



Ramoth Baptist Church

*"A Christ-Centered Community of Refuge for Families
Who Love God, Love People, and Change Our World"*



Well, how to begin my last Beacon article? With so many thoughts going through my mind, that is not going to be an easy question to answer. So, why not begin at the beginning?

When the Lord brought our family to join the Ramoth Baptist Church family in August 2016, I remember sharing with the congregation some of the military acronyms that I learned while living near Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo, NM. With Quantico just up the road from Stafford, I felt sure that many folks at Ramoth knew the terms "TDY" and "PCS" even if they have never served in our nation's Armed Forces.

For those not familiar with military terminology, "TDY" stands for "Temporary Duty Yonder." It is used to indicate that someone is on a short-term assignment, but their home base has not changed. When that change happens, there is a "PCS" or "Permanent Change of Station." For a church like RBC, with many military families, it has become quite common for the Lord to bring in and send out members of the military and their families every year. While

it is always sad when people PCS, it is also exciting to think about who God will call to be a part of the body of Christ at Ramoth.

Three years ago, the Lord gave us a new assignment. Although I did not know at the time that this would be a much shorter assignment than I planned, I believe that every assignment God gives each of us as followers of Christ (not just as pastors) is ultimately temporary duty yonder.

Wherever our "yonder" is at the moment — in Stafford, VA or Carlsbad, NM or wherever our feet might take us — God has us there for a purpose. In 2 Corinthians 2:14, Paul shares:

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in Christ's triumphal procession and through us spreads the aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place."

It is with thanksgiving to God for His leading us to Ramoth, and a grateful heart for His blessing us with our assignment here for these last three years, that I sign off one last time. May the Lord continue to use Ramoth Baptist Church to be the "fragrance of Christ" in this community for years to come!

Yours in Christ and God Bless,

Pastor Howell

CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR

Howell Scott
540-659-4588, ext. 2
575-921-7670 (Cell)
howell@rbcstafford.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF WORSHIP

Chuck Hite
540-659-4588, ext. 5
540-429-4291 (Cell)
worship@rbcstafford.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF STUDENTS

Jason Baird
540-659-4588, ext. 4
571-314-2227 (cell)
students@rbcstafford.org

INTERIM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Jaynie Hudson
540-659-4588, ext. 6
703-350-1935 (Cell)
children@rbcstafford.org

Director of Refuge Ministry Center

Sergio "Woody" Wooden
540-659-4588, ext. 9
207-632-8876 (Cell)
counseling@rbcstafford.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Jan Schranz
540-659-4588, ext. 2
admin@rbcstafford.org

FACILITIES MANAGER

Jim Garrison
540-659-4588, ext. 8
facilities@rbcstafford.org

FINANCIAL OFFICE

Paula Menteer
540-659-4588 ext. 7
finance@rbcstafford.org

KICKOFF To HOMECOMING 2019

DATE: OCTOBER 5TH
TIME: 3:00-6:00PM



All are invited to enjoy an evening of Fellowship, lip smackin' BBQ, and Good Ole Southern Gospel music provided by "Front Porch Gospel"

Food & Drinks provided.

Bring your lawn chair and a dessert to share.

**Donations will be accepted for the Deacon's Benevolent Fund.*



1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Prizes

For the

BEST Pulled Pork BBQ

Contact Sam Raney or Jan Schranz to enter
or signup in the bulletin

Rain or Shine



153rd HOMECOMING Sunday, October 6

There will be only one combined service
(10:45AM)

and

NO Sunday Morning Bible Study.
(Nursery, Pre-School & Children's
Worship will be available during the
worship service.)

Dinner on the Grounds after service
(Seating in the Chapel and Fellowship
Hall)

**Church will provide meat (fried chicken),
rolls, and beverages**

**Please bring side dishes, salads, and
desserts to share. Drop off dishes in the
Fellowship Hall prior to the service.**

OCTOBER 26

3:00-6:00PM



Come on out to our Fall Festival! We will have cake walk, bounce houses, bobbing for apples, carnival games, fried treats, and hot dogs. We would love to have you join us for a great day of Fall fun!!

