Ramoth Baptist Church



DR.RICHARD'S THOUGHTS

Greetings,

This is always an exciting time of year for believers. This is the realization of what Jesus did for us. I think back to many years ago now when I was a little kid and I remember that one of my favorite things to happen was to get a new coloring book. I know that probably seems very hard for some of you to believe but there was something exciting about a book full of pictures just waiting for someone to become a Master Artist. I still doodle or attempt to draw things. worked for awhile after college as a draftsman designing power plants but that wasn't nearly as exciting to me as coloring books. Maybe if I had drawn the power plants in color it would have been more interesting. Maybe you are like that but even if you're not I bet you love to see all of the colors that exist around us.

That's one reason that I like Easter, though I generally refer to it now as Resurrection Sunday, as it seems to me to be a lot about color. That first Easter morning, though, was not so bright and cherry to begin with. Not nearly as bright as they are today! That first Easter morning started off cold, dreary, and depressing. There was a feeling of death in the air. Hopes and dreams had been abandoned. But, in just a short time, everything would be changed Even the colors! forever. Just before the sun rose that first Easter morning the earth shook, the stone covering the entrance to the tomb rolled away and Jesus walked out of

the grave ALIVE! Death had been swallowed up in victory. Jesus had risen from the dead. It was no longer dark, dreary, depressing, with abandoned hope. It was now a day of victory and rejoicing and celebration rich with the new color of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

We received a message from God that day. It's a simple message, this Gospel, but yet it's the most important message in the entire world. Jesus died on the cross, He was buried, and He rose again. To receive that gift of salvation you have to accept that truth and make it personal.

This has been a difficult year for us as individuals and as a church family but one thing I truly hope we realize and that is, "God is in control even in the midst of the most difficult situations we could ever face." The question is simply this: "Do we trust Him in all things or do we live in fear?" Living in fear and worry will not lengthen your days upon this earth one second. We all have an appointed time to leave this earth, pandemic or not, and the fear that I have is that many are not prepared for that day and that I'm not doing enough to help them prepare.

God has given Ramoth Baptist Church the opportunity to reach out to this community and beyond to help those prepare for that appointed day. Will you pray in the days ahead to seek God's direction in the part you will play in this opportunity?

Dr. Richard

Church Staff

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The Empty Tomb

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

The Curtain

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

The Empty Tomb

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

Other Tombs

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

I remember the first time I realized this had happened. I was at a

friends house on Easter, and we were watching an Easter story on TV. I couldn't believe what I was watching. I told my friend that that was not in the bible. Jesus alone was resurrected. No one else.

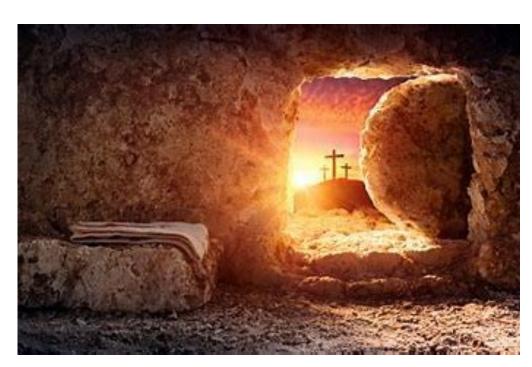
My friend grabbed his bible and we read Matthew 27. I couldn't believe it! I had read over that passage time-and-time again but I had never realized what I was reading. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead raised other saints from the dead as well. And they walked around the town and were seen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

The Power!

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead, created the world. I imagine that creative power is still creating. It just goes on and on and on. Let there be..... and it never stops. Jesus was the first born of the dead. He was the first to be raised and forever live. We experience that same power when we believe. We are raised from the dead in the same way He was, and we too will live forever.

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

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



Jesus calls us to come out! Will you come?

What Will Be Happening?

