

# UPDATE

For the spirit of the city



2209 East Grace Street Richmond, VA

September 2008

## Tending The Spirit

### Qp" Tg! gev kqp

There is a place, entering into silence and beauty, which may be called reflection. It is somewhere between meditation and contemplation, an easier place, where the thoughts and hopes of the day intermingle with love and prayer.

Whether it is properly understood as prayer itself, or as a form of prayer, I do not know. All I know is that it is inexpressibly sweet, and incredibly, wonderfully helpful.

Early in the morning, as the low light of the sun begins to tell the tale of the day from its beginning again; in the autumn, as the warm afternoon and coppered leaves illumine depths of feeling; in the brisk, glistening dry light of mid-winter snowfall; on a stormy summer day when gray clouds rule the sky and the rain commands silence; -- in all of these times and more the sentient universe invites the spirit to the place of reflection.

It is as if the dusty ground became moist, the hard edges soft, the flat surface round, the empty space somehow full.

Here is a place of meaning.

The invitation, surely, is from the spirit who made and inhabits every thing, every place, and every moment. In this spirit even stones are soluble, and not the least the hardest stones of the spirit: despair, hatred, fear, prejudice, lust, jealousy, greed, guilt. The opaque barriers to sight melt in the offered presence of the conversation of God.

Reflection of this sort is unmistakably of God. It is the kind of play that children feel in his household. There is no threat, no condemnation, no intrusion -- only safety, love, and a chance to look out the window without fear or haste.

Here, in this time, the matters of urgency are taken up in perspective. It is the unhurried consideration of hurried matters that is the surest sign of this mercy. It would not be possible -- it has not been possible -- and later, it may not be possible again. But here, in this wave-rocked moment, a

true perspective cradles the conversation.

Is this Bible study? Often it begins that way, although more likely from a random word or phrase than from a lengthier selection.

Is it Christian? Or can it occur with and for all humanity? What then, would make it Christian?

When one has some sense of the nature of Jesus and the holy spirit which forms and surrounds, leads and accompanies him, one realizes that this place of reflection, available to all, is most especially his own playroom, his own place of comfort, the sweet harbor he holds open for each one of us.

Rest is so important for reflection of this sort. The time of reflection is rest made effective in perspective and judgement.

Perspective is not a matter, simply, of knowledge or information. Perspective is finding God's eyes in our own, being seen through, so that we may see right. Perspective is a matter of spirit, and that spirit is present in reflection.

Reflection takes time. It heals time. It changes time. It is one of the places, perhaps the most important place, where the call of God meets the imperfect, unfinished scripts of our little lives and invites us into a deeper eternity. There, in the gentle breeze of the spirit, we taste and sense a vision

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in us is the love  
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## Tending the Spirit [cont.]

of who we have been, who God is, what is going on in the world, and who we can be.

Inevitably, the time will end. The shade is drawn, and we awaken to the simple, often frightening reality we left. But the visit home cannot be forgotten.

It may be that the reality we saw, feared, and spoke about while we were away will be transformed as we live it. Or it may be that the only transformation we see this day will be our own.

The reflection in us is the love we have known, the light we have seen, the mercy that we have been shown.

*B. P. Campbell  
Pastoral Director*

### INDIVIDUAL RETREAT

*Available each week in 24-hour  
increments between 4:00 pm,  
Monday and 4:00 pm, Sunday*

### JOIN IN THE RHYTHM OF LIFE WITH THE COMMUNITY.

*Silent retreat, spiritual direction, and  
Christian healing prayer sessions are  
available to those on individual retreat.*

*Suggested Donation:  
Directed, \$75 per night  
Non-directed, \$50 per night*

*Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or  
guestmaster@richmondhillva.org*

## Community News

### Keeping God's Time



In July Bob Lytle, a skilled carpenter and long-time friend of Richmond Hill, completed the installation of the *gnomon* on the Sundial Tower of Richmond Hill. The sundial is now keeping “God’s Time” in the tower, which is accessible both from the front lobby and from the solarium.

