



February, 2014

Let Your Light Shine!

THE BEACON

Pine Street Baptist Church:
Where "Welcome" is not Just a Greeting, but a Way of Life.

Upcoming Dates

- February 5**
Family Worship
6:45 pm
- February 6**
Senior Dinner, 6 pm
- February 9**
Youth Meeting, Noon
- February 12**
Valentines Banquet
6:00 pm
- February 16**
Youth to Winter Jam
- February 17**
WMU
- February 20**
Senior Dinner, 6 pm
- February 22**
ESL Cooking Class
- February 23**
Youth Meeting, Noon

It is always interesting this time of the year as we have to deal with winter storms that merchants make the best out of the forecast. As Richmonders, we know that all a meteorologist has to say is snow to send the locals to the grocery store to stock up on supplies. People want to be ready for the storm. Or if you go into a Lowes or Home Depot, when you first walk in you will be met by a display of snow shovels and salt. They too want to help people get ready for the storm as well as make a little money off of it. Hence, when a storm is forecast the common question people ask each other is "Are you ready for the snow?"



When you read the Gospels one of the themes that constantly emerges in Jesus' teachings is his call to prepare and be ready. Jesus, however, was not talking about the weather. Instead, Jesus taught that we should always be prepared for his return and the coming Day of the Lord. Over and over again Jesus reminded his followers that his return would come like a thief in the night or some other unexpected event. Jesus also taught that there was no one who could predict when that day might come. Thus, "Be ready" was Jesus' message.

Much time has passed since Jesus spoke these words, but they are still as important today in our Christian walk. We must live each day as if this was the Day of the Lord, as well as his return. Such awareness should lead us to live lives of righteousness and holiness. We need to be individually ready for his coming. Likewise, as we live in the world we should be living lives of compassion towards others. Every day gives us an opportunity to share God's love with others.

So we ask, "Are you ready for the Lord?" How we answer this question will make all the difference in how we live.



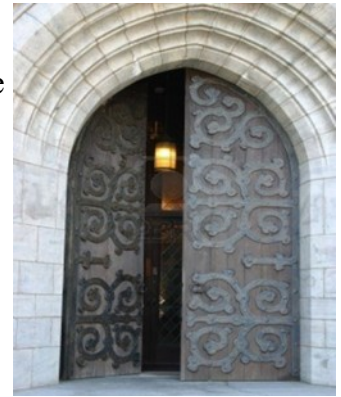
"Be the Light" General Fund

Giving Report

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Needed to Date: | \$55,408 |
| Given to Date | \$55,437 |
| Variance: | + \$29 |

An Open Door Policy

There were several reasons why I walked through that door. I walked through the door because it was cold outside and I knew it would be warm on the inside. I walked through the door because it was dark outside and I knew the inside would be lighted. I walked through the door because it was so noisy outside and I needed a place of quiet. I walked through the door because of the chaos that existed out on the streets and because of the calm that existed inside. I walked through the door because, even for the season, there was a noticeable ugliness to my surroundings and I knew that it would be beautiful inside. But I also walked through the door because of a sign posted outside, a sign that stated: *In a city that never sleeps, everyone needs a place to pray.* And so, for all of these reasons, I walked through the door of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and sat down.



The end-of-year holidays are behind us, we are already a month into the new year, and most of us have returned to the routines of our lives. Some people are already too busy, too frustrated, too tired, too overworked, and too much in need of another holiday. The world can be like this, and Jesus knew it. So Jesus comes along and says, "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." Through the challenges of our lives we find in these words a message and offer of comfort, hope, and assurance for those in need.

We may not live in the city that never sleeps, but we occasionally face a sleepless night, a night when the anxiety of a difficult moment in life will simply not let us go, a night when the noise and busyness of life has left us exhausted, or even a night when it appears that God's promise to never give us more than we can handle has been broken. Among life's challenges, Paul teaches that God is faithful, and God will "provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it." A door is open to us, a door to prayer that leads to warmth, light, calm, and beauty, and we really don't even need to knock. All we really need to do is walk on through.

