

# Roanoke Valley Baptist Association

3926 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012  
540-366-7631 ~ [www.rvba.org](http://www.rvba.org)

The FOCUS Newsletter  
October, November &  
December 2021 Edition

**Our Mission ~ Is to partner with and strengthen churches to advance the Kingdom of God  
and to meet needs in the community.**

**Our Vision ~ The Association is to be regional church network to:**

- be a vital resource for churches and church leaders;
- network with churches for church health and revitalization;
- model mission and ministry in our cultural context, providing opportunities for churches to partner together;
- reach the communities of the Roanoke Valley and beyond with the Gospel;
- encourage and support all ministers in the churches for personal, professional and spiritual growth

## RVBA Staff

Rev. Scott Hamilton  
Interim Associational Mission  
Strategist

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**The RVBA Staff wishes you **HAPPY THANKSGIVING,**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS,** and **HAPPY NEW YEAR!****

Hello RVBA! **Our Fall Meeting is just around the corner—October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Riverland Road**—and I want to encourage you to attend . . . virtually or physically! Please make sure you get your Messenger list into Sandy ([sanny610@aol.com](mailto:sanny610@aol.com)), and if a Messenger is attending virtually, they will have the same ability to ask questions and vote as those who attend in person, through the RVBA's Facebook chat feature. **The meeting will be Livestreamed through the RVBA Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/RVBAunited>.

Riverland Road reflects approximately 80% of all the Churches in America, as they have an average attendance of less than 100 on any given Sunday. With that usually comes a small parking lot. Because of this we are asking you to ride-share, and for those who are physically able, to park behind the Church in a small field. Ushers/Parking lot attendants will be present to assist you as you enter. I recently worshiped at Riverland Road and was blessed by the presence of a moving Holy Spirit! I invite you to come and worship with us (and have a little business along the way) as we discover what a Church Revitalization process is doing in the Church and the Community.

It is what we claim to focus upon: Healthy Pastors and Leaders . . . Healthy Churches . . . Healthy Ministries and Communities! Come celebrate with us!

At the Fall meeting, our RVBA will:

- vote on Scott as our part-time Interim AMS
- vote on the 2022 budget
- vote on the nominations by our Nominating Committee
- hear an update from the Search Team for a permanent AMS
- and engage in a Q & A time with our Ad hoc Properties Study Committee, concerning only our RVBA Office.

Much excitement and activity are occurring within our RVBA, and I want to encourage you to come out and celebrate—even worship—together at our Fall meeting! I sincerely hope to see you there! Rodger

## **ANNIE MAE BROYLES OFFERING FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS**

### **“ReFRESH YOUR PASSION 2021”**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our associational offering this year. Your generous gifts to this important offering are helping local ministries reach people in the Roanoke Valley with the Gospel as they help with physical needs to share about spiritual needs.

The giving for this year so far is **\$18,759.69**. This is an increase from giving last year. Please know that it is wonderful to be in an association where giving and missions are such a priority. We hope and pray that missions and reaching others with the Gospel remains our focus throughout the year. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated.

### **Roanoke Valley Day of Prayer Report**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 24-hour effort to pray for our Valley on September 16<sup>th</sup>. We had 16 churches that participated, 28 participants, and 14 hours of prayer for the Roanoke Valley. The entire 24-hour period was not totally covered, but prayer will change our Valley, churches, and people. We plan to continue these efforts throughout the year and make this a quarterly event. If we can begin praying together, then we can begin serving together and working for the God’s Kingdom together.

### **Valley Impact 2021 Report**



Valley Impact Day was held this year on Saturday September 25, 2021. We are very appreciative for the ten churches who participated this year completing 12 projects. The participating churches were: Bonsack, Cooper Cove, Faith Baptist, Grandin Court, Melrose, Midland, Oakland, Pleasant Hill, Rosalind Hills, and Vinton Baptist. We want to encourage churches to stay involved throughout the year reaching out to their part of the Roanoke Valley. As you reach out throughout the year, please take pictures and video so we can share your hard work with others in the valley. Share pictures and videos using this link: [Video Link](#) – [www.rvba.org](http://www.rvba.org) click on RVBA Ministry Opportunities.

