



## DR. RICHARD'S THOUGHTS

Dear Church Family,

In the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, in Luke 18:9-14, we read of two men coming to the Temple, at the hour of prayer, to pray. These two men represented two religious extremes in Jewish society. As they prayed, we readily see this difference in their prayers which separated them even more. We read in verse 11, "The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: God, I thank you that I am not like other men – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get." What we quickly see missing in his prayer is any repentance or really any recognition of thanks to God as God. There was no thanksgiving for anything other than himself. He was not making any supplications for himself or for anyone else as it was simply a prayer of praising himself and downing others.

As the Pharisee stood off by himself as he prayed, so did the Publican. Here we see the difference of the two and of their prayers. The Publican as he stood by himself was feeling unworthy to even lift his eyes to heaven. We read his prayer in verse 13 as it says, "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on

me a sinner.'" He, in his prayer, is seeking forgiveness through repentance and is crying out for mercy. He knows he is a sinner and is praying for God's mercy and grace. This prayer should be an example for all of us today as we are all sinners in need of forgiveness.

What we see in this parable is that the Pharisee felt no need for repentance and asked for no mercy or grace because of who he perceived himself to be but the Publican felt only need for repentance and asked only for mercy. The one, the Pharisee, appealed to himself for justice, the other, the Publican, appealed to God for mercy.

The conclusion of the parable is found in verse 14 as Jesus says, "I tell you that this man (the Publican), rather than the other (the Pharisee), went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." So, the question that comes before us is this: How do we pray? Are we like the Pharisee or the Publican? Be sure to read verse 14 again before you answer and before your next time of prayer. Thanks for your continued prayers as we move forward into the New Year.

*Dr. Richard*

## Church Staff

**SENIOR PASTOR**

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

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR of WORSHIP**

Chuck Hite  
540-659-4588 ext. 5  
540-429-4291 (cell)  
worship@rbcestafford.org

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR of STUDENTS**

Jason Baird  
540-659-4588 ext. 4  
571-314-2227  
students@rbcestafford.org

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR**

Jaynie Hudson  
540-659-4588 ext. 6  
703-350-1935  
children@rbcestafford.org

**DIRECTOR of REFUGE MINISTRY**

Sergio "Woody" Wooden  
540-659-4588 ext. 9  
counseling@rbcestafford.org

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

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

**FACILITIES MANAGER**

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

**FINANCIAL MINISTRY ASSISTANT**

Tammy Snyder  
540-659-4588 ext. 7

## Faith

*Faith and hope and love.*

Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen. Hebrews 11:1

## Faith!

What do you have faith in? Anything?

The goodness of man? The rightness of society? The honesty of government? Punxsutawney Phil? I hope you are not placing your faith in any of the above.

Faith in God the Son, His word, His promises, His perfection, and His love. This is where I place my faith. There is nothing, and no one else, that I can place my entire faith.

We just passed Valentine's Day. I love my wife, my children, my grandchildren, and my friends and family, but I do not put my faith in any of them.

## Why?

They are not perfect. They are all flawed. I pray they do not put their faith in me. I am flawed as well. Imperfect! I love them, but my love is not a perfect love.

There is only One in whom we can place our faith.

## Jesus!

Jesus never failed, never fails, and will never fail. We may not always like the direction He leads or the work He calls us to, but He

is perfect in His desires for us. He knows where we will be most effective for His kingdom and for His glory.

Did I want to be a pastor? Nope! Am I happy I am doing His will? Yes!!

In [Hebrews 11](#) we read of the Hall of Faith. This chapter is filled with men and women who trusted God with their lives. Not just how they lived their lives, but for many, their very lives. They trusted God with whether they would live or die.

They placed their faith in God. Some did so willingly. Some ran from God's call. (I can relate.) Some found their call late in life. Others were called early. Enoch never died. Rahab found a new country, a new family, a new faith, and I assume, a new profession. All had their lives changed by their faith!

Faith is hope. We all need hope. We must have something to look forward to. We cannot just live in the present and we cannot live in the past. We must hope for the future. The brighter our future, the brighter our present.

By faith we live each day. We wait on the Lord and we do His will. By faith we live our lives, for without faith, we do not have hope. Without hope, we are lost. If we are lost, we can never find our way, and Heaven, that brightest of futures, is beyond our reach.