CAMP!!!!! Fuge camp registration is now open. We will be going to Liberty University for one of the most fun camps your teenager will ever experience. They will participate in outstanding worship, get involved in fun activities, and hear life changing messages from God's Word. Go to our website to get a spot now!

Tip of the Month

You all know that parenting teenagers is one of the more unique challenges in life. It has its ups and downs. And no matter if you are in a great place right now as a parent, or one that feels like you're not doing anything right, here is a free pep talk for you.

Who were your influencers?-

Think of an adult who influenced you in your teenager years. Was it a parent, a pastor, a teacher, a coach, or some other adult? It can be more than one if you were blessed with that kind of support growing up. How did that person or people influence you? Are there particular interests they helped foster in you that you still carry today, like a



particular sport or hobby? Did they inspire you to be more disciplined or focused? Try boiling down to one sentence, "Because of this person I am _____."

The hope of your influence— So now ask yourself, when your teenager does a similar exercise and picks you as one of their greatest influences, how do you hope they will finish that sentence? Take the time to be with and talk with your sons and daughters. Leverage this extra time to be that influence.

You can ask for help— You probably also knew adults not your parents who helped shape you. That is the role of our ministry. We help step up and reinforce those good messages you are instilling at home. We want to help be a positive influence in your child's life. Take heart: You are doing a great job. But it is also ok to ask for some help if you want or need it.—Pastor Jason Baird





Make Easter about the Cross not the Candy!

I know, it can seem daunting to a parent to do Easter without the Easter bunny pictures and the baskets filled to the brim with In fact, I don't think candy. there's anything wrong with doing those things. I do believe we, as parents, should make Easter and the reason we celebrate just as important as all of the candy and eggs. Below, I found a cute way to incorporate scripture into Easter morning tradition. The link will take you to a webpage where you can print out the cards for the scavenger hunt.

This Easter morning, I encourage you to take a minute and tell your kids why we celebrate Easter. We worship a risen Savior, who is worthy to be

celebrated. He conquered death and the grave for every one of us!

https://happyhomefairy.com/ christ-centered-easter-morningscavenger-hunt-preschoolersfree-printable/





April 2021

7– Goofy Glasses
Night
11– Grand Prix, 5pm
14– Regular Club
Night
21– Carry your Cross
Night (wear a cross to
club)
28-No Club– RBC
Business Meeting

Vacation Bible School



for VBS this year at RBC!

At Rocky Railway, your kids will learn how Jesus' power pulls us through all of life's twists and turns.

Join us July 5-9 as we ride the rails through the

Registration is now open

Summer Camp



Conference Center in Middletown, MD Would you like to Sponsor a camper??

July 26-30 at Skycroft

For some families, the cost of camp is just too much. We want all kids to have the opportunity to go to camp. We have 11 kids going to camp this year. We would love to have a couple people sponsor a camper.

The cost for camp is \$319 for the week.

See me if you would like to give a child the gift of camp.

REFUSE MINIS RY CEN ER

HOURS OF OPERATION FOR CENTER MON - THURS 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM by appointment only

by appointment only 1126 Kellogg Mill Road Stafford, VA 22554

1 Peter 2:24 says, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." It is here that we find that the only way to truly be healed is in our belief of and through the work of Jesus Christ. There is no greater power or authority under Heaven that can do what Jesus Christ has already done, is in the process of doing, and will do in the lives of believers...He has the power to heal. Not only does He have the power to heal; He also has the desire to see all healed. Matthew 15:30 attests to this saying, "And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them those who were lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them."

Who among us can say they have never been in need of healing? None. Who among us knows that healing existence in the very name of Jesus? All believers should. How many have called upon that name and received the healing that they needed? More than a few could testify to that kind of occurrence in their lives. Yet.

how many consistently seek the hope, help, and healing that only God can provide?