See you in the field behind the cemetery!
If you would like to help you can sign up on the volunteer sheets in the foyer!

Who Do You See?

When you look at me, who do you see?

If you knew my parents, you would see some of them in every aspect of me. I am a smaller version of my dad, but I look more like my uncles in my facial features. My behavior is more like my dad, but I am "goofy" like my uncle Harry. I have a sense of humor like my sister, but I am a little "snarky" like my mother. When you really look at me, I hope you see something much more important. I hope you see Jesus.

In Colossians 3:10 we read the following, ¹⁰and have put on the new self. You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator." We have put on the image of the Creator. We are to reflect Jesus, the One who spoke everything into existence. When you see me, I want you to see the image of Christ. I mean, that's how God sees me. He sees me through the blood of the lamb.

This is so easy to say but so difficult to do. When I show "myself," then I am not showing Jesus. People see what Paul called the old self. The sinful man who occasionally rears his ugly head and even if the "old self" is not so bad, he is not Jesus.

In Ephesians 4:24 we read, ²⁴and to put on the new self, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth." If others see me, they don't see Christ. I need to present myself as a witness of Jesus. I am not saying that people cannot see my personality or my physical appearance but if they see anything that goes contrary to the teachings of the scripture, then I am causing them to stumble. I am not reflecting Christ and drawing people to Him, but I am instead, deflecting them away from Him.

We must remember that each of us may be the best example of a Christian that someone will ever

see. That is a huge weight to bear. It means that my witness is stronger than any other influence for someone. How I live my life and reflect Christ trumps church, Christian songs, Bible apps or any other way some people may be influenced. They may follow Christ or not follow Christ based on my testimony.

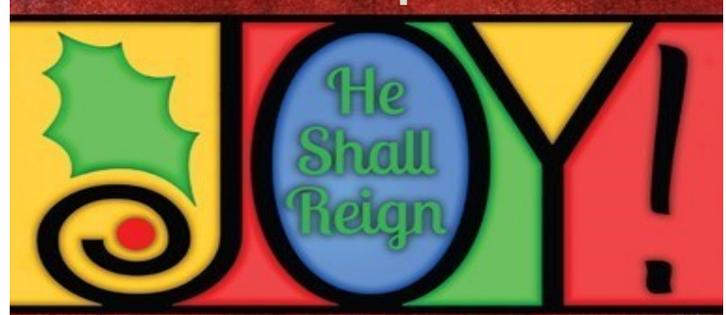
You could say that there are five gospels. Four of them are in the Bible and the fifth is my life. Now here is the thing, the fifth gospel is the one that is read the most. When others read me, I hope they are reading about Jesus and not about the world. This makes my choices about the way I live my life much more serious. It is not just about me. It is about those who see me, hear me, or know me. I am an emissary of my Lord and King.

As you go through this day, think about who you reflect. Think about who people see when they look at you. I am not asking you to pretend to be something or someone you are not. I am asking you to genuinely reflect Jesus, the Lord.

Pastor Chuck



Come join the choir for Christmas.
We love lifting our voices in Praise to God!
Wednesdays at 6:30PM
in the Worship Center



A Christmas Celebration of Praise



If you have a heart for children...

Please contact Jaynie Hudson at:

children@rbcstafford.org



WE WANT YOU!

From our nursery, where caregivers love on the smallest of babies in the name of Jesus, to our 5th graders who are on the verge of their teen years, Rise-Up Children's ministry is passionate about discipling your kids. Whether it is in Sunday School, Children's Worship Classes, or AWANA, it is our desire to partner with you in the spiritual maturing of your child.



October 26 3-6pm

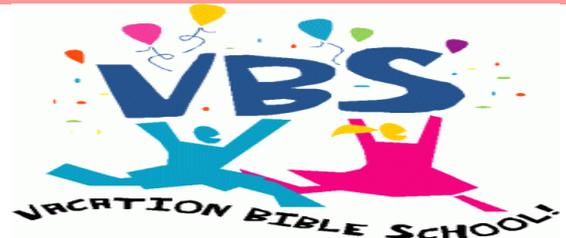
Come on out to our Fall Festival! We will have a cake walk, bounce houses, bobbing for apples, carnival games, fried treats, and hot dogs. We would love to have you join us for a great day of Fall fun!