The Richmond Hill Sundial is a vertical sundial, a common form of sundial in the old plazas of European cities. What is unusual is that it is read from the reverse through frosted glass. This strategy for telling time is quite unusual.

It was designed by John Gass, the architect of Richmond Hill, and Ben Campbell. The glass was produced by Wayne Cain, a local stained glass artist. The window was built by R. D. Radford, Bruce Herndon, and Johnny Parish of Conquest, Moncure, and Dunn, and Scott Nichols of Monument Construction.

In order for the sundial to register properly, the crew surveyed the site and pointed the major window due South. The gnomon, which is adjustable, had to be constructed at a precise angle, the reciprocal of the latitude of Richmond. The calculations were performed by the Science Museum of Virginia, courtesy of Walter Witschey, the former Director. Even with these precise calculations and construction, the sundial can be off as much as 12 minutes due to astrological discrepancies.

The Sundial Tower is dedicated to the three peoples who inhabited Colonial Virginia, and in prayer for their full reconciliation and just relationship. It was given in memory of Edmund D. and Elizabeth P. Campbell by H. Donald Campbell.

**Rqkvkqpu"Cxckncdng**

These positions are available at Richmond Hill. Preference is given to persons who make a commitment as members of the Residential Community. Job descriptions are shaped to fit the particular gifts of persons called to residency.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR.** We are seeking an experienced spiritual director who will oversee the spiritual guidance program, help to train adjunct spiritual directors, direct individual retreats, and provide spiritual guidance.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR.** This is a residential position for a married or single person, including basic pastoral duties, liturgical work and preaching, work with program, and spiritual counsel. If skills and interest are present, work may include public ministry in the larger community of Richmond as well.

**DATA COORDINATOR.** This is a full-time residential position for an imaginative person, single or married, who will establish and maintain a full data base of members and friends of Richmond Hill, retreats, churches, and clergy. The position includes ample opportunities for other ministries as well.

**INTERNSHIPS IN URBAN SPIRITUALITY.** Residential internships at Richmond Hill are for a one-year term beginning in the Fall. This program is designed for persons who wish to explore ministry and vocation in this residential Christian Community for a year. Some persons participate full-time in the Community and its ministry; others do so while in seminary or graduate school. Inquiries and applications can be made at any time.

TO INQUIRE OR APPLY contact the Rev. Ben Campbell, Pastoral Director, at 783-7903 or e-mail: [pastoraldirector@richmondhillva.org](mailto:pastoraldirector@richmondhillva.org)

**kpvgtguvgf"kp"Xqnpvvggtpi"cv"  
Tke j o qpf" J kmA**

Richmond Hill is looking for volunteers to help in the ministries of Richmond Hill. Several opportunities are available for you to be a part of a committee, the hospitality team, the front desk staff, the mailing team, the maintenance crew, the housekeeping staff, or the gardening crew.

If you or your church would be interested in volunteering at Richmond Hill, please contact the Rev. Del Sledge, administrator or Scott Simmons at 783-7903, or e-mail to [ssimmons@richmondhillva.org](mailto:ssimmons@richmondhillva.org)

**Ogvtq"Tke j o qpf"cv"Rtc{gt"ku"e"eqqrgtcvkxg."eqxgpcpvgf"ghhqtv"** of the churches of Metropolitan Richmond. We pray together each Sunday for the common concerns of our Metropolitan Richmond community. Coordination of this effort is provided by Richmond Hill. Ask your Pastor to commit your congregation to participate.

To order the prayer book, or to obtain a covenant, call the Rev. Del Sledge at 783-7903 ext. 24, or e-mail Metro Richmond at Prayer at [mrp@richmondhillva.org](mailto:mrp@richmondhillva.org). You may also fill out a covenant at our website: [www.metrorichmondatprayer.org](http://www.metrorichmondatprayer.org).