The world is loudly proclaiming that self-help and self-healing is where things are at today. Market research states that over the last five years, the self-help industry has grown from a 9.9 billion dollar to 13.2 billion dollar industry driven by audiobooks, apps, and programs. They tout success rates that vary from person to person. They guarantee results in some cases or your money will be refunded. Some even point out that they can change your life in so many steps or in just so many days. And while there will be some success stories that amaze and astonish, they are often short-lived and never live up to the hype by which they were presented.

However, the truly informed know that God's hope, help, and healing are indeed life-changing, life-fulfilling, and free of charge. They come with the promise of **Jeremiah 29:11**, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope." The

hope, help, and healing that comes from God has the guarantee of **Isaiah 40:31** which declares, "But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak." The healing and leading that is of God comes with the assurance that cannot be matched or outdone. Psalm 23:3 proclaims, "He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of His name."

God has given to us all the following things for this life...hope, help, and healing. It is for us to know where we should seek them and found them. If any who read this are searching, please let us know, because God has sent us to help guide you to the healing that you need.

Refuge Ministry Counseling Center, open Monday thru Friday, 9am to 4pm...by appointment. Call us at (540) 659-4588 ext.9 or email at counseling@rbcstafford.org.

Your Brother In Christ, Sergio "Woody" Wooden



One can easily be overwhelmed by the day-to-day needs of stresses of caregiving, often times neglecting one's own emotional, physical, and spiritual health. This support group will offer respite and encouragement as we navigate difficult times and foster hope for daily challenges.

This support group will be divided into two groups - CARGIVERS of the ELDERLY CARGIVERS of SPECIAL NEEDS



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 6:30PM in the Ramoth Chapel.

For more information contact:

Sergio "Woody" Wooden counseling@rbcstafford.org

Karen Larrabee karen.larrabee@yahoo.com



Women's Life Coaching Spring 2021 Preview

Exciting events will be taking place this Spring through the Women's Life Coaching Ministry.

We will be offering a Health and Wellness 3 part coaching series; Quarterly Workshops/Retreats; F.I.T. Friday's –

Wellness Seminars; Caregivers Support Groups; Ongoing training for new Life Coach prospects; and Advanced Life Coach Leadership Training.

Other Ministries



7:00 AM SATURDAY - Fellowship Hall - Rod Montgomery Integritas Men's Bible Study & Prayer – Weekly synopsis on one of the 66 books of the Bible. Come gain a quick overview for how Christ is in every book of the Bible and how that book fits in the Bible. In each book of the Bible, Jesus shows up in Body, Shadow, Type or Prophecy. Have you read through His Love Story for you – the Bible?

March 2021 – We had a couple exciting Saturdays during March. One morning we had 17 men gathered in prayer and study. And, as we surveyed **Isaiah**, **Jeremiah**, **Lamentations**, and **Ezekiel** – we did it several times through the lens of Zoom. Yes, Winter and Covid have pushed us several times to pray and study through the technology of the Internet. And, while we aren't physically present in one place, Zoom has given us a means to come together for a common purpose – seeing Jesus work through prayer and seeing Jesus in every book of the Bible.

The book of Isaiah contains 66 chapters. Isaiah is considered by both Jews and Christians to be the greatest of the Prophets. Say, doesn't the Bible have 66 books? Why yes it does! And Isaiah even parallels the OT & NT in that there is a division of 39 and 27 chapters. Throughout Isaiah, you will find prophecies of Christ written 700 years before his coming. Prophecies include His virgin birth ("Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel." Isa 7:14), His youth, His coming announced by a Prophet, His message, rejection, His death suffering for sin, His resurrection, AND, His coming Reign as King as the last chapters speak to the future when the coming Messiah will appear and set all things right. One of the favorite verses out of Isaiah that many hold onto is: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" Isa *41:10*.

