycling program. Please place your old cell phones in the box located in the lobby.

The church visitation ministry has expanded to include the deacons, deaconesses and associate ministers. The ministries rotate between homes and nursing homes/hospitals every two weeks. Please continue to call the church office if you would like to be on the visitation list or are admitted to the hospital.

A luncheon for Pastor and Mrs. Smith's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Good Shepherd was held at the Crowne Plaza, 6531 W. Broad Street on June 27, 2009 from 12:00 noon – 3:00 pm. The speaker for June 28, 2009, Pastor and Mrs. Smith's Anniversaray Sunday, was the Rev. Dr. Wallace Cook, Pastor Emeritus of Ebenezer Baptist Church.



## GOOD SHEPHERD'S 2009 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



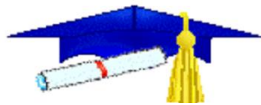
### BRITTANY D. BALLARD

**Graduating from:** Henrico High

**Grandparents:** Webster and Delores Ballard

**Accomplishments:** Awarded Perfect Attendance, member of the Child Care/ Day Care program at her school, enjoys working with children.

**Future Plans:** Aspiration is to be a Pediatric Nurse and study Early Childhood Education



### ANTHONY RUDOLPH BROWN

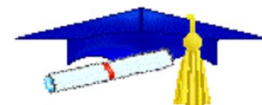
**Graduating from:** James River High

**Parents:** J. Rudy & Angela Brown

**Accomplishments:** Member of the Football Team-Varsity Letter Junior/Senior (2 way starter senior year), Track-Varsity Letter Junior, Baseball-JV Letter Sophomore, Spanish Club, FBLA Club, Perfect Attendance 3 of 4 years, and Honor Roll. A member of GSBC's Youth Usher Board.

**Future Plans:** Attend John Tyler Community College; after earning an Associate's Degree in Business, transfer to Old Dominion, with a major in Business Administration -Finance

**Aspiration:** To own a successful business/ coach high school football



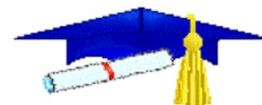
### MALCOLM J. HARRIS

**Graduating from:** Highland Springs High, 3.9 GPA

**Parents:** Malcolm and Michele Harris

**Accomplishments:** Member of the Wrestling Team, National Honor Society, BETA Club, Math Honor Society, and Center for Engineering. A member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church's Youth Usher Board and Youth Fellowship (Vice President). Participated in the Step Team at St. Paul's Church.

**Future Plans:** Attend William & Mary College with a double Major in Business and Sociology



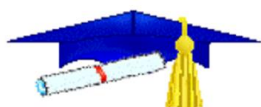
### MICHAEL J. HARRIS

**Graduating from:** Highland Springs High, 3.69 GPA

**Parents:** Malcolm and Michele Harris

**Accomplishments:** Member of the Highland Springs Marching Band, Track Team, National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Center for Engineering. A member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church's Young People's Choir and Youth Fellowship (President). Volunteered at a Nursing Home playing Bingo with the elderly, and also participated in the Step Team at St. Paul's Church.

**Future Plans:** Attend Randolph College in Lynchburg, VA. with a major in Computer Science



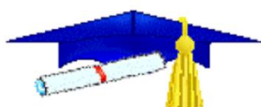
## DANTE JOHNSON

**Graduating from:** Highland Springs

**Parents:** John & Valarie Johnson

**Accomplishments:** Member of the Math Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, BETA Club, and National Honor Society for High School Scholars. Received the Alpha Omega Society Scholarship from his school for high scholar and the Ryan Field Scholarship.

**Future Plans:** Attend Virginia Commonwealth University with a major in Electronic Engineering



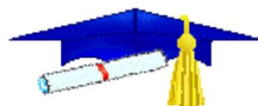
## TYRONE LEAKE, JR.

**Graduating from:** Meadowbrook High

**Parents:** Tyrone and Debra Leake

**Accomplishments:** Member of the FBLA Club, Band (4 years), Head Captain of Drum Line, member of Indoor/Outdoor Track Team, Officer of the Historian, member of the W.E.B. Dubois Honor Society. A member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church's Usher Board. Received scholarship for Drum Line at Hampton University.