**Metro Richmond at Prayer**

**Rtc{"hqt"Uejqqnu"cpf"Gfwecvkqpcn"Kpukvwwkqpu"qh"  
Ogvtqrqkvcp"Tke j o qpf**

*Only take heed, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children...*

(Duet 4:9 RSV)

Ugrv o dgt"422:

**Ugrv o dgt"9."422:.** We pray for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond: For superintendents, School Boards, PTAs, and Administrators of the Public Schools; for healthy relationships between parents, teachers, and students.

**Ugrv o dgt"36."422:.** We pray for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond: For all public schools - students, teachers, support personnel, and staff - including cafeteria workers, building and grounds staff, and school bus drivers.

**Ugrv o dgt"43."422:.** We pray for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond: For all private and religious schools, pre-schools and daycare centers, all children in home schools.

**Ugrv o dgt"4:."422:0** We pray for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond: For all universities, colleges, seminaries, trade, technical, graduate, and professional schools.

## Classes

### REDEEMING RICHMOND

*Dates: Thursday evenings, September 25 - November 13, 2008. 7:30 p.m.*  
*Facilitator: Rev. Benjamin P. Campbell, Pastoral Director*  
*Suggested Donation: \$120 with supper included; \$80 lectures only.*



This course is a series of eight lectures on the History of Richmond from the time of its original inhabitants to the present. It explores the Covenant which the European settlers claimed to make with the God who is the Father of Jesus, and the original sins which were committed in the establishment of Richmond, and have continued to this day. Finally, it addresses the urgent mission of redeeming Richmond.



1. The Covenant of Richmond.
2. The Reasons for Jamestown.
3. The Conquest of Tsenacomoco.
4. An Economy of Servants and Slaves.
5. City of Slaves.
6. Segregation and Resegregation.
7. Modern Patterns of the Original Sin.
8. Redeeming Richmond.

Advanced registration is encouraged.

*Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)*

## Retreats

### WHEN DREAMS DIE

*Dates: October 24-26, 2008*  
*Facilitators: Jerry and Patsi Deans, Sandy Gramling*  
*Suggested Donation: \$150*

This retreat will address reactions and responses to losses that occur in our lives. More than just the death of loved ones, our dreams die whenever we are forced to deal with changes and disruptions in our preconceived personal realities.

There will be four distinct parts of the retreat:

1. The Problem with Problems
2. Standing on the Promises
3. Preparing for and Receiving the Help God Sends.
4. Reconciling and Redeeming our Losses.

*Jerry and Patsi Deans have led a grief ministry at Cool Springs Baptist Church for the last 4 years. Jerry has a Masters in Social Work from VCU and recently retired from the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.*

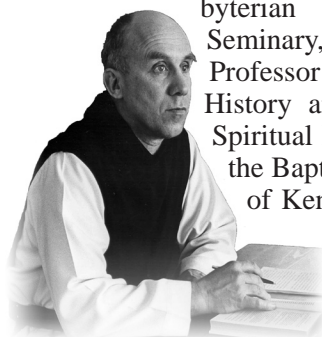
*Sandy Gramling is on the faculty in the Psychology Department at VCU, is a licensed clinical psychologist, teaches stress management, and has co-authored two books on stress.*

*Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)*

### THOMAS MERTON

*C" Tgvtgevd{ "Ft" G" Ingpp" Jkpuqp*  
*Dates: October 31 - November 2, 2008*  
*Facilitator: Dr. Glenn Hinson*  
*Suggested Donation: \$160*  
*Co Sponsored by First Baptist Church, Richmond*

Dr. E. Glenn Hinson became a personal friend of Thomas Merton when Hinson was a professor of Church History at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville in the 1950's. Merton, Trappist monk and spiritual writer, lived in the Abbey of Gethsemani near Louisville. Hinson went on to become involved in the ecumenical revival of spirituality in Christianity. From 1994 to 2004 he taught Church History and Christian Spirituality at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. Currently, he is Visiting Professor at Louisville Pres-



byterian Theological Seminary, and Senior Professor of Church History and Christian Spiritual Formation at the Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. He is the author of many books, including *Re-*

*ligious Liberty: The Christian Roots of Our Fundamental Freedoms, and A Serious Call to a Contemplative Lifestyle.* Dr. Hinson has a D. Phil from Oxford in Early Church History, as well as a Th.D. in New Testament from Louisville.