Jeremiah is the second longest book of the Bible. (Know

what the first is? - Psalms) So, while the job of a prophet is not sought, Jeremiah was obedient to God throughout his calling. Always doing God's bidding while seeing an unresponsive people. Jeremiah demonstrates a perseverance even when things appear futile. Also known as the weeping Prophet, **Jeremiah** stood strong to deliver God's message, but wept in private knowing captivity in Babylon was in the future for Judah. Jeremiah gave over 100 warnings not only to Judah, but 9 other nations as well. Jesus is evident in the later chapters as **Jeremiah** describes the coming covenant with His people of a promised Messiah. How do we discover God and Jesus? "Call to Me, and I will answer you and will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jer 33:3. **Lamentations** is a continuation of the sorrow that Jeremiah feels as he watches the unfolding of the events he prophesied. Yet, Jeremiah sees the compassion that God has for the people of Israel as they are not totally wiped out. "Because of the Lord's love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lam 3:22-23

Ezekiel is another call a decidedly sinful nation to repentance. Yet, Ezekiel is being used of God to call the nation of Israel back to Him not for the sake of punishment, but for one of restoration of obedience with blessings. "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you a heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezk 36:26 And, so, with Jesus, we too can now have that new heart and new spirit. He's seeking you. Seek Him.

April 2021 – The study will start in **Daniel**, and then we'll move into the minor prophets – **Hosea, Joel**, and **Amos**. Join us to see how Jesus always shows up!

Iron Sharpens Iron - Monday, April 05 at 7 PM with Kerry Knowles. This group meets in Fellowship Hall for social distancing requirements. Monthly reading will be Matthew 26:36-56

For more information about our Men's Ministry and how you can plug in, please contact Rod Montgomery



Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions we will **not** be able to have Secret Sisters. This has been suspended until further notice. Women's Ministry Team, please contact the church office.

All Women's Ministry Bible Studies and Events have been suspended until further notice. For more information about our Women's Ministry, please contact church office admin@rbcstafford.org or 540-659-4588 ext. 2



Join us as we bridge the gap between ourselves and others, youth and adulthood, a life once unchanged, but now transformed by Christ

B. R. I. D.G.E. SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM in room 103

Looking for volunteers to work along side Pachess & Woody Wooden with this group. Contact Woody at counseling@rbcstafford.org.

We are still not meeting for Sunday Morning Bible Study, but we are meeting at 8:45AM and 10:45AM for Worship Service.

Wednesday Discipleship Class (room 307) is meeting Wednesday at 6:00PM



PRIMETIMER

(Sr. Adult Ministry) 50 years and older

It has been one year ago now since we have been able to get together for our PrimeTimers, due to COVID-19.

Please be in pray as we are so looking forward to resuming our meetings and fellowship.

We will keep you informed as to when we can restart PrimeTimers' meetings. Please pray for this pandemic to end and for healing for all.

Psalms 91 is wonderful daily reading of God's promises to get us through this time of trial.

In His Service,

Margaret Canter

March Stewardship as of March 20, 2021

Undesignated Giving to date:

\$204,393.88

Expenses to date:

\$178,543.01

Designated Giving to date:

\$14,917.81

Average Worship Attendance for MARCH

271

Give in person, by mail, or online at www.rbcstafford.org

RAMOTH CEMETERY MEMORIAL FUND

Balance February 1, 2021 \$142,559.00
Memorial Gifts \$ 0.00
Paid Out Mowing & Fuel \$ 0.00
Balance February 28, 2021 \$142,559.00

NO gifts given during February



DEACON MINISTRY

The Deacons of Ramoth greet you all in the name of the |Other great questions include: What does this passage **Lord Jesus Christ!**

We have come through a challenging period over the last few weeks at Ramoth and many of you likely still have questions and concerns. That is to be expected. Please know that as your Deacon servants and in our role as Board of Directors, the health and welfare of each member at Ramoth both physically and spiritually is of paramount importance. As we resume worship services and re-establish our numerous ministries, there will be some changes forthcoming. In the year past since the pandemic has fallen upon us, we have been truly blessed. However, sometimes a false sense of security can allow us to become complacent. We all know about masks and distancing and the other protocols, but nothing can prevent the spread of sickness like personal accountability and responsibility. If you are feeling ill please stay at home. The worship services will continue to be live streamed and recorded for later viewing. At no time should anyone feel compelled to come to church when they are sick.