**Future Plans:** Attend Hampton University with a major in Computer and Information Technology.



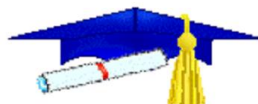
## GLENN J. MCVEY III

**Graduating from:** Highland Springs High

**Parents:** Glenn McVey, Jr. and Adrianne and Barrick McLemore

**Accomplishments:** Member of the Wrestling Team, Wrestling Team Manager, Marching Band (saxophone), Marching Band Manager, FBLA, Red Cross Leader, and DECA. Chosen for the Summer Youth Institute. Attended the Hermitage High School Technical Baccalaureate Program and received Certificate in Computer Aide for Drafting and Design Graphics.

**Future Plans:** Attend Old Dominion University with a major in Civil Engineering.



## JESSICA MARIE RUMPH

**Graduating from:** Highland Springs High

**Parents:** Lisa Evans Brown and Tracy Lee Rumph

**Accomplishments:** Member of the School Band, Softball Manager, Pharmacy Tech, Pharmacy Tech Class Leader. A member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church's Youth Choir, Youth Fellowship and Praises in Motion Dance Ministry.

**Future Plans:** Attend Richard Bland College with a major in Pharmacy Medicine and/or Sports Medicine



## TIFFANY SHELL

**Graduating from:** Lloyd C. Bird, GPA 4.27

**Parent:** Julie Shell

**Accomplishments:** A member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta National Math Honor Society, Ti-M National Music Honor Society, L.C. Bird Skyhawk Marching Band and the Lady Skyhawk's Soccer Team. President of GSBC's Youth Ushers, and a member of the Youth Fellowship. Earned the Girl Scout Gold award, is a recipient of the UVA University Achievement Award and the Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Fellowship of Richmond & Vicinity Scholarship.

**Future Plans:** Attend University of Virginia with a major in Political Science



## LASEAN WIMBERLY

**Graduating from:** Henrico High

**Parents:** Jemal Wimberly and Grandmother, Muriel Wimberly

**Accomplishments:** Achieved Perfect Attendance and most outstanding in Algebra II certificates. Attended Hermitage's Technical Center for cosmetology and has her license. Received scholarship from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. A member of GSBC's Youth Ushers and Youth Fellowship.

**Future Plans:** Attend J. Sargeant Reynolds with a major in Business Management. Later attend Longwood or Hampton University majoring in Speech Pathology.

## DREAM BIG

If there were ever a time to dare,  
To make a difference  
To embark on something worth doing  
It is now.  
Not for any grand cause, necessarily –  
But for something that tugs at your heart  
Something that is worth your aspiration  
Something that is your dream.  
You owe it to yourself  
To make your days count.  
Have fun. Dig deep. Stretch.  
Dream big.  
Know, though,  
That things worth doing  
Seldom come easy,  
There will be times when you want to  
Turn around  
Pack it up and call it quits  
Those times tell you  
That you are pushing yourself  
And that you are not afraid to learn by trying.  
Persist.  
Because with an idea,  
Determination and the right tools,  
You can do great things.  
Let your instincts, your intellect  
And let your heart guide you.  
Trust.  
Believe in the incredible power  
Of the human mind  
Of doing something that makes a difference  
Of working hard  
Of laughing and hoping  
Of lasting friends  
Of all the things that will cross your path  
Next year  
The start of something new  
Brings the hope of something great.  
Anything is possible  
There is only one you  
And you will pass this way but once.  
Do it right.

—Author Unknown



## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education is like free food for the Soul! It provides Believers with spiritual nourishment for understanding how to live a Christian life and be in right relationship with God. Whether feeding on God's Word or filling up with praises from on high, the Christian Education Menu can satisfy anyone's taste.

Ministering to the Soul is essential in preparing for Kingdom readiness. So, take a few minutes to look over The Good Shepherd Baptist Church Menu for great choices and selections to feed your soul.



**Special Menu Item - Limited Time Only**

★ Vacation Bible School ★

July 6 – 10, 2009 (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.)

“On the Move – God's Grace from Place to Place”

## WHAT IS THE “LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE”?

The Leadership Committee is a part of the Board of Christian Education. This committee was set-up to assist all of the organizations of Good Shepherd in meeting the needs of the church in education, assisting and providing ministry leaders with workshops and training sessions for various ministries within the church. Leadership guidelines and tidbits of information are submitted quarterly to “The Messenger.” Members of this committee also recruit future Church School Staff Members and offer church-wide learning opportunities as needed or requested by church members.