Do you have a heart for children??

We would love to have you help in Children's Ministry!!

We need volunteers to help in every area, from Nursery to preteen.

Please see Jaynie Hudson to find out where we can get you plugged in!



COMING SOON!!!

July 13-17, 2020

Please make welcome our new VBS director, Melissa Baird! We will need a lot of volunteers for this week long, fun-filled event. Contact Melissa (melissa.lane.13@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer.



Awana is in full swing! We have over 40 kids that come to Awana each Wednesday night. We would

love you to help us lead kids to Christ through this awesome program!

See Jaynie Hudson for more details.

children@rbcstafford.org



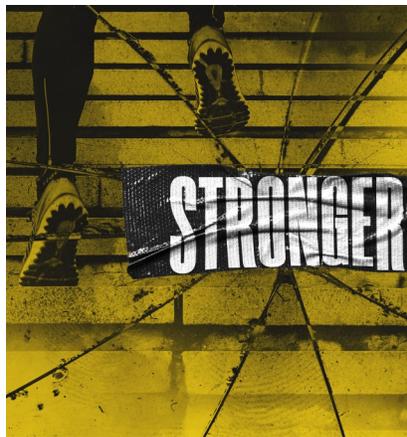
There's gonna be a new way to do a chili cook off in town!

Summer camps and trips for youth are a vital part of any program. These trips offer three things. First, it is a time of concentrated fellowship. For many students, the week(s) spent at youth camps and events during the summer is the time where they feel like they really belong. It is difficult to blend into an established group as a newcomer when you see the group for only an hour a week. When we go to camp, we spend an entire week with each other, and students more often than not find a way in to the group, during this time.

Second, camps and retreats offer much needed time away from the norm. Our routines are important, but they can entrench habits and blind us to things God may want us to see. When we get away from it all, we essentially offer God a

blank canvas to work with. This is why we see such huge steps in students lives during these events.

But these huge steps would not be possible without the third thing. At these camps and retreats students hear from gifted speakers the gospel of Jesus.



This is why for me, there is nothing more important than students getting ample opportunity to go on these trips.

But what does this have to do with chili?

Great question! On Wednesday October 16, we will be holding a special dinner to raise funds for camp. We will be having a chili cook off competition!

But instead of simply writing in a vote, you will vote with your dollars! When you pay at the door, you will receive a ticket for every dollar you donate. You then go around and give the tickets to the various chilis that will be offered. You may put as many tickets into one chili, or tickets into as many chilis as you like.

Yes! This means you can literally buy your way to victory. But at the end of the day, this will be more than about winning a cook off. It will be about the opportunity to have a student's entire eternity altered through your giving at a chili competition.





Ramoth
Baptist Church

REFUGE MINISTRY CENTER

The Counseling Center

Christian author and pastor, John Ortberg in his book titled *The Life You've Always Wanted*, makes a most profound statement. He states, "Hurt people, hurt people." Can we say wow! This statement is so true though, no matter how simple it may seem. People who are hurting, for one reason or another, knowingly or unexpectedly hurt the people that are around them. And so begins something that can turn into a vicious cycle of events that goes from one person to the next to the next. Things could be this way, but they do not have to stay that way. There are ways to end the cycle and to prevent it from ever starting again. There are things that can be put into place, resources that can be provided, and people who can help that will make themselves available...but it all must start with God.

God is the one true author, provider, and source of healing. Matthew 4:24 says of Jesus, "News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them." God is the answer for healing, for restoration, for reconciliation, but people must seek Him. They should also realize that He has trained and sent others to help them in their time of need. Without those sent helpers, some people will not have access to the healing that they need.