### **International Christian Centers for the Deaf Associational Presentation**

Did you know that the Deaf are the largest unreached people group in the world today? Only 2% of the Deaf community are Christians. God is not willing that any should perish, not even the Deaf. ICCD’s mission is to reach the Deaf for Christ in developing countries by building communities, educating for life, making disciples for Jesus Christ, and equipping local churches and schools to reach this unreached people group.

Please sign up to be a part of our the ICCD Associational Presentation at Green Ridge Baptist Church on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 -11:00 AM. We will share about the mission of ICCD and some testimonies on how God is working where we serve. We will also share some basic sign language vocabulary to help equip you to share God’s love with the Deaf in your community. One goal for this day is to sign up people interested in learning sign language with the purpose of reaching people in the valley and possibly going on mission with ICCD one day. **Click here to sign up:** <https://forms.gle/zkZZt4B2FGaCZLTD9>

### **Honduras Mission Trip in 2022**

We are planning an associational mission trip to El Progreso, Honduras. The mission trip dates are March 19-26, 2022. We are going to be contacting pastors and churches to let them know about the trip. We will be having an informational meeting on Thursday November 4th at 7:00 PM at Oakland Baptist Church. Please contact Scott Hamilton with questions or if you are interested in the trip, but unable to attend this first meeting.

**Click here to sign up for the Informational Meeting:** <https://forms.gle/p31gGRzHAsfzuyz3A>

### **Dates and Signup Links for Upcoming Events:**

1. **RVBA Fall Meeting:** October 26 – 7 pm – Riverland Road Baptist  
Email Messengers to: [sanny610@aol.com](mailto:sanny610@aol.com)
2. **Baptist Women’s World Day of Prayer: November 1 - 10 am – 12 noon.** Contact Shirley Mullins at 540-354-1471 or Judy Deel at 540-759-1914 to sign up for lunch.
3. **2022 Honduras Informational Meeting:** November 4 – 7:00 PM  
<https://forms.gle/p31gGRzHAsfzuyz3A>
4. **WMUV Get-Away & Annual Meeting:** November 5 & 6  
[www.wmuv.org/getaway](http://www.wmuv.org/getaway)
5. **ICCD Associational Presentation:** November 13 – 9:00-11:00 AM  
<https://forms.gle/zkZZt4B2FGaCZLTD9>

## **BAPTIST WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

The Baptist Women’s World Day of Prayer will be held at Troutville Baptist Church on November 1, 2021, from 10 am -12 noon with lunch provided at no cost. To sign-up for lunch, contact Shirley Mullins at 540-354-1471 or Judy Deel at 540-759-1914. The deadline to sign-up for lunch is Wednesday, October 27. The theme for this year is “Courageous Life.” Our speaker will be Nightengale Htoo who will share her story of escape from Myanmar, her life in a refugee camp, and her struggles in the United States. She has lived a “Courageous Life” and will share her testimony.

The area Operation Christmas Child drop-off locations are Bonsack Baptist, Lynn Haven Baptist, Garden City Church of the Nazarene, New Hope Christian Church, Craig Valley Baptist, Boones Mill Baptist, Mill Creek Baptist, and Salem Baptist. The last day to drop off at these locations is Monday, November 22nd. Contact the church for drop-off times.



### **WMU Get – A – Way**

Virtual annual meeting Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Breakout sessions Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Register and be a part of the meeting.



#### **2021 WMUV Annual Meeting: ONLINE** Nov. 5, 2021

Join us on Zoom Friday, November 5, 2021 from 7 – 8:15 p.m. for the 2021 WMUV Annual Meeting! This meeting will be all virtual again this year out of an abundance of caution, but we're excited to update you on how God is at work in the WMUV and conduct our annual business session via Zoom and Zoom polls.