Dr. Hinson recommends that retreat participants obtain a copy of Lawrence Cunningham's *Thomas Merton: Spiritual Master: The Essential Writings* (Paulist Press). Available from the Richmond Hill Book Store.

*Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)*

### CREATING A (SUB) URBAN CONSCIENCE

*Dates: November 21-23, 2008*  
*Facilitator: The Rev. Ben Campbell, Pastoral Director*  
*Suggested Donation: \$150*

Metropolitan Richmond is one socio-economic city with four major governmental units and at least six smaller ones. The divisions among jurisdictions give a particular quality to the continuing issues of race, class, and poverty; issues of social justice for Christians. A new generation of Christians is seeking to address and alleviate these problems, which are rooted in the history of these divisions. There are original sins here – class, racism, Pharisaic religion, and greed. This retreat will address the precedents in our metropolitan city created by our history, allow for discussion about how to heal the wounds created by our history, and develop strategy on how we can help to develop a healthy community and seek God's righteousness for the more than one million citizens of the city of metropolitan Richmond.

*Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)*

### ADVENT RETREAT

*Dates: December 6 & 7, 2008*  
*Facilitators: Annie and Ben Campbell*  
*Suggested Donation: \$75*

Advent provides a special opportunity to stop and reflect, to be still before the holy day which marks the beginning of the new year, to prepare for the celebra-

## Retreats [cont.]

tion of Jesus' birth through reflection.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

C"Eqpyg o rnevkg"Yqtujkr"Tgvtge" hgevwtkpi"Qhgtkpi

Dates: January 30 - February 1, 2009

Suggested Donation: \$150

Come join the Richmond Hill Community and Offering as we experience a weekend of worship without confinement, patterning our weekend after the rhythm of prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. The weekend will offer opportunities for musical worship, reflection, and creative expression.

Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)

## Schools

### PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Opening 24 hour retreat: September 6-7, 2008

Classes are on Thursday weekly from 6-9:30 pm beginning September 11, 2008

Pastoral Care and Counseling is a one-year program that focuses on enhancing one's skills in ministering to those who are experiencing physical, emotional, and spiritual difficulties. It also helps persons improve the quality of their own self-reflection through journaling, prayer, meditation, and Bible reflection. Weekly sessions are held on Thursday nights beginning with community prayer at 6:00 pm in the chapel and followed by dinner and class.

For further information, call the Rev. Dr. Alice Harris, Director, at 804-783-7903 or 804-232-8312, or e-mail at [aharris@richmondhillva.org](mailto:aharris@richmondhillva.org)

NEW for 08-09

## Just-FAITH

LWUV"HCKVJ"Uejqqn"qh"Ejtkvkc"p Vtcpuht o cvkqp

In Cooperation with the Catholic Diocese of Richmond

Classes are on Thursdays from 6-9:30 pm beginning September 18, 2008 - May 17, 2009.

Includes two 48-hour retreats.  
Suggested Donation: \$500  
Scholarships are available.

Our Christian faith and Biblical tradition extend an extraordinary invitation to each of us and our faith communities to become agents of God's compassion and healing in a wounded world. The Good News of Christ is both a comfort and a promise for the poor and, at the same time, a call to those of us who are not poor to be linked with God's vision of justice and reconciliation. The Church's history shines with examples of courage and commitment of those who addressed themselves to the needs of our most desperate sisters and brothers.