God-directed help, is right here if you need it. Through a program like GriefShare, people have been equipped to address the ebb and flow of emotions associated with losing a loved one. With a support group like Women Overcoming Depression, many women have been given the encouragement they have

needed to feel healing, seek forgiveness, and find strength in God. Additional help for others can and will be there through Celebrate Recovery, which seeks to address people and their hurts, habits, and hang-ups. And in each of these, God is the focus and He is who people are being directed to seek and find. These programs and others like them need your prayers, may need your help as volunteer leaders, or just may need you...Whatever the case may be, I hope and pray that if you need help, that you would seek where God is leading you. And if we can help, would you let us know?



The Refuge Ministry Center is now open and available to church families and members. We can see you Monday through Friday, between 9AM and 4 PM, but we ask that you schedule an appointment before stopping by, unless it is an emergency. If you have any questions about this

ministry, the resources or help that it can provide, please feel free to contact me via email at counseling@rbcestafford.org or phone 540-659-4588 ext. 9 or Ms. Karen Larrabee at karen.larrabee@yahoo.com. In addition, you can always visit the church website www.rbcestafford.org for information about group meeting times, special events, and conferences that this ministry sponsors. We covet your prayers, as we seek to assist those who are in need for wise counsel. We look forward to serving you or serving with you; God bless and be well.

Sergio "Woody" Wooden
Director, Refuge Ministry Center

Proverbs 19:20-21, "Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. 21 There are many devices in a man's heart; never-



Women Overcoming Depression Support Group

Breaking Free from Spiritual Strongholds

If you feel you are experiencing defeat in any area of your life, you are welcome to join us as we journey through Beth Moore's "Praying God's Word – Breaking Free from Spiritual Strongholds". We are all called to be "Overcomers" through the power of Jesus Christ, to surrender anything that holds us back from liberating freedom in Christ.

As Galatians 5:1 states,

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery".

Contact Karen Larrabee for more information at

karen.larrabee@yahoo.com

every 2nd and 4th Monday of the Month at 10:00AM



After the funeral, when the cards and flowers have stopped coming, most of the people around you return to their normal lives. But your grief continues and you feel alone.

Often friends and family want to help, but don't know how. That's the reason for **GriefShare**.

This DVD driven grief support ministry is led by caring people who have experienced grief and have successfully rebuilt their lives. They understand how you feel because they have been in the same place. They will walk with you on the long path through grief toward healing and hope for the future.

GriefShare, a ministry of Church Initiative, is a network of 15,000+ churches worldwide equipped to offer grief support groups. **GriefShare** is a support group that meets weekly. You will find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief.

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There will be a breakout for teen/young adults and adults

For more information on GriefShare contact

Karen Larrabee (karen.larrabee@yahoo.com) or

Sergio Wooden (counseling@rbcstafford.org)

MEN'S MINISTRY



Join us in one of our Men's
Small Group Bible Studies

WEEKLY

- ⇒ Men's 7:00AM Bible Study with Rod Montgomery The topic will be "Revelation: What is Pre-Trib, Pre-Millennial, Amillennial, Post-Trib, or Pan-Millennial?"
- ⇒ Men's 8:30AM Bible Study with Sergio "Woody" Wooden. 33 Series Volume 4

MONTHLY

- ⇒ Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Bible Fellowship meets the 1st Monday of the month.
- ⇒ October 7 at 7:00PM is the next meeting.
READING: Matthew 21, light supper provided.

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



PRIMETIMER (Sr. Adult Ministry)



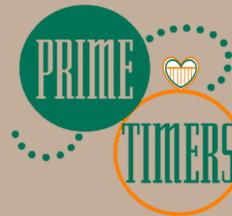
Join us as we bridge the gap between ourselves and others, youth and adulthood, a life once unchanged, but now transformed by Christ

B.R.I.D.G.E. SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:30AM in room 103

As always, if you have any questions about anything going on with the BRIDGE ministry or are interested in joining us or know someone who could use a young, welcoming, and exciting environment in which to grow . . . send them our way. We will be glad to have them!