#### **GETAWAY 2021: ONLINE** Nov. 6, 2021

Unfortunately, out of an abundance of caution as well as high rates of Covid-19 in the Lynchburg area, we have decided to transition to an virtual version of Getaway, offered on November 5 - 6. We are excited to plan an excellent online event with group packages for those of you that would like to gather in smaller, safer group sizes for a Mini-Getaway.



Through the Friendship House Refugee Housing Program, we have helped close to 20 refugee families over the past four years and that number has begun to steadily rise with the Afghan crisis unfolding. Friendship House is excited to announce that in September, the board approved a plan to purchase two houses on our street that can be used for refugee families as they enter Roanoke. These two houses will allow Friendship House to potentially house three extra families at a time! We estimate that the purchase of the two homes, renovations, and extra staffing will only cost \$264,000. Contact Aaron at Friendship House for more info or to learn how you can partner with us!

Also in September, our very first *Faith & Finances* class started. We have 15 students and mentors who attend faithfully each week to discuss finances, budgeting, and Biblical stewardship. We are very thankful for the volunteers who have offered to mentor students and make meals so that we can offer this ministry of empowerment to our neighbors.

Friendship House's long-running programs—After-School Program and Food Pantry—have been operating in full-force this fall. We are in need of volunteers for both programs—particularly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

We will soon begin collecting food for our holiday food boxes, as well as toys for our annual Christmas Toy Store! If you are interested in contributing to either of these, please reach out to us at [fhroanoke@gmail.com](mailto:fhroanoke@gmail.com) or 343-5437. You can also find out more info about partnering with us on our website ([www.friendshiphouserohanoke.org](http://www.friendshiphouserohanoke.org)) and on our Facebook page.

By now you've seen the headlines and have an idea of what is going on in Afghanistan in the aftermath of the United States' recent withdrawal. The United Nations projects that up to half a million Afghans could flee the country in the next few months. We're already starting to see Afghan families trickling into Roanoke. So far this year, nearly 100 Afghans have arrived in Roanoke...most of them arriving within the last six weeks.

The local church has a unique and incredible opportunity to minister to these new neighbors, who are very much like the man who was hurt and broken on the side of the road in Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. Our Afghan neighbors' lives have been torn apart and they need friends who will show compassion and mercy on them much like the Good Samaritan did by sacrificing his own time, his own comforts, and his own resources to restore the hurt man.

So, what can churches do?

1. **Pray.** We have a sovereign God who is not taken by surprise at the crisis in Afghanistan. Let us go with confidence to our merciful and loving Lord.
2. **Furnish homes.** Let's welcome these families into our city. They are literally coming with just a backpack of personal belongings and will need assistance to set up a home. Items like furniture, new linens and towels, food, school supplies, etc. can help them as they rebuild their lives.
3. **Offer them a home.** Many people (and churches) have spare homes, basement apartments, and duplexes that would be a HUGE help to these families as they seek temporary housing until they can get on their feet.
4. **Provide English tutoring.** Most of the refugees, and especially the wives and children, will know no English whatsoever. Could you meet with a mom or a group of kids 1 hour each week to help them learn English?

This is just a very brief sampling of what the church can do. Let's be bold and creative in loving our neighbors!  
[www.friendshiphouserohanoke.org](http://www.friendshiphouserohanoke.org)

  
**KEYSTONE  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

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Mailing Address: PO Box 13042 Roanoke, VA 24030

Email: [m spatatbcc@gmail.com](mailto:m spatatbcc@gmail.com)

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! What a year 2021 has been. This being the last mailed FOCUS for 2021 I wanted to make sure you all know how much you are loved and appreciated. All your prayers, volunteering and financial gifts made the difference in continuing the ministry work of Keystone Community Center. We still have a lot of work to do between now and the end of the year though, so don't take a break yet. Year-end statements will be mailed by January 21, 2022. Due to postage increases you may not have gotten a response during the year, but your statement should reflect all donations you made.

In 2021, we did scale back on some of our numbers, but the word of God was still shared to many through the different programs. This year we still had our after school (session now has 13 on roll), Little Lambs has 3 on roll but will start Jan 2022, Adult Bible study has 15 on roll with some modifications, 2 quilting classes started, 9 gardens were completed (11 started), over 200 jars of food canned, pumpkin patch fun will be conducted in our own garden this year and we are collecting food for the holiday boxes.