As timing would have it, we are very near to our Easter celebration. It will be particularly meaningful this year and we can thank God for how far He has brought us. My wife shared a devotional from Crosswalk.com with me that was very appropriate for this time. I have shared the bulk of it here for your edification. May God bless you with it!!

Gary Graham

Chairman of the Deacon Body

What Does "No Harm Shall Overcome You" in Psalm 91:10 Mean for the Coronavirus?

What a promise that is, the promise of no harm—but do we have the right interpretation when we read it? Does no harm mean that nothing bad should ever happen to me, including things like the coronavirus? As with many verses in the Bible, if we try to dissect it on its own, we can easily lose the bigger picture and true meaning. It's important to study Bible verses in proper context and that means we should:

Look at the full passage the verse is part of.

Look at the sections preceding and following the verse/ passage.

Look at the book as a whole that the verse is located in: who is the human author, what's the literary genre, what is the main theme and purpose, what was going on at that time in history, and who was the original audience?

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

APRIL 4 APRIL 18 Chris Turman Chris Hudson 540-272-1914 703-350-1934 Joe Pearson Brian Doerr 540-628-5383

540-429-8379 APRIL 11 APRIL 25 Kerry Knowles Bob Lingo 540-834-6632 540-426-6140 Jon White Sean Springer 540-720-8176 540-623-6184 tell me about man? And what does this passage tell me about God?

Additionally, we can access resources (articles, videos, books, audio, etc.) from sound theologians, pastors, and writers both past and present who put Scripture and the gospel first.

These elements provide important information for understanding the true meaning of a verse or Scripture passage. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand Scripture, but we need to use the tools that God has gifted us through literature, which is the medium He chose to use to record, keep, and spread His Word. Let us use the tools we have in prayer and with guidance from the Holy Spirit who lives in all believers.

What Does This Verse Mean for the Coronavirus?

Evil and harm cannot separate God's children from Him and that includes pandemics, like the coronavirus, natural disasters, and wicked people among other things. God's children are hidden with Him and their soul is safe with Him for all eternity. We are not guaranteed a pain-free or illness-free life, which is clear in Scripture from the Old Testament to the New Testament. We read in Scripture that it is often through strife and struggle that the believer grows spiritually with God and is an encouragement to others (Joseph, Jonah, Abraham, Moses, Esther, Paul, John, and so many others.).