JustFAITH®, a thirty-week adult formation program, offers an opportunity for Christians in Metropolitan Richmond to experience a spiritual journey into compassion. Most of us long to be a generous and compassionate people; however, the occasions to explore this faith tradition in a deliberate and engaging way have largely not been available. JustFAITH provides a lively and challenging format to read, view, discuss, pray, experience and be formed by the faith tradition that changes lives, inspires compassion, and transforms the world.

Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)

## Groups

### AA TWELVE-STEP MEETING

Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m.

### CENTERING PRAYER GROUPS

Tuesdays, 4:45 - 5:45 p.m.,

Karen Moore, facilitator

Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.,

Helen Eano, facilitator

Each group is open to all, both those who have experience in centering prayer, and those who do not.

Contact: Karen Moore at 783-7903 or [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)

## Retreat Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Retreat: \_\_\_\_\_

A non-refundable 50% deposit is required.

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is \$

\_\_\_\_ I need scholarship assistance.

Please contact me.

Make checks payable to  
**Richmond Hill**

**Please complete registration form and return with check to:**

Richmond Hill  
2209 E. Grace Street  
Richmond, VA 23223  
Attn: Karen Moore

804.783-7903 Fax: 804.783-7957  
Email: [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)

Web Site: [www.richmondhillva.org](http://www.richmondhillva.org)

Richmond Hill retreats and classes are open to anyone interested in strengthening their relationship with God. Suggested donations are set as low as possible and are subsidized by the labor and love of many volunteers. Scholarships are available upon request.

For more information on the opportunities listed here, contact Karen Moore at 783-7903 or e-mail [guestmaster@richmondhillva.org](mailto:guestmaster@richmondhillva.org)

**DAILY PRAYERS**

Morning 7:00-7:30 A.M.  
 Noon 12:00 - 12:15 A.M.  
 Evening 6:00-6:15 P.M.

**COMMUNITY WORSHIP**

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Every Monday

The community celebrates Holy Communion. Services are led by ministers of various denominations according to their traditions. We invite you to join us afterwards for dinner in the refectory.

**TAIZÉ**

Leader: Jim Bennett  
 9:52"r0o0"Etuv"Oqpfcl"qh"gej"oqpvj

Taizé worship is contemplative and meditative in character, using short songs, repeated again and again in a candle lit chapel. Using just a few words, the songs express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, the hope is this reality will gradually penetrate one’s whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God.

We invite you to participate in our practice of Taizé which includes singing, praying for Metropolitan Richmond, and a period of silence. Jim Bennett is a skilled musician and leads this time of worship with a variety of musical instruments.

**34/UVGR" JQN["EQO OWPKQP**

2nd Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

The order of this service centers on the Twelve Steps used in the AA, NA, and many other programs. Open to everyone. For more information, please contact Ben Campbell at 783-7903.

**SOAKING PRAYER SERVICE**

Leader: Fontaine Williamson  
 4th Mondays at 7:30 p.m.  
 1st Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Those struggling with illness have benefitted from being “soaked in prayer” over periods of time. Prayer ministers are available to pray with those desiring emotional, spiritual, or physical healing. Participants are invited to find a comfortable place, sit, relax, and receive prayer. Participants may also come and go during the service.

**EUCARIST FOR GENERATIONAL HEALING**

Leader: The Rev. Janie Walker  
 5th Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Once a quarter, Richmond Hill offers a Eucharist for Generational Healing. This is an opportunity to invite God’s healing into your family, including the generations that came before and the generations that will come after you. Please bring the blessings as well as the pains and traumas of your ancestry written on a piece of paper (not to be shared). For more information call Janie Walker at 783-7903.

**Qp" J gcnkpi**

Healing: Committing one’s own life to inner healing and to the healing of the larger community of metropolitan Richmond. *Rule of Richmond Hill*

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.” (Romans 8:18-21 NIV)

Healing is a very powerful force. Healing is also, like our God, extremely mysterious in its very nature. We know from experience that healing (physical, relational, spiritual, emotional...) sometimes takes place in a miraculous, almost instantaneous fashion, while in other areas of our lives we wait patiently, literally long suffering, anxious for a healing that seemingly never comes.