### Leadership Committee

Patricia Dickerson-Chairperson

Nicole Hunt

Wanda Hunt

Ernesther Johnson

Florence Jones

Thelma Marion

Delores Marshall

Isadore Wilson



**B**asic  
**I**nstructions  
**B**efore  
**L**eaving  
**E**arth

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION SUNDAY

### Volunteer Recognition

National Volunteer Week was celebrated April 19-25, 2009. Volunteers all over the country were celebrated utilizing the theme, **"Celebrating People in Action."** On Sunday, April 26, 2009 volunteers at Good Shepherd were recognized for the many tasks and responsibilities they perform in the church, school and the community. They were paid a tribute and awarded a "Payday" candy bar for their diligent and unselfish services.

From the Pastor:

*"To our many volunteers, who are being recognized today, thank you so very much for all that you do. It goes without saying that you are extremely important as we seek to be a beacon light in this community. You make a tremendous difference in the lives of our members and in the lives of those in our community."*

### Volunteer of the Year – 2009

The "Volunteer of the Year," for Good Shepherd Baptist Church is Deacon Emma R. Pittman. She was recognized for her wonderful works in the schools, the churches and the community. Mrs. Pittman, a 1993 Phillip Morris retiree and co-operator of E&D Catering, is known for her untiring and committed service in the schools, in the churches and in the community.

In schools, she serves as mentor/tutor at Woodville School and in other capacities including assisting with the Annual Christmas Dinner. She volunteers at All Saints Catholic School for various events.

At GSBC she serves as a member of the Deacons' Ministry, Women's Fellowship, Evangelism Committee, and Salome Ministry. She cooks for Vacation Bible School, assists with Homecoming and provides food for other church functions and events. Deacon Pittman brings desiring seniors to Sunday worship service. Mrs. Pittman sits with and visits sick, shut-in and bereaved members.

She sends a variety of cards on a weekly basis to persons in need and monetary gifts to college students. She offers telephone prayer ministry for anyone in need.

In the community, she picks up and distributes 58 bags of groceries for seniors. She cooks, takes food, care bags and clothing to the homeless shelters for men and women. She prepares fruit baskets and care packages for home bound seniors. Deacon Pittman also visits and prepares care packages for residents in Central State Hospital. In addition, she sends cards and monetary gifts to prison inmates. She donates food to various churches in the community. She drives seniors to the doctor, the grocery store and to the drug store to pick up medicine. She purchases fresh vegetables and meats for family and friends throughout the year on trips to North Carolina. When visiting NC, she prepares and takes food to family and friends. She prepares food for bereaved families, as well as for friends and family in Richmond. Most have been recipients of Emma's generosity.

She supports the Motherland Ministry. This group provides support for persons in Kenya by supplying funds to dig wells for fresh water, provides tuition for students and assists in other areas to help make life better for our brothers and sisters in Africa. Mrs. Pittman is a member of RISC (**R**ichmonders **I**nvolvement to **S**trengthen our **C**ommunities).

Deacon Pittman promised God that if He allowed her to retire early to take care of her sick husband, that she would do more. She is certainly fulfilling this promise with the Holy Spirit guiding her to look in right direction.

Deacon Pittman:

Looks back: at what God has done

Looks forward: to see what He will do

Looks up: to Him in heaven for strength

Looks down: at His littlest creatures

Looks within: to see what needs to be changed

From the Pastor: *"To the 'Volunteer of the Year,' Mrs. Emma, your selfless service to the people of God is second to none. My prayer is that God will continue to bless you with the humility and generosity that readily remind us of the service of the Master. To God be the glory for the great things He has done."*



Deacon Pittman was presented a volunteer of the year certificate, a pin, a dozen red roses and a teapot with matching cup (for her collection) and gourmet teas. Her daughter, grandson, sisters, nieces, nephews, other family and friends joined her at the altar for her presentation.

Planning for this recognition was guided by Mary Powell, Shirley Diggs, Ernest Elliott, LaVerne Farrington and Audrey Hawkes, the Advisory Group for the Dorcas Volunteer Ministry.