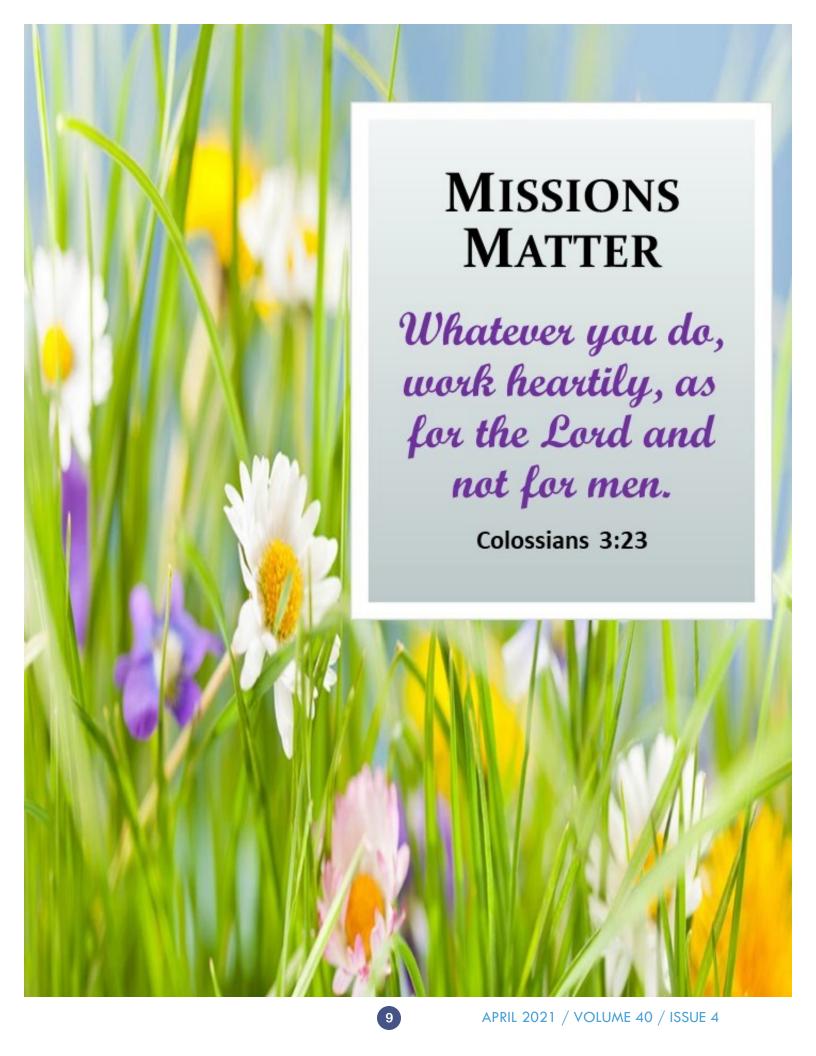
Crosswalk.com Contributor, Debbie McDaniel, shared,

'Sometimes, maybe unintentionally, in the busyness or difficulties of living, we might strive to survive on our own. We forget that what we need most, God's protection and the comfort of His presence, are freely available to those who love Him and walk under His covering. This entire chapter of Psalm 91 is filled with the goodness and power of God. Great reminders that He faithfully works on behalf of those who love Him."

Many of us are consumed right now by uncertainly and constantly changing news surrounding the coronavirus/ COVID-19. But we can't fear what may or may not happen to us. God asks us to trust Him through all situations and Paul tells us God's grace is sufficient, whether that grace leads to healing or homecoming. Our focus should not be on fear and uncertainty but the Refuge that our God is even in circumstances of disease and trouble. We are called to hope and trust in God no matter what is happening in our world. And He can be trusted during this pandemic, He is sovereign over the world and your individual life.

Avoiding illness is a fate no one can escape in this fallen world; what is important is that we know where our true home is and who our God is. Psalm 91 is clear that for those whom God dwells with, their Refuge is God alone. The true home of the believer is with the Triune Godand God is with all believers every step of their earthly journey. And when that last step comes, Jesus is there to usher our life into glory, a life He paid for. Therefore, let us remember that in the storms and diseases God is with us, and in our joys let us give thanks to the Holy Spirit,

> **NEXT DEACONS' MEETING** MONDAY, APRIL 26 at 7:00 PM





APRIL 1
Nicole Whaley
APRIL 2
Konner Taylor
APRIL 5
Chris Coffman
Jon White

APRIL6
Debbie Pickeral
APRIL7
Erin Knight
APRIL 8
Ellie Bolton
APRIL 10
Glenn Sullivan
APRIL 11
Barry Denson
APRIL 12
Lara Gleason
APRIL 13

APRIL 13
Jason Baird
Gracie Sellers
APRIL 14
Jennifer Tyler

APRIL 15
Alice Peoples
Christina Peoples
APRIL 16
Amy Vernam
APRIL 20
Dan Mehochko
APRIL 23
Lou Buttgen
APRIL 24
Stephanie Baltzelle
APRIL 25

