

# dbc Courier

November 5, 2009

DERBYSHIRE BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 9 No. 22

## STEWARDS OF GOD'S HOUSEHOLD

Currently we are focusing on what it means to be "stewards of God's household." We view ourselves as those who are responsible for the gospel of Christ in and through the church. This makes us "stewards" – every one of us. There is no such thing as a Christian believer who is not also a steward. The entire "household" has been put into our hands, and in order to fulfill our responsibility of preserving, knowing and understanding, living out, and witnessing to the gospel, we must use the resources God has given us for this purpose -- time, energy, ability, and money. Our whole selves in service are required.

This is a time for us to reflect on and pray about our stewardship, both individually and collectively. Then every member and active participant will be asked to make a personal financial commitment. This involves completing and submitting a commitment card.

**What is a commitment card?** A commitment card is a statement of intent. It is not a contract, but a pledge to support the church financially in the coming year. Not only is it important that our church leaders know what dollar amounts to expect (in order to prepare a sound plan and budget for future expenditures), but it is also critical that you make a definite, deliberate decision to support the church. Unmade decisions are never accomplished.

**May I change my commitment?** Of course! Should changing circumstances alter your commitment, simply call our financial secretary, Julie Hoffman (740-7238), to increase or decrease your giving.

**Which missions plan on the commitment card should I choose?** The choice is yours. You have three options, as explained on the card. If you do not choose a plan, Plan #2 is automatically chosen for you as the default plan. The primary difference is that Plan #1 sends funds for missions support through the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), while Plan #3 sends funds through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). Plan #2 is a modified version of Plan #1 – no funds go through the CBF; less go to the SBC; and more go to the Baptist General Assoc. of Virginia. All three plans support the work of Virginia Baptists and Richmond Baptists. Please contact the pastor if you have questions.

**How and when do I receive my commitment card?** You will receive a card in the mail this week. Additional cards are available in the church office and in various locations throughout the church.

**How do I turn in my commitment card?** Bring your completed card to a worship service on Sunday, November 15. We will give and receive these cards together as a family of faith. If you cannot be present on November 15, place your card in the offering plate the next Sunday. You may also mail or bring your card to the church office. Or, you may call or email Julie Hoffman.

**How much should I commit to give?** The level of your giving is both a serious decision and a sacred action that you make before God. It is a matter of faith. It reflects the level of your own Christian commitment and spiritual maturity.

Christians throughout history have found these guidelines to be helpful in determining an actual dollar amount to give to the church:

**Give first.** Make giving a priority, and give the first fruits (not what's left-over) of your income to God.

**Give regularly.** Cultivate a regular discipline of faithfulness, rather than how you feel at the time.

**Give responsibly.** Give in a way that demonstrates you are accepting personal responsibility for the message and ministry of Christ through the church, rather than expecting everyone else to do it.

**Give proportionately.** Give a portion of your income that means something. Traditionally believers have used the measure of the tithe, or 10% of income. If you are not yet at this level, give a percentage that truly and strongly reflects the importance of the work of Christ in your life.

**Give sacrificially.** While not everyone is able to give the same amount, everyone is called to give at the same level of sacrifice.

**Give increasingly.** As your income and resources increase, so should your giving. Look at this year's giving, and exceed it. Do this every year. This is a sign of spiritual health and growth.

**Give thankfully.** Remember God's gifts and blessings. Christian giving is motivated by gratitude for the goodness of God.

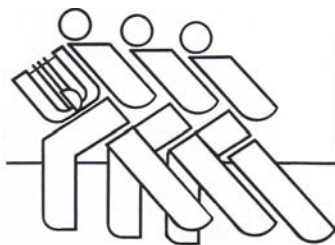
**Give cheerfully.** Give out of joy over what God has done in Christ and is doing in and through our church.

**Give prayerfully and expectantly.** When you give, accomplish your gifts with prayer. Look for your contributions to make a difference both in the church

Continued next column...

and in the wider world. Be confident that God will combine your gifts with many others, and use them in ways that you cannot fully see or even imagine.

**Give worshipfully.** Give as an act of worship. Give in a way and at a level that honor and glorify God. Realize that what you are doing is offering yourself – a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship (Rom. 12:1).