### **A Tribute to Volunteers Adapted from Volunteers by Donna Whyte**

Very special people  
Whom everyone holds so dear  
Are those who give their time and selves.  
We call them "volunteers."  
Each one has unique talents  
And time they want to share.  
A trait they have in common  
Is that they truly care.  
Some of them come to schools  
And help with any task.  
Others lend a hand at church  
whenever they are asked.  
If not for these fine people  
One thing is very clear:  
Many things could not be done  
Each day throughout the year.  
From each and every adult  
And all the children too,  
"Thanks" for volunteering  
We're so lucky to have YOU!

### **NURSES' MINISTRY**

In May we celebrated Nurses' Week. Volunteers are very important to GSBC's Nurses' Ministry, and to show appreciation for the time and work they do, flowers were given to each one. Thanks to God for each Nurse Volunteer and for the help they provide to our church family each Sunday.

## GOOD SHEPHERD OUTREACH

Time flies when you are doing the Master's work. Can you believe that it has been ten (10) years since Good Shepherd began its partnership with St. Paul's Episcopal to work at Woodville Elementary School?

On Monday, May 18, 2009, Good Shepherd Baptist Church was recognized by the Richmond School Board School for its service to the Woodville Community. In 1999, GSBC began its Dorcas Volunteer Ministry to reach out and assist the students, staff and parents of the school.

Many persons help out -- permanent volunteers, temporary volunteers and flexible volunteers. performing all kinds of tasks. These tasks include leading, tutoring, mentoring, denoting, serving, transporting, reading, decorating, adopting classes and making items.

The certificate awarded to the church represents a heartfelt thank you to all for their untiring efforts to our neighborhood school. On hand to receive the certificate were Emma Pittman, Helen Fenner and Audrey Hawkes. They were joined at the podium by Don Cowles, St. Paul's Church and Rosalind Taylor, Principal of Woodville School. The group, along with Dr. Yvonne Brandon, Superintendent. of Schools and Chandra Smith, School Board Chair, posed for a picture.

## HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY



## WOMEN'S DAY WEEKEND APRIL 25 - 26, 2009

**THEME: "Reading God's Word is a Life Saver"**

The Women's Day Celebration began on Saturday, April 25, 2009, with a Noon Day Luncheon on Level B. Dining room hall tables were decorated with white and gold tablecloths, emphasizing the importance of the feast. African dolls with "Lifesavers" attached, were used as centerpieces, identifying our heritage and the Word of God as a "Life Saver." The fashion show exhibited Church and Evening wear, worn by women of East Africa (Kenya & Ghana). An African gospel/spiritual song was sung in the native language of Swahili, and enjoyed by all. The table centerpieces, along with, other gifts were given as prizes to the lucky winner.

Our program guest was a group of six African born women (now US citizens) from East Africa called "Shalom." They presented the fashion show with appeal and honor. They sung with reverence and praise to the Lord. "Shalom," would not accept a monetary gift. Good Shepherd presented their Pastor, the Rev. Leonard Davis of Miracle Community Church, with a donation to "Motherland Missions, Inc." This is an organization created to help desperate people in the "Motherland," Africa, with educational needs (books, supplies, monetary gifts, etc.), clean water (digging wells) and many other necessities. Sister Tiara Coles performed a Praise Dance with grace and effectiveness. Our own Good Shepherd Men's Fellowship served everyone with joy and enthusiasm.

On Sunday, April 26, 2009, women wore white and directed the morning worship service from the worship leader to the ushers. The Rev. Deborah M. Martin delivered the preached Word.

The Women's Day Committee Members thank all of the participants, visitors and friends for making this Women's Day Weekend a blessing to remember.



## BOOK CLUB MINISTRY

The Book Club, facilitated by the Reverend Bobby Johnson, gathers every third Tuesday of the month on Level B at 7:30 p.m. for lively discussion. The next scheduled session will be held on September 15, 2009. Below are the books which were read this year.

\*Pieces of a Fragile Heart  
by Michelle E. Johnson

\*Wonders: Questions Exploring Black and White Culture by Earl J. Ricks

\*The Some Day List by Stacy Hawkins Adams

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

The Shack by William P. Young

Same Kind of Different As Me by Ron Hall,  
Denver Moore, and Lynne Vincent

Picking Cotton by Jennifer Thompson-  
Camino, Erin Torneo, and Ronald Cotton

\*Local Authors

## GSBC IS ON THE WEB

**Website:** <http://www.gsbcrichmond.org>

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/GSBC\\_Richmond](http://www.twitter.com/GSBC_Richmond)

**Facebook:** Good Shepherd Baptist Church,  
Richmond, VA

**Myspace:** [Myspace.com/472789955](http://Myspace.com/472789955)

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Full Circle Grief Center offers counseling groups for children and adolescents (6-18 years old) and parents/caregivers. For more information, please contact Susie Nash, Family Services Coordinator @ (804) 241-9662.