The beauty of healing is that it is the goal of all of creation. Like doctors healing the ill, the first step towards healing is always a proper diagnosis of the cause of our suffering. Often, however, we do not take the time necessary to acquaint ourselves with the condition of our spirit, emotions, or even the community in which we live. We busy our lives with activities which impede our ability to obtain an atmosphere of peace and silence, which are necessary conditions for our internal diagnoses. We often avoid interactions with other people if our interaction with them makes our own deficiencies apparent.

At Richmond Hill it is our mission to pursue healing through prayer, racial reconciliation, hospitality and spiritual development. The hospitality of Richmond Hill invites opportunities for anyone interested to rest in peaceful quiet, seeking aid from the Spirit to identify the conditions of our emotional, physical, and spiritual states. We provide opportunities to interact with the unhealthy, or unattractive qualities of our city, prayerfully striving to create an environment of love, where issues of racial reconciliation and class structure can be openly and honestly discussed. As I continue to seek my own inner healing, I find that this community provides a safe place where I can wrestle with identifying my issues, and even make space in my life for the healing to begin.

Scott Simmons  
 Intern

## Vjg"Lqwtpg{"Eqpvkpwgu"

A consistent characteristic of transition is the recognition of a present experience being significantly tied to a prior experience (or experiences), indicating that the journey continues. This phenomenon is important for all of us who are in the midst of transitions to remember. As I contemplate the changes in my life, it has been important for me to remember the account of Jesus and His disciples on the mount we call Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9). Much of what was happening for Jesus and His disciples was tied to significant other times in their journeys. For example, Jesus heard on the mountain the same words he heard at his baptism, "My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Reflecting on this familiarity of words put me in touch with how often my own anxieties are alleviated, when passages from John 15 reverberate through my mind. Early in this journey, during another transition, God spoke to me through the familiar passage, "I am the vine, you are the branches. ...Abide in me and I will abide in you. ....You did not choose me, I chose you. I chose you that you might bear fruit that will last." These same words are remembered often, encouraging me on the journey.

I think I can also identify a little with the resistance that Peter must have experienced as I contemplate my leaving the staff at Richmond Hill. Transitions create chasms of struggle and resistance that ultimately are resolved only with acceptance. Without acceptance such chasms hold great potential for our becoming stuck. Had Peter been allowed to stay there and build tabernacles, he could have become distracted; his mission and purpose in life could have been halted. Thanks be to God, we serve a God who breaks through the cloud of our struggles and uncertainties. Our God still speaks: 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to him!'

God invites all who are in transition to listen to our Lord, who is present with us. Regardless of the struggles and resistances that accompany our transitions, we are invited to surrender, not just our thinking, but our attitudes and actions as well. Instead of the hustle and bustle of blueprints and construction materials, God invites us to give attention to what and who are presently before us. The one who is present with us 'will never leave us nor forsake us.' With listening hearts, we go with a sense of fulfillment, confidence, and purpose. We know that our Lord goes before us and new life awaits us. God offers the invitation that would free us to move on to the next phase. For, the journey continues.

*Reverend Janie M. Walker.  
Associate Pastor for Individual Ministry*

## Jctxguv"Vkog

I recently spent a few days with members of my family, which included four generations of persons from senior citizens to two year olds. It was a time of enjoyment, remembering, reviewing, updating, and getting acquainted.

As we look at the world through lenses of our own experiences, some of us focus on the angle and depths of the traits of each generation. As a result of this, we also see the image of God differently. Some see God as the eternal forgiver while others who know little love may view God as judge and jury. Our human limitation will not allow us to understand God completely, but God does intend for us to know Him more fully than we do. "The Lord searches all our hearts and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts; if we seek Him, He will be found in us." (1 Chronicles 28:9) When god looks at us He sees His children. What do we see?