**'Bound  
for the  
Kingdom!'**

**Sunday, November 22**

**Thanksgiving Dinner\* - 5:15 PM**

**\*Tickets are required and must be purchased  
no later than Sunday, Nov. 15**

Ticket Cost: \$6.50 - Adult \$3.00 - Child (10 and under)

*(Tickets available Sundays outside the kitchen before  
Sunday School and in the Gallery after 11:00 AM  
worship, as well as weekdays in the Church Office)*

**Golden Tones Choir Concert - 6:00 PM**

## SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITY DAY

**Thursday, November 12**

**10:30 AM – 3:00 PM, Bryant Hall**

Our Senior Adult Activity Day is designed so that folks may come and go throughout the day, if they so desire. Our next activity day will consist of the following:

- "How to play bridge" class – 10:30 a.m. until noon – led by Tom Bagwell
- Basic Computer training class – 10:30 a.m. until noon – led by Del Agee
- How to make your own greeting cards – 10:30 a.m. until noon **AND** 12:45 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. – led by Carol McIntire
- Select your own leisurely activity (board games, card games, jig saw puzzles, ladder ball, will be provided) – 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lunch will be from 12 - 12:45. Please bring a brown bag lunch and join in the fun and fellowship. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Come and participate in the activities of your choice **AND** be sure to bring a friend.

## NOVEMBER JOY CLUB MEETING

**Thursday, November 19**

**10:30 AM, Chapel**

**Program, Golden Tones**

A Brunswick stew lunch will follow in room 105 catered by Virginia Cannon and Sally Whitlock.



## FIFTH SUNDAY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 29

**9:45 AM, Bryant Hall**

**Come hear W. Joseph Owen, III.**

Joe began practicing law in 1976 after receiving his J.D. from the University of Virginia Law School. He is an experienced and well-respected trial lawyer who has achieved large jury verdicts and settlements in civil cases and excellent results for clients in criminal cases. He is currently the Chairman of the Drug Court Foundation of Chesterfield County and has served on the Board of Directors of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys.

## WORDS OF GRATITUDE...

for the church's prayers and expressions of love and concern have been received from:

**Larry & Linda Burchett  
Nuon, Chhuon, Lim, & Him families**

## Women's Morning Mission

**Group Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 10**

**10:30 AM, Chapel**

Ralph and Peggy Jones will be sharing their missionary experiences with us!

Transportation from Lakewood Manor will leave at 10:00 AM from the main entrance.



## BAPTIST CENTER CHRISTMAS STORES

As temperatures finally begin to cool down and the leaves turn, it's about time once again to start thinking about Christmas! Before we know it the

Richmond Baptist Center's Christmas stores will need to be stocked and ready. Here are the items needed by November 22: new toys and clothes for children birth to 12 years old; games, books, tricycles, bicycles, helmets, sports equipment, jeans, tops, sweaters, pajamas, coats, hats, gloves, socks, underwear - all kinds and sizes. Gifts should be left unwrapped. Collection boxes can be found near the welcome center and the choir suite.

## NOMINATIONS NEEDED

The Nominating Team is requesting nominations from the congregation for four (4) key positions on the Church Council: Moderator, Council on Ministries Leader, Administrative Director, and Leadership Development Leader. Ballots, describing the duties/responsibilities of each position, will be available in the church office and gallery, beginning Sunday, November 15. Please review the ballot, submit your potential nominees, and return the ballot to the church office or place in the box in the gallery no later than Sunday, December 6.

## TWO GRIEF SEMINARS TO BE OFFERED

*"Understanding Grief After the  
Death of An Infant"*

**Saturday, November 14**

**9:00 AM-12:00 Noon, Parlor**

*"Grief: Coping With the Holidays After a Loss"*  
(Part 2)

**Sunday, November 15**

**3:30-5:00 PM, Parlor**

To register, please call the church office at 740-7238 (x21), or email [griefministry@DBCRichmond.org](mailto:griefministry@DBCRichmond.org). Both seminars are sponsored by the Robert Scott Aronson Grief Ministry of Derbyshire.

## OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Income Month	\$ 79,354
Investment Income Month	\$ 5,166
Expenses Month	\$ 98,390
Total Month	\$ (13,870)
Income YTD	\$ 925,091
Investment Income YTD	\$ 20,837
Expenses YTD	\$ 952,214
Income Less Expenses YTD	\$ (6,286)
Missions YTD	\$128,619