Faith allows us to grasp the things of God that we cannot touch on our own. It lifts us up beyond the chains of this world. It brings us forgiveness, a bright hope for tomorrow, and births in us peace, love, and the ability to move forward one-step-at-a-time. Faith allows us to believe.



**Jesus is the rock of our faith!**

## 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 amazing worship and hear life transforming lessons from the word. Go to our website to get a spot now!

Our first fundraiser is underway. Contact Pastor Jason about how you can support the youth by buying a Ramoth Baptist Church Mask.

## TIP OF THE MONTH

How do you set up appropriate boundaries for your teen? What gives accountability, but also communicates trust? Here are a few thoughts.

**Trust but verify-** Always give your teenager the benefit of the doubt, and let them know your starting assumption is that they are making the right choices. Communicating this as the starting point is important, because research has shown that if teens feel like people are always suspecting them of something, they tend to make poor decisions.



**But how do I know they are?**– This is the verify part. And it requires open communication to your teenager. Let them know the importance of having clear and transparent ‘checkpoints’ in their lives. Be specific about what this means. Let them know specifically that you will be checking their devices from time to time. Let them know you will be checking in with their friends parents or using a friend find app to see where they are. Be clear and specific to how you will be checking in on them, even if you can’t be specific on the timing of the checkpoints.

**Help them see the bigger picture**– Teach them that this is something we all have to have in our lives: Accountability. It is a good thing. It helps us make the right decisions when we know that we will have to answer for them in the near future. It is in our jobs and in the way we govern our lives. It doesn’t show a lack of trust, but instead reinforces trust. The more they meet the standards you set for them, the more freedom they can have. –Pastor Jason Baird





**Drivers, Start...Your...Engines  
Please join us for the Awana Grand Prix!**

**Sunday, March 28 @ 5 p.m.  
\$7/car**



**For sale on Wednesday nights  
before Awana**

**All ages are welcome!**



**March**

**\*Cars for sale all month**

- 3- Regular club night
- 10- Regular club night
- 17- NO CLUB (Spring Break)
- 24- Regular club night
- \*\*car cutting available
- 28- GRAND PRIX
- 31- Regular club night

**Vacation Bible School**



Join us for an awesome time aboard the Rocky Railway where we will learn all about Jesus' power! VBS will be in person this year at Ramoth on July 5-9 from 9-12 pm.

Ages- PreK-completed 5th grade

Please consider volunteering for this event. Even if you can't attend that week there will be plenty of prep work needed also.

We will need at least 100 volunteers for this week!

**Summer Camp**



CentriKid camp at Skycroft Conference Center in Middletown, MD  
When: July 26-30

Who: Completed 2nd-5th graders  
Cost: \$319 with opportunities for discounts.

**\$50 deposit due by March 7**  
Come with us to camp where we will learn how to walk as Jesus walked!

# REFUGEE

## Ministry Center

HOURS OF OPERATION FOR CENTER  
 MON - THURS  
 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 by appointment only  
 1126 Kellogg Mill Road  
 Stafford, VA 22554

English poet, Alexander Pope, coined the phrase “hope springs eternal in the human breast.” Many of us have only heard the hope springs eternal part and very few have understood the religious sentiment behind the quote. Hope is, of course, the belief one holds during difficult circumstances that things will get better. The thought stresses the importance of knowing where our hope comes from, which is God. And through God not only do we have hope, but we also receive Help.

The greatest Help that we can receive from God is a genuine relationship with Him. Through that relationship we have access to His word that Helps us to find our way, gives us wisdom, reminds us of His promises, and shows us the future that is in store for us. We also gain Help through the Holy Spirit that comforts us in times of trouble and despair, that gives us peace when anxiety and fear arise, and strengthens our resolve when we face adversity and challenges. The Help does not end there, because God sends His people to Help others as an

extension of His kingdom’s work.

The word “Help” appears over 120 times in the Bible. Sometimes it is referencing the “Helper” that was promised after Jesus’ ascension. Other times it is referring to the “Help” that comes from God directly or indirectly. The important point to remember is that “Help” is always available through God, His word, and His people. And here are a few passages that can assure you of this very thought.