The third generation of a family; a woman and her grandchild share more than keepsakes and memories. A grandmother knows the lifeblood beating through the child originally came from her and the child will grow to pass on the same life force. Only God could have designed such a marvelous plan! When we are born again the blood of Jesus enters our heart. It is just as critical to pass this life-giving blood on to generations to come. In Paul's second letter to Timothy he writes, "I call to remember the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and in their mother Eunice; and I am persuaded in thee also." (2 Timothy 1:5). Share the life blood!

The fourth generation was only concerned about the fruits of labor, whether it is the yield of jobs or the return on investment. This is not wrong. We need to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to our care, but we must keep it in perspective. Jesus said, "Labor not for the meat which perish but for meat which endureth into everlasting life." (John 6:27)

What do we spend our time doing? We may spend forty hours a week on a job in order to meet our physical needs. How much do we spend on our spiritual needs? Are we searching for evidence the rewards of the Word and for the fruit of the Spirit? It is harvest time when we gather in what we have grown. What does your crop look like?

*Rev. Dr. Alice W. Harris  
Pastoral Counselor*

For the Spirit of the City



2209 East Grace Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23223  
(804) 783-7903  
www.richmondhillva.org  
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September 2008



# Metro Richmond at Prayer

Ugrvg o dgt

Pray for Schools and Educational  
Institutions of Metropolitan  
Richmond

Richmond Hill is an ecumenical Christian fellowship and residential community who serve as stewards of an urban retreat center within the setting of a historic monastery. Our mission is to advance God's healing of Metropolitan Richmond through prayer, hospitality, racial reconciliation and spiritual development.

### RICHMOND HILL'S DAILY CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pray for Metropolitan Richmond Every Day:  
For the healing of metropolitan Richmond; for the sick and those in our hearts; for the welfare of all of our citizens; for the establishment of God's order in out community.

**MONDAYS:** Our citizens who live in the City of Richmond, the Mayor, Manager, City Council, and School Board. Non-profit organizations and their ministries. All schools: students, teachers, and staff. Day care centers. All who suffer from addiction, dependency, and codependency. The Council, residents, and staff of Richmond Hill.

**TUESDAYS:** Our citizens who live in Hanover County, the Board of Supervisors, School Board, and Manager. The print and broadcast media. The churches of metropolitan Richmond: members and clergy. All who live in poverty. All who suffer from mental illness.

**WEDNESDAYS:** The Governor of Virginia, the General Assembly, and all who work in State Government. All who work in businesses which provide services to others. All who work in construction. Hospitals and nursing homes: patients,

residents, and staff; all who provide health care. Victims of violent crime; all who commit violent crime. All senior citizens.

**THURSDAYS:** Our citizens who live in Ashland, Hopewell, Colonial Heights and Petersburg, the town and city Councils and Managers. All who work in banks and finance; all making financial decisions for greater Richmond. Prisons and jails of metropolitan Richmond: prisoners and staff. All who are unemployed or underemployed. All public servants.

**FRIDAYS:** Our citizens who live in Henrico County, the Supervisors, School Board, and County Manager. All who work in the manufacturing industry in metropolitan Richmond. The police, fire, and rescue workers. The courts. All young people. All who hurt, need inner healing, or are unable to love.

**SATURDAYS:** Our citizens who live in Chesterfield County, the Supervisors, School Board, and County Manager. All who work in retail trade in metropolitan Richmond, and those who own our businesses. Counselors and spiritual directors. The Sisters of the Visitation of Monte Maria. All victims of abuse; all perpetrators of abuse.

**SUNDAYS:** Our citizens who live in the Counties of Charles City, Goochland, Powhatan, and New Kent, the Supervisors, School Boards, and Managers. An end to racism and racial prejudice. All places of prayer or worship: churches, mosques, and synagogues. Universities, colleges, and technical schools. All who seek God.

*We pray daily at Richmond Hill for persons or situations for which our prayers are requested.  
Call us at 804-783-7903*



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