His Banner Over Me Is Love Valentine's Banquet

We all have a special love story - it is in the Bible. It tells us how much God loves us and how far He went to win our hearts....

Join us **Wednesday, February 12th at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall for our Valentine Banquet. Enjoy a soup, salad and bread buffet with an ice cream bar for dessert. There will be a great program, entertainment, a photo booth, chocolate and we will crown a new King and Queen! The cost is \$6 per person and you can make your reservations on the bulletin board in the downstairs hallway.



February Birthdays

3: Carissa Downer
 5: Rusty Grove
 6: Russell Walz
 Jessi Vaught
 10: Rose Floyd
 12: Richard Lacy
 13: Vivian Pollok
 15: Brandy Grove
 20: Angie Hall
 21: Virginia Snellings
 27: Tyler Walker
 Lillian Ashworth

Anniversaries

21: Beth and Alex Wang
 25: Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Robinson

Special Gifts

Contributions were made to the
 Properties Endowment in memory of:
Elizabeth Welton

Contributions were made to the General Fund
 in memory of:
Marian McCook, S.W. Farmer, Jr.

Contributions were made to the Ministries Endowment
 in memory of:
Robert, Clara, and James Hagan

Contributions were made to the Special Music Fund
 in honor of:
Linda Johnston

A Look Ahead

Youth Raising Funds and Awareness for World Hunger Relief

The Youth of PSBC & The Oregon Hill Center will once again be participating in the "30 Hour Famine" on March 7-8. They will begin fasting after breakfast on Friday (skipping lunch at school). They will continue to fast together for a total of 30 hours while at church learning about world hunger issues and participating in hands on mission opportunities in the city of Richmond. Last year we met a lofty goal of \$1000.00 to support World Vision's efforts to alleviate hunger around the world. Once again we plan to aim high and raise another \$1000.00. The teens will be asking for donations from family, friends, and church members. They will also be sponsoring a POTATO & SALAD BAR after worship on March 9th. All funds raised will go to support their 30 Hour Famine fund raising efforts. Thank you in advance for your support of this very worthwhile event!

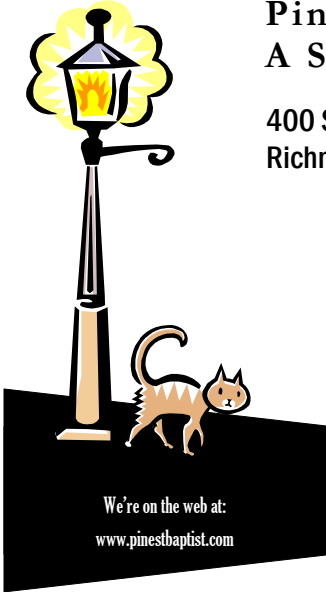
POTATO & SALAD BAR

March 9th @ Noon

Cost: \$6 per adult, \$3 per child/ teenager

\$15 max per immediate family

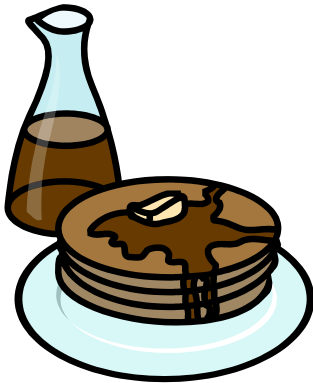
Mark your calendars now for one of PSBC favorite events!! Join together after worship for a delicious baked potato and salad with lots of toppings for both! All funds raised will be going to support our youth group's effort to raise money and awareness regarding World Hunger. Also enjoy testimonies and video from their "30 Hour Famine" event from the weekend before!



**Pine Street Baptist Church
A Steadfast Fellowship of Grace**

400 South Pine Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tuesday, March 4
6:00 pm



Cost: \$4.00 - adult, \$2.00 - child,
\$10.00 for family

Ash Wednesday Worship
Wednesday, March 5
7:00 pm

Join us as we prepare for the season of Lent.