**Psalm 46:1-3** “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.”

**Isaiah 40:29** “He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.”

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But

woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up.”

**Leviticus 25:35:** “If your brother becomes poor and cannot maintain himself with you, you shall support him as though he were a stranger and a sojourner, and he shall live with you.”

By God’s word are we told of the “Help” that we can have access to in our daily lives. By God’s word are we told the kind of “Help” we are to be to others in their times of need. By God’s word we, the church, are commanded to be extension of the Hope and Help that comes from having real connections to God Almighty. Let us all partner together to be the “Help” that others can call upon and depend upon, because we are doing what God has called us to do. If you need Hope or Help, we are here for you...just let us know what the need is. As always, God bless and be well,

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

Integrity 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?

**February 2021** – We surveyed *Proverbs*, *Ecclesiastes*, and *Song of Solomon*. These are considered books of wisdom. Wisdom is the application of knowledge and experience. In the 31 chapters of *Proverbs*, wise/wisdom is used 113 times. The shorter book of *Ecclesiastes* refers to them 49 times. But we also learned that if we lack wisdom, we can ask God for it and he will provide it

*“liberally and without reproach.”* (Jam 1:6).

And we know that

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.”* (Proverbs 1:7).

Looking at the books in a different order, they would show a progression of Solomon's life. Song of Solomon is more of a love poem and would have been written in his younger years. *Proverbs* are short rhyming verse that would have been collected and written through his middle years. These often provide two views of the same idea and sometimes two different

views of the same subject. Finally, *Ecclesiastes* is more an organized book of thoughts that would have been written in his old age near the end of his life as he looked back over his life realizing that life is short, work is empty without God, and we all end up accountable in Eternity. In the end we know that Jesus is the personification of wisdom that we should all be seeking, and we should be letting God bring meaningfulness to our life through His wisdom. Eccl 12:13 says,

*“The conclusion, when all has been heard, is fear God and keep His commandments because this applies to every person.”*

Finally, what this Nation requires to get back on course is a healthy fear of God so that we can gain the wisdom we can apply in our lives and the life of our Nation.

**March 2021** – The study will survey Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Lamentations.

**Iron Sharpens Iron** - Monday, March 01 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, [sitnchip@gmail.com](mailto:sitnchip@gmail.com).



*Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions we will **not** be able to have Secret Sisters. This has been suspended until further notice. If your Secret Sister did not reveal her identity or you did not receive a letter from the 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](mailto: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 Patches & Woody Wooden with this group. Contact Woody at [counseling@rbcestafford.org](mailto:counseling@rbcestafford.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

**LOOKING TOWARD A BETTER YEAR!**

As the months have flown by in 2020, we are certainly looking forward to restarting PrimeTimers.

Please pray for 2021 for us to be able to resume our PrimeTimers luncheons.

We believe that followers of Jesus NEVER retire and that Senior Saints at RBC are never invaluable to the process of making this ministry grow.

Please continue to pray as we look forward on how to resume this ministry!

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

*Margaret Canter*

***January Stewardship***

Undesignated Giving to date:

**\$68,867.83**

Expenses to date:

**\$64,958.34**

Designated Giving to date:

**\$3,384.81**

Average Worship Attendance for **FEBRUARY**

**230**

Give in person, by mail, or

online at

[www.rbcestafford.org](http://www.rbcestafford.org)

***RAMOTH CEMETERY  
MEMORIAL FUND***

Balance January 1, 2021	\$142,559.00
Memorial Gifts	\$ 0.00
Paid Out Mowing & Fuel	\$ 0.00
Balance January 31, 2021	\$142,559.00