We were hoping to have enough quilts to sell in November to pay for our \$4,000 insurance due January 1 but we had to shut down the whole month of September. The quilts will go on sale next October. We have also added a Keystone merchandise sale which will spread the Great Commission and the Keystone name. We have mugs, hats, shirts, bags, pens, 2022 flip calendars (ready November 1) and spring items are being worked on. All these items make great stocking stuffers so come by Monday-Thursday (but call first 540-342-8452) to get before they are sold out.

Since we don't have much room in this version, please ask for a copy of the email version (from someone in your church or call me) that has pictures of the merchandise and list of foods needed and much more.

We still do speaking engagements for WMU, youth groups and any business that wants to know about us.

Again, Thank you so much for your support in 2021. YOU ARE LOVED!!!!

Serving Christ, Pat Carter, Director  
Roanoke Valley Baptist Association  
3926 Plantation Road  
Roanoke, VA 24012

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## CHURCH STAFF & OTHER NEWS

Dr. Jeff Ritchey has been called as Pastor at Troutville.

We express our sympathy to the families of Dr. Kirk Lashley, (former RVBA Executive Director), Dr. Dan Scott (former pastor at Virginia Heights & Lithia) who both passed away in September. We also express sympathy to Rev. Rodger Hogan, Pastor of Midland Baptist & RVBA Moderator who lost his mother in September.

Please pray for the following: RVBA Churches that are currently without Senior Pastors: Arcadia, Cedar Bluff, Craig Valley, Fort Lewis, Lynn Haven, Mayflower Hills, and Mount Calvary.

**CHURCHES OF THE WEEK** ~ please pray for these churches and their pastors:

October 3 – Oakland ~ Scott Hamilton  
October 10 – Pleasant Hill ~ Danny Barham  
October 17 – Preston Oaks ~ Randy Martin  
October 24 – Red Hill ~ Jim Frankie  
October 31 – Ridgewood ~ Roy Kanode  
November 7 – Riverdale ~ Guy Thompson  
November 14 – Riverland Road ~ Don Summerville  
November 21 – Roanoke Avenue ~ James Bergquist  
November 28 – Rosalind Hills ~ Joe Elmore  
December 5 – 17<sup>th</sup> Street/Access ~ John Hayden  
December 12 – Springwood  
December 19 – Troutville ~ Jeff Ritchey  
December 26 – Villa Heights ~ Jake Huffman

**Haran Baptist Church** is seeking a Bivocational Youth Minister. If interested and for more information, contact Pastor Don Summerville at [dsummerhokie@comcast.net](mailto:dsummerhokie@comcast.net) or 540-797-6224.

**Ward Haven Retreat Center** has floor tile for the lodge bedrooms. Now, we need help installing that floor tile. If you or a group from your church can help, please contact Giles Gilley at [broggilley@gmail.com](mailto:broggilley@gmail.com) or 540-529-6697. We will provide sandwich makings and drinks for your group.

**RVBA Disaster Relief** needs Flood Buckets. If you or your church can help the list of items to include in the buckets is available at [www.rvba.org](http://www.rvba.org) under RVBA Ministry Opportunities. If you have questions, or to drop off completed buckets, contact Giles Gilley.

### October 2021

21 – Program Committee (10 am)  
21 – Board of Directors (11 am)  
26 – RVBA Fall Meeting, Riverland Road (7 pm)

### November 2021

13 – ICCD Presentation, Green Ridge (9 am)  
15 – Personnel Committee (1:30 pm)  
16 – Finance Committee (3 pm)  
18 – Program Committee (10 am)  
22 – Properties Study Committee (10 am)  
**25 – THANKSGIVING**  
**25-26 – RVBA Office Closed**

### December 2021

1 – MDT (10 am)  
**22 – Jan 2 - RVBA Office Closed**  
**25 - CHRISTMAS**