Robin Caldwell
Alice Carrington
Eli Gilliam
APRIL 26
Troy Skidmore

Darren Whalev

Cindy Bennett

APRIL 28

Judy Buttgen

Jackson Mehochko

APRIL 29

Ann Buttgen

Patrick Caldwell

APRIL 30

Shawn Blake

APRIL27



HUGHES HOME BIRTHDAYS

4/3/1925
Harue Okura

4/22/1940
Eleanor Levi

Send your birthday cards to the following address

4/8/1940 4/23/1940 Jacqueline King John Willis

4/11/1956 4/26/1927 Deborah Gilson Melvin Harper NAME OF PERSON c/o HUGHES HOME 100 Caroline Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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

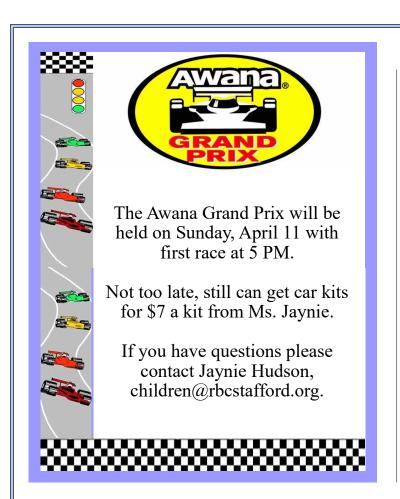
RAMOTH EXTENDS ITS SYMPATHY TO

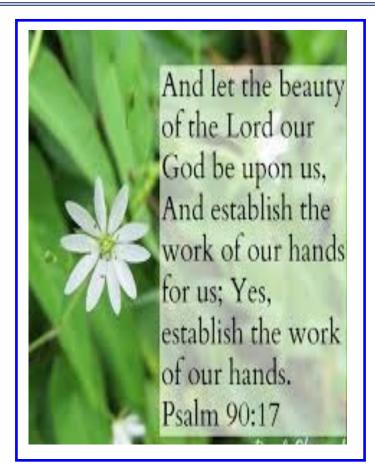
Jeanie Pritchett and her family on the passing of her brother-in-law Bill Portt (Alice)

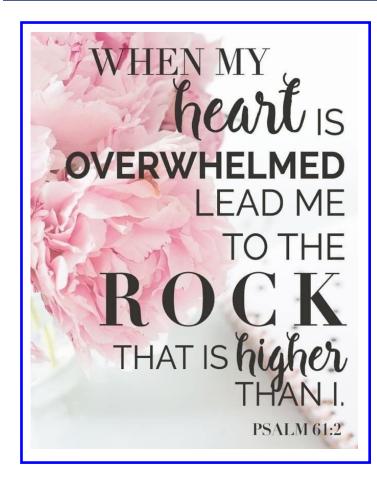
RAMOTH WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

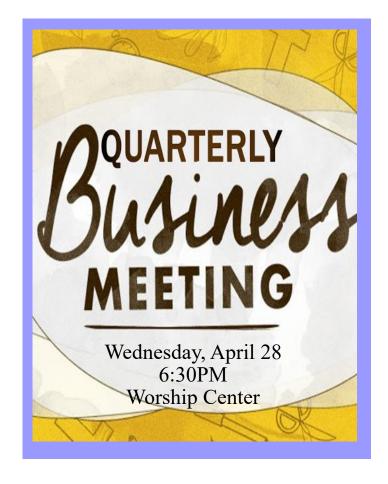
John McCravey by Baptism

The Parsh Family - Shawn, Tracy, Riley & Colin by Statement



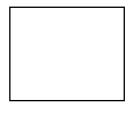








478 Ramoth Church Road Stafford, Virginia 22554 (540) 659-4588 www.rbcstafford.org



SERVICE TIMES

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICES ON SUNDAYS

at 8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School (birth-5th grade) at 10:45 AM

Youth Activities Sunday Evening at 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

6:00 PM (AWANA CLUBS)

6:00 PM (YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY)

6:30PM (ADULTS BIBLE STUDY)

6:30 PM (EXALTED WORSHIP CHOIR REHEARSAL)

7:30 PM (EXALTED WORSHIP PRAISE TEAM/BAND REHEARSAL)