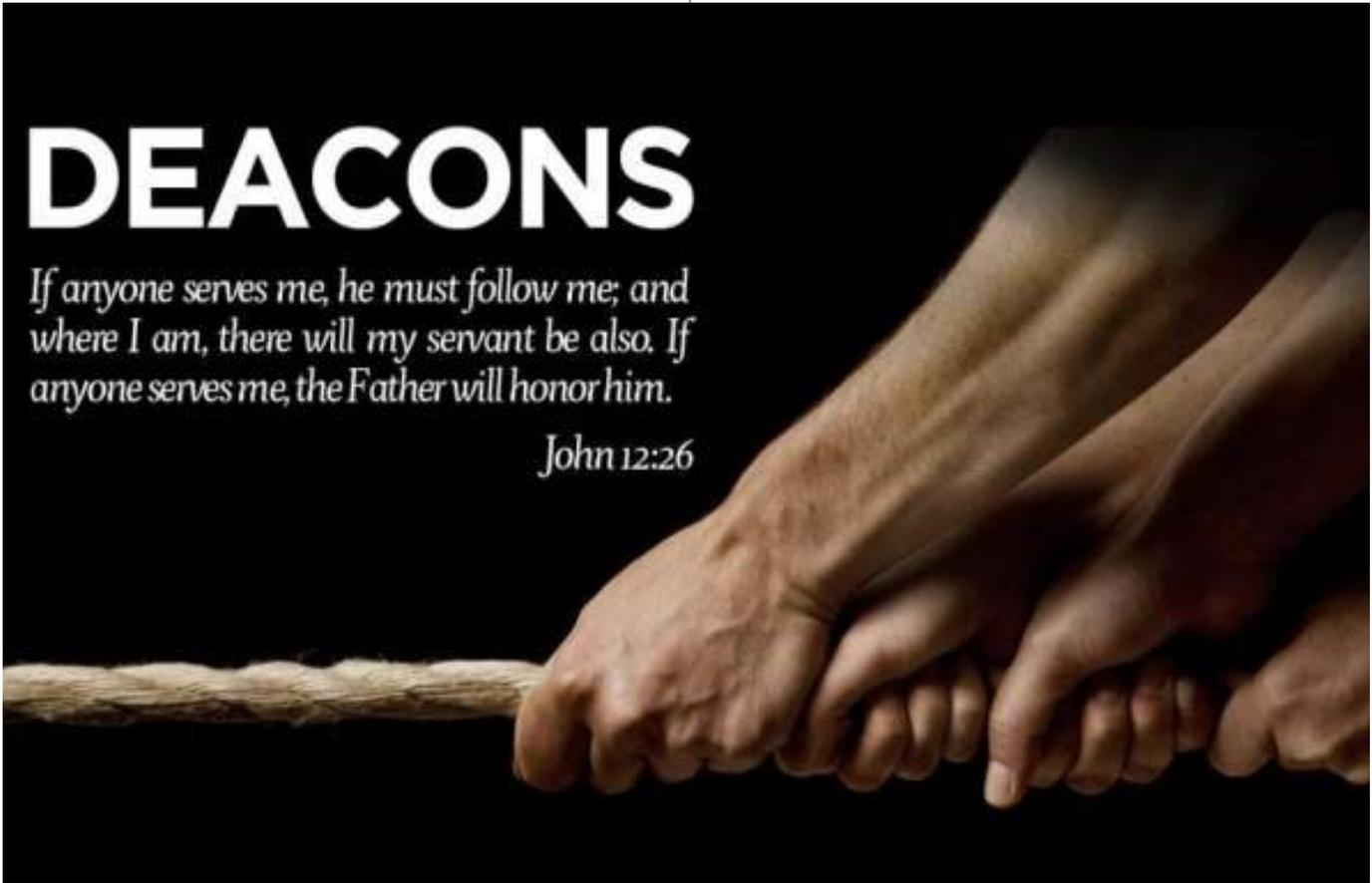
NO gifts given during January.



# DEACONS

*If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*

*John 12:26*



**NEXT DEACONS' MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, March 23 at 7:00 PM**

## DEACONS OF THE WEEK

MARCH 7

Flavius Lungoccia 540-840-5689  
Joe Gallegos 915-433-8157

MARCH 14

Tim Eicher 540-907-1545  
Bob Lingo 540-426-6140

MARCH 21

Shelby Burnett 540-903-0470  
Jeff Robinson 540-286-2837

MARCH 28

Cary Veteto 931-260-1034  
Jeff Johnson 540-836-7535

**ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING®  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

**GOAL \$10,000**

**Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable,  
always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your  
labor is not in vain in the LORD**

1 Corinthians 15:58 NKJ

**The  
mission  
moves  
forward**

***A Mission Field in Need of Hope***

The **North American Mission Board**  
serves a diverse and complex region comprised of: United States, Canada and U.S. territories  
of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa



