



June, 2014

THE BEACON

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

Upcoming Dates

June 4

Cookout in the Park

June 8

Pentecost Sunday
Graduate Recognition
Youth Group

June 13

Community Movie

June 15

Deadline to let
Jennifer Turner know
if you would like to
attend the Baptist
Centers' Volunteer
Banquet

June 16

WMU

June 22-26

Youth VBS

June 27

Community Movie

Can you imagine taking a cruise on a cruise liner whose motto is "We Hope We Don't Sink." It might make you a little cautious about booking a cruise. We would rather hear something such as "Ready to Ride the Waves to New Destinations." That's sounds like a cruise you would like to be a part of. If you want to sail the waters you want to believe in the ship you are own.

A ship was an ancient Christian symbol used to identify and characterize the New Testament Church. It is the Church tossed on the sea of disbelief, worldliness, and persecution, but finally reaching safe harbor with its cargo of human souls. The Church as a ship sails the waters with the wind of God in its sails. It is empowered by the Holy Spirit as it rides upon the waters. After Pentecost the early believers realized the mission they were called to make and then set sail with excitement, enthusiasm, and purpose. They were ready to ride the waves to new destinations.

As Pine Street Baptist Church we too have been called to embark on this wonderful journey of faith. Likewise, we are empowered by the same Holy Spirit that moved the early believers and defined their mission. As Pine Street Baptist we thus need to ask ourselves what our motto is. What it isn't however, are sayings like "we're trying to keep the doors open" or "we're trying to stay afloat." As the church, our mission can never be survival. No one wants to be a part of a group whose main purpose is just to survive. Individuals who are on their own spiritual journey want to be a part of something that is alive, dynamic, exciting, and positive about its future.

Thus, when we talk about our church to others we should speak about the excitement of being the people of God in this place and the hopeful expectation of seeing where God takes us. Our mission is not to keep the doors open, but rather it is to open ourselves up to the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit!



Ship Carving from Catacombs

Sail On!
Philip

Pentecost Sunday—June 8

Don't Forget to Wear Your RED

Clint's Corner

In his biography of John Adams, David McCullough shares a story in which Adams and his friend Benjamin Rush were sitting together in Congress during the days of the Revolutionary War. Rush asked Adams if he thought America would be victorious in the ongoing war for freedom from England. "Yes," Adams replied, "if we fear God and repent our sins." These sound like wise words, and they are, but to fully appreciate the significance of this insightful remark we must understand what it means to "fear God" and "repent our sins."

The reference to the "fear of God" is primarily, though not exclusively, an Old Testament concept that underscores how fragile and vulnerable humanity is before God. To approach God in fear is to be filled with intense awe and wonder. God responds to our fear with grace, and through this grace our "fear" is transformed into reverent worship. We trust in God's mercy and become obedient to God's commands. How awestruck are we over God these days? Where do we fall on the scales of trust and obedience?

Repentance denotes a complete reorientation of one's whole being to God. Repentance begins, but does not end, with an acknowledgement of our sin. It includes a turning away from all that impedes our wholehearted devotion to God, and facing God with renewed trust and obedience. The results of repentance include a change of mind and genuine feelings of remorse, but it primarily involves a renewed relationship with God that transforms all dimensions of our life, including our conduct. Can we count ourselves among those who have experienced genuine repentance, those who have turned their backs on sin and have never looked back? Do we keep our face set to God, and God alone?

There are two tiny, yet significant, words in Adams' remark. They were significant then, and they remain so today. The words are "if" and "we." We all have a part to play, but we often find ourselves doing little more than pointing our fingers in another direction. As Christians and children of God we should cease our often illegitimate placing of blame upon certain individuals or groups within and outside our nation, arrows fired out of personal angst, indignation, and frustration at government officials, from our president, members of Congress, and local government officials. While our branches of government may be a primary and easy target, these arrows are also launched at a plethora of others, including the leaders of our religious institutions. Adams didn't say that our nation would be victorious in our struggles if "they" feared God and repented, but if "we" feared God and repented. With these words he gave recognition to the union that had already been declared. If we must point fingers, let us begin by pointing them at ourselves, and with prayerful examination we might come to the realization of the responsibility that exists with each of us. If we truly want to strengthen ourselves, our church, and our nation, let us begin at home with a personal fear of God and a genuine repentance of sin. Let us begin by looking in the mirror and removing the plank from our own eye. And let us begin, and end, with love.