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men of Good Shepherd continue to honor God through their collective effort to serve Him by sponsoring the Seven Last Expressions of Christ that was held on April 10, 2009, assisting with Carnival Day on May 16, 2009, and spearheading the 'Ministry Bowling Challenge' on June 6, 2009.. The bowling challenge had 64 participants. 'Team Strike' lead by Evangeline Walton (Guy Walton, John Johnson, Betty Johnson, and Pat Payne), received the *Highest Team Score* award. Guy Walton received the *Highest Individual Score* award (366). Teams #11 and #12 were co-winners of the *Best Spirit* award. Many of the participants enjoyed this event and expressed an interest in forming a team for next year. As plans progress, updates will be posted in the Sunday bulletin.

The following events are scheduled for our fellowship from June to August: Fishing on the James River Pier (Date and Time to be announced; Fishing License \$18 for 1 year, \$11 for 5 days and \$7 for persons 65 or older); Baseball game in Norfolk - Norfolk Tides (Date and Time to be announced- cost- Free ticket to game); and the Back to School Breakfast (August 15, 2009).

As the chairman of the Men's Fellowship Committee, I thank all of the men for their continued service to God's people and the members of Good Shepherd Baptist Church for supporting this ministry. God Bless, Pastor Smith.



## GOOD SHEPHERD AT PLAY MAY CARNIVAL





## MAY CARNIVAL





## GOOD SHEPHERD AT PLAY BOWLING





## GOOD SHEPHERD AT WORSHIP MOTHERS' DAY





# GOOD SHEPHERD AT WORSHIP CHILDREN'S DAY/DEDICATION OF INFANTS





**We welcome to our Good Shepherd Church Family. . .**



**Mrs. Adrienne McLemore**



**Mr. Vaughan Breedlove**



**Ms. Angela Wheeler**

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome persons who joined our fellowship from March 16, 2009 – June 14, 2009.

## **RESTORATION**

Gerald Fenner  
Adrianne McLemore

## **CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE**

De'Onta Battle  
Angela Benjamin  
Vaughan Breedlove  
Angela Wheeler

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **JULY**

6 - 10 Vacation Bible School, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

### **AUGUST**

3 Prove the Tithe Day  
15 Back to School Breakfast, 9-11 AM  
14-16 Eagle Eyrie Retreat (High School)  
16 Birthday Gathering

### **SEPTEMBER**

3 - 5 Men's Retreat at Eagle Eyrie  
6 Church School Promotion Day and Rally  
19 JYF Kickoff  
20 Christian Education Sunday  
27 Homecoming Sunday  
28-30 Revival (thru October 1<sup>st</sup>)

### **OCTOBER**

1 Revival  
4 Men's Fellowship Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 AM  
4 Deacons, Deaconesses and Trustees Day, 11 AM  
6 Men's Fellowship at Lexington Court, 7PM  
18 Dedication of Infants  
25 91<sup>st</sup> Church Anniversary  
31 Christian Harvest Fest, 6 PM – 8 PM

## **CHURCH STAFF**

**The Reverend Dr. Sylvester Smith**  
Pastor

**The Reverend Paul Pleasants**  
Ministerial Assistant to the Pastor

**Mrs. Andrea Seward**  
Administrative Assistant to the Pastor

**Mrs. Phyllis Booker**  
Administrative Secretary

**Mrs. LaVerne Farrington**  
Acting Church Clerk

## **BOARDS**

**Board of Deacons Chairperson**  
Mrs. Wanda Hunt

**Board of Trustees Chairperson**  
Mr. Willie Oliver

**Board of Deaconesses Chairperson**  
Mrs. Helen Fenner

**Board of Christian Education Chairperson**  
Mrs. Deborah Hodge

## **NEWSLETTER STAFF**

**Mrs. Wanda Hunt**  
**Mrs. Andrea Seward**  
Managing Editors

The Messenger is a publication of the Good Shepherd Baptist Church.

Please submit news articles for consideration to the appropriate staff member.



**Next Publication: September 2009**