**North American  
Mission Board**



**MARCH 2**

**Brileigh Frank**

Kim Mumaw  
Jeff Robinson

**MARCH 3**

Herb Schweiter

**MARCH 4**

Shelia Alford

**MARCH 6**

Maddie Smith  
James Taah

**MARCH 7**

**Levi Bolton**

Frances Jones

**MARCH 8**

Cynthia English

**MARCH 9**

Sonja Edson

Artie Limerick

**MARCH 10**

Logan Garrison

Katie Thompson

**MARCH 11**

Jackie Dawley

Mark Larrabee

Jeff Sullivan

Douglas Thompson

**MARCH 12**

Tim Eicher

Sarah Good

Kayla Limerick

Sean Truax

J Young

**MARCH 13**

Candience Vanover

**MARCH 15**

**Emily Frank**

Greg Kolandjian

**MARCH 20**

Madison Bennett

Lindsey Stence

**MARCH 21**

Shannon Turman

**MARCH 23**

Joann Jewell

Terry Menteer

**MARCH 24**

Jeff Tyson

**MARCH 25**

Aaron Hudson

**MARCH 26**

Rod Montgomery

**MARCH 27**

Brandon Kearns

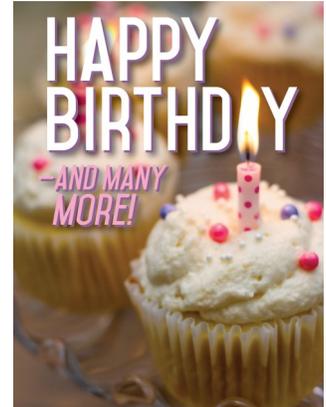
Jacob Nimeth

**MARCH 31**

Margaret Canter

Shaye Coffman

Amy Mehochko



**HUGHES HOME BIRTHDAYS**

3/11/1926  
Alberta Myers

3/13/1927  
Margaret Fowler

3/24/1949  
Joyce Hogan



**Send your birthday cards  
to the following address**

**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  
The Family of Gary Bennett  
on the passing of his mother, Mildred Bennett**

**February 1, 2021**

**The Family of Connie Knowles  
as she left this world to be in paradise with God**

**February 20, 2021**



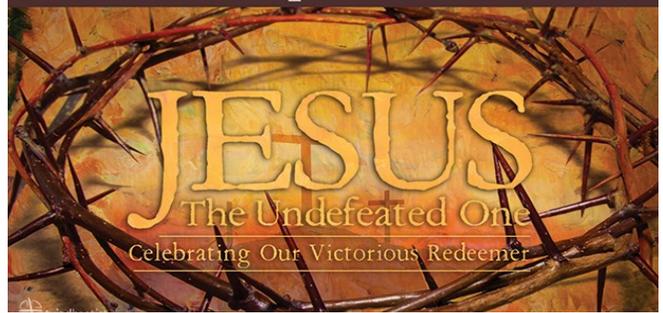
The Awana Grand Prix will be held on Sunday, March 28 with first race at 5 PM.

Not too late, still can get car kits for \$7 a kit from Ms. Jaynie.

If you have questions please contact Jaynie Hudson, [children@rbcbstafford.org](mailto:children@rbcbstafford.org).



### Join Us for a Special Presentation



Exalted Worship Choir has begun rehearsals for the Easter Presentation! It's not too late to join this group as they gear up for Easter.

Contact Pastor Chuck Hite for additional information:  
[worship@rbcbstafford.org](mailto:worship@rbcbstafford.org)  
 540-659-4588 ext. 5

**Easter Sunday**

**Worship Schedule**

<b>TBA</b>	<b>Sunrise Service in back parking lot</b>
<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Worship with Exalted Worship Choir presentation of JESUS the UNDEFEATED ONE</b>
<b>10:45AM</b>	<b>Worship with Exalted Worship Choir presentation of JESUS the UNDEFATED ONE</b>

## Hope fair

*Sunday, March 28 at 9:30*

Join us in the Fellowship Hall between our services to learn about Refuge Ministry and all the areas of the ministry that will be offered.



RAMOTH BAPTIST CHURCH

478 Ramoth Church Road  
Stafford, Virginia 22554  
(540) 659-4588  
[www.rbcstafford.org](http://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)