Picnic in the Park with our Homeless Neighbors



Wednesday, June 4 at 6:00 pm



Pine Street will once again be hosting a cookout for our homeless neighbors in the linear park behind the 300 block of South Pine Street.

Sign up now to bring bake beans, chips, lettuce/tomato, and cookies

The church will provide everything else.

June Birthdays

- 2: Doris Hall
William McCook
- 4: Amanda Ford
Jessica Marshall Kirby
Rebecca Ferguson
- 5: Cheryl Adkins
Harper Grace Vaught
- 6: Annis Blair
- 8: Paula Fields
Jay Mallory
Traci Wills
- 9: Gary Harler
- 11: Troy Floyd
Eric Downer
- 12: John O'Mary
- 15: Pam Herring
- 16: Noland Hughes
- 21: Ricky Inge
- 23: Dawn Grove
- 24: Tony Lawson
- 29: Denise Hairfield

Anniversaries

- 7: Jim and Ann Arthur
- 9: Glenn and Claudia Neal
Clint and Martha Jackson
- 20: William and Christine Herring
Paul and Belinda Alvis
- 23: Paul and Nancy Reed
- 24: Bradley and Jessi Vaught
- 29: Bobby and Beverly Jernigan
- 30: Darla and Paul Neiss

Special Gifts

Contributions were made to the
Properties Endowment in memory of:
*Bisco Schools, Billy Wells, Elizabeth Welton,
Phyllis Verdi*

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

New Address

Charlie and Rose Clark
413 Sherilyn Dr.
Highland Springs, Virginia 23075

YOUTH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"TAKING IT TO THE STREETS!"

(An Experience In Hands On Missions)

June 22-26

Sunday ALL DAY, Monday-Wednesday evenings, &
Thursday ALL DAY

For those students who have
completed 6th – 12th Grade
To get more info. or to register
: Contact Jennifer Turner
(648-1353) or Debbie Thacker
(643-2133)

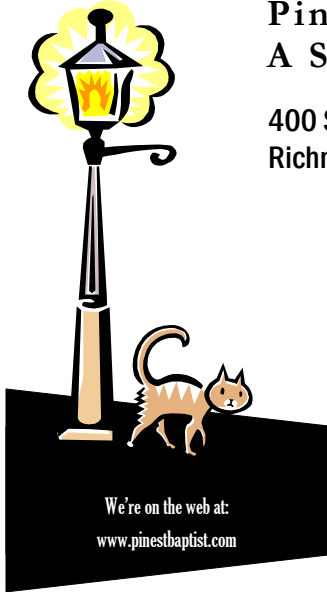
"Be the Light" General FundGiving Report

Needed to Date: \$114,279

Given to Date \$106,861

Variance: - \$7,418





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

400 South Pine Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

The Baptist Centers' Volunteer Banquet
Saturday, June 21, 2014
6PM- 8PM

@ The South Richmond Baptist Center
(in the gymnasium)
700 E. Belt Blvd
Richmond, VA 23224
(inside of St. Paul's Baptist Church)



All folks who have assisted in any way with the ministries of the Richmond Baptist Association Baptist Centers over the last year are invited! This includes: preparing & or serving a meal to the homeless or Sr. Adults, packing homeless bags, donations of money, school supplies, food, clothes, Christmas Store items, etc.

Please come enjoy a wonderful meal along with entertainment and recognition for all you have done and all you mean to the Community Missionaries as well as the communities in which we serve.

Please RSVP to Jennifer Turner no later than June 15 if you would like to attend.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!