Katie & Seth Thompson / Pachess & Sergio Wooden



PrimeTimers is Ramoth Baptist Church's group for senior adults (50+). We believe that followers of Jesus NEVER retire and that the Senior Saints at RBC are invaluable to the process of making disciples who

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, and CHANGE OUR WORLD.

These people are integrated into other ministries, but their monthly gatherings provide opportunities for fellowship and activity-planning. There will be special outings throughout

*This month's theme is
"Bring in the Harvest"*

Our guest speaker will be the very wonderful Joyce Vinson, and her daughter Pam Null will be our hostess for the month.

Please bring a side dish and / or dessert to share, meat provided by PrimeTimers.

Margaret Canter

Deacon Ministry



The **next** Deacons Meeting will be
Tuesday, **October 22**

RTV ACTS 1:8 MISSION TEAM



How can you be "On Mission?"

Look for more details in the bulletin coming soon as mission opportunities. Pray about how you can be "On Mission".

We would like to thank all of you who donate to the RTV ACTS 1:8. Your donations help to spread the Word of God in our parking lot, in our schools, in our county, in our state and throughout the world. Every time that we are involved in a mission project the Word of God is given out in the form of a Bible, a tract or by word of mouth and you make that possible.

If missions is your thing, come join us.

**We meet the second Wednesday of each month room 301
(across from the Pastor's office).**

RTV ACTS 1:8 Mission Team Next Meeting

October 9 @7:45pm

2019 DEACON OFFICERS:

Chairman	Sam Raney
Co-Chair	Jason Breidenbach
Secretary	Matt Sarkissian
Master of Arms	Brian Doerr

Deacons of the Week

Point of Contact for RBC's Deacon
Ministry needs is
Deacon Chairman

SAM RANEY
571-334-4256

OCTOBER 6

Bob Lingo 540-426-6140

Brian Doerr 540-429-8379

OCTOBER 13

Gary Graham 540-446-8814

Jeff Tyson 540-840-7491

OCTOBER 20

Jason Breidenbach 703-254-3445

Shelby Burnett 540-903-0470

OCTOBER 27

Danny Null 540-720-3739

Greg Kolandjian 617-799-1391

**STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE
REPORT (AS OF 09/22/2019)**

Undesignated Giving to date:

\$699,394.40

Expenses to date:

\$573,240.42

Budget Requirement to date:

\$858,838.00

Designated Giving to date:

\$30,806.56

Vision Virginia (state offering) to date:

\$1,032.00

Average Worship Attendance for SEPTEMBER:

315

Give in person, by mail, or online

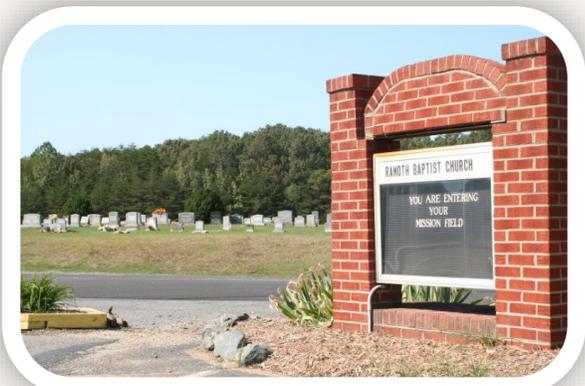
at www.rbcstafford.org



**RAMOTH CEMETERY
MEMORIAL FUND**

Balance August 1, 2019	\$141,230.72
Memorial Gifts	\$ 0.00
Paid Out	
Mowing	\$ - 550.00
Fuel	\$ - 0.00
Trimmer line	\$ - 0.00
Balance August 31, 2019	\$140,680.72

NO MEMORIALS GIFTS IN AUGUST



October

OCTOBER 1

Holly Hill
Pam Nimeth
Samantha Wheeler

OCTOBER 2

Kaya Djibway
OCTOBER 6
Charlotte Stevens

OCTOBER 7

Brenda Mitchell

OCTOBER 8

Aaron Doerr
Shirley Tyson

OCTOBER 14

Earl Monroe

OCTOBER 15

Steve Hutson
Gavin Schweiter

OCTOBER 16

Jamie Ellison
Kelsey English
Kristi Williams

OCTOBER 18

Avery Blake
Pam Land

OCTOBER 19

Carol Hite

OCTOBER 20

Lillian Atkins
Matt Ganter
Janice Peoples
Rose Taah
Debbie Tyson

OCTOBER 21

Hendrick Mehochko
Erica Robinson
Julianna Whaley

OCTOBER 22

Nancy Allen
Chris Fielding
Janet Hutson

OCTOBER 23

Gary Graham, Sr.
Anne Jett

OCTOBER 24

Sandy Germain
Bob Peoples

OCTOBER 25

Trey Schneider
OCTOBER 27

Electra Gallegos

OCTOBER 28

Tom Nutton
Linda Gayle

OCTOBER 9

Carroll Blake
Chaz Curry
Gary Veteto

OCTOBER 10

Kelly Boswell
Ethel McElfresh

OCTOBER 11

Allison Gentry
JR Rigole
Rhonda Thornton

OCTOBER 12

James Dakes
Sumarra Wooden

OCTOBER 13

Caiti Gallagher
Leona Gallahan

Welcome Ministry

Greeters

Ushers

OCTOBER

8:15AM USHERS

October 6

NO SERVICE
HOMECOMING

October 13

Mark Drinkwater
John McCravey

October 20

David Tuckwiller
Pat Wade

October 27

Sergio Wooden
Sean Truax

10:45AM USHERS

October 6

Dylan Kuczka
John McCravey
Dan Mehochko
Jackson Mehochko
Brad Setser
Chris Turman

October 13

James Fraley
David Gayle
Chris Hudson
Clint Nussberger
Mark Nussberger
Jerry Rochefort

October 20

Mark Blake
Shawn Blake
Kerry Knowles
Steve Malpass
Hans Morris
Jeff Tyson

October 27

Barry Denson
Tony Dingus
Ken Hill
Rich Mehochko
Herb Schweiter
Gavin Schweiter

8:15AM GREETERS

October 6

Jasmine Sarkissian
Rosie Young

October 13

Margaret Canter
Pachess Wooden
Sumarra, Wooden

October 20

JoAnn Embrey
Nancy Anderson

October 27

Darrin Whaley
Julianna Whaley
Mary Studebaker

10:45AM GREETERS

October 6

Pattie Foster
Sandy Sampson
Sarah Burnett
Janet Martin

October 13

Brittany Nussberger
Leann Nussberger
June Lucas
Mark Lucas

October 20

Brian Doerr
Ree Doerr
Brooke Shipe
Michael Shipe

October 27

Jean Skidmore
Steve Skidmore
Patti Walls

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5:00-6:00PM

Fellowship Dinners

6:05-7:30PM

- ♦ **Awana Clubs (3 year old—5th Grade)**
- ♦ **Youth Discipleship**
- ♦ **Adult Prayer Meeting**

6:30-7:30PM

♦ **Adult Bible Study**

♦ **Exalted Worship Choir Rehearsal**

7:35-8:30pm

Praise Team/Band Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER



— What's on the Menu? —

October 2 Ms. Virginia's Team

Roasted chicken, Mashed potatoes & gravy
Green beans, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Beverage

October 9 Mehochko's Team

Shepherd's Pie, Salad, Garlic Bread,
Dessert, Beverage

October 16 Chili Cook-Off for Youth

See Pastor Jason's article about this

October 23 Ms. Carmen's Team

Chipotle-style burrito bowl, all the fixin's,
dessert, and Beverage

October 30 Staff Team

Pizza, Salad, Dessert, and Beverage

• *welcome* •

NEW MEMBERS

By Transfer of Letter

Mary Marshall

Ramoth Baptist Church

478 Ramoth Church Road

Stafford, VA 22554



service *Times*

Come & Worship with Us

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICES
ON SUNDAYS AT 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL AGES
AT 9:30 AM

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

DURING THE SUMMER ALL ACTIVITIES BEGIN AT 6:00PM