

BRANCH'S BAPTIST CHURCH

3400 Broad Rock Blvd.
Richmond, VA 23234

Office: 276-5000

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Website: www.branchs.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday
9:00am-12:00pm, 1:00-4:00pm

STAFF

Rev. Mat Brown, Pastor

Rev. Joe Edwards,

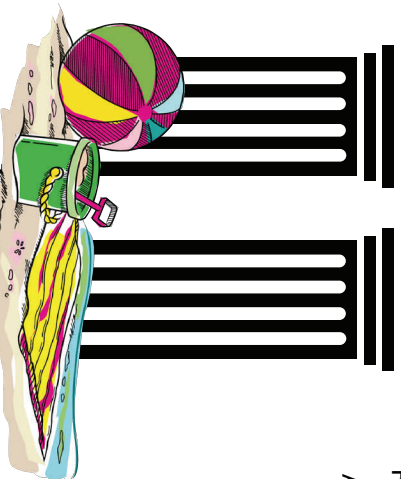
Minister of Youth & Child Development

Rev. Michael Gibson, Minister of Music

Rev. Dorryce Ann Rudd,

Minister of Visitation & Sr. Adult Ministries

The Columns



August 2011

Newsletter of Branch's Baptist Church

Branch's Baptist Church
3400 Broad Rock Blvd.
Richmond, VA 23234

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Love Must Be Sincere

by Mat Brown

It is much easier to talk about love than to actually act lovingly. During Vacation Bible School we sang a song at each opening assembly. The chorus went like this “Live it out, Shout it loud, Show the world what love’s about.” One night as I was singing the words and doing the motions it occurred to me that there was a contrast between my own actions and the song we were singing. How can we “live out” the love God has put into our hearts? The Apostle Paul gives us a clue:

Romans 10⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

We can boil this down to one simple statement: Sincere love is shown in small ways! Sometimes we think we show love by giving big presents or taking big actions; but love is most often shown in small ways—look at the verbs in verse 13 and following:

**share,
practice hospitality,
bless,
rejoice,
mourn,
live in harmony,
associate,
live at peace...**

We often celebrate those who make great sacrifices—and we should. But I think we should celebrate those who show love day-in and day-out, doing menial tasks behind the scenes, striving to help those in need and welcoming the stranger. The world may not notice but God does. Next time you notice someone doing something loving take a moment to commend them. It is the combination of all these small but sincere acts of love that make a loving church—so, keep up the good work!



**Habitat for Humanity
of Gloucester-Mathews VA**

AUGUST 7-13

Schedule:

Monday—Wednesday: construction work with Habitat for Humanity.

Thursday—Saturday: enjoying the Pianka-tank River at the Kontopanos’ river house.

Lodging: graciously provided by the Kontopanos Family

Music Crescendos

by Mike Gibson

“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.” Psalm 92:1,2 (NIV)

The Psalmist says it is “a good thing” to praise God and in praising (singing) we use the vehicle of music. The holy man’s custom is in the morning to tell of God’s love and in the evening to tell of God’s faithfulness. So, all day long we can sing and proclaim to ourselves and others God’s love and faithfulness to everyone.

August will be another great month of Christian music here at Branch’s. The Chancel Choir will be resuming their regular rehearsal time Wednesday, August 10th, 7:30-9:00pm. New singers are invited to come and join us for this year’s fall and winter music season. Think about joining our praise team, handbell choir or volunteering to become one of our audio/visual technicians (contact Kevin Spence).

We will be having a special recognition day, Sunday, August 21st for Fred and Shirley Clements, who are retiring after many years of faithful service as organist and pianist for Branch’s. There will be a reception in Kincheloe Hall following the morning worship service.

Many thanks to Marie Hines and Ernie Moore for being chaperones for this year’s Music and Worship Arts Camp at Eagle Eyrie, July 18-22. We had 9 children attending this year. I encourage even more children to attend this exciting learning experience next year.



Branch's Senior Adults Double Header



August 9th @ 6:00pm
Annual Birthday Blast



Cake, ice cream and great entertainment.



August 25th @ 10:30am
our regular meeting

A great program followed by a delicious potluck lunch.

You won't want to miss either one of these events!

Churchwide Mission Project

Middle District Baptist Association School Supply Collection

Sponsored by MDBA and Branch's WMU

- Pencils
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Washable markers
- Hand sanitizer
- Quart and gallon size Ziploc bags
- 3x5 index cards
- Bookbags
- 3-inch three-ring binders
- 1-inch three-ring binders
- Spiral notebooks
- Black and white marble notebooks
- Notebook paper
- Scissors
- Pens



✓ All donations must be received by Sunday, August 14.

✓ donation box outside the church office

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.



Thank You!

We would like to thank all the volunteers and supporters who helped make this year's Vacation Bible School program a success.

Thank you for your time, devotion, creativity, and flexibility!

Peggy Bumgardner thanks everyone for all of the calls, cards, prayers and visits during her recent hospitalization.

The family of Louise Pannell thanks the Branch's family for the expressions of sympathy and appreciates all the flowers, cards, memorials, thoughts and prayers.





\$151
raised for the
food pantry

The 2011 **Produce Table** is located in the Welcome Center foyer. If you have extra fruit/vegetables from your garden, please consider donating it to the produce table. Money given for the “purchase” of the vegetables is used to help supply the Branch’s food pantry. A coffee can is on the table to collect the donations. Please contact Beth Kahl or Margaret Hammond if you have any questions.



AUGUST 21ST @ 12:15PM



A retirement reception will be held for Fred and Shirley Clements in Kincheloe Hall after the Sunday service. More info coming soon.

**Women's Get-Away
November 4-5**

*Ordinary Life
Extraordinary God*

at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center
in Lynchburg, Virginia
cost ~ \$43.40

www.wmuv.org/getaway
Contact Beth Kahl @ 271-4084



Corrie Faith Tolbert
born July 14th, 2011

proud parents:
Michael & Crystal

grandparents:
Mat & Rebekah Brown



**remember
our
homebound**

Louise Royall
birthday: 8/7

Aileen Coppridge
birthday: 8/9

Frances Wright
birthday: 8/9

Grace Threlkeld
birthday: 8/20

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Month July 2011

Budget Req'd thru 07-24-11	\$	43,652
Actual Budget Rec'd thru 07-24-11	\$	42,643

Year to Date July 24, 2011

Budget Required	\$	327,390
Actual Budget Received	\$	290,445

**Branch's Baptist Church Condensed Financial Budget
Year-to-Date as of June 2011**

<u>Account Description</u>	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Over/(Under) Budget YTD
Regular Offering	247,802	283,733	(35,931)
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
World Programs	21,211	24,431	(3,220)
Personnel	144,520	155,359	(10,839)
Educational Ministries	12,592	14,085	(1,493)
Service Ministries	11,817	17,094	(5,277)
Building & Equipment	58,363	64,308	(5,945)
Debt Retirement	8,307	8,307	(0)
Miscellaneous	107	150	(43)
Total Expenditures	256,917	283,734	(26,817)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(9,115)	(1)	(9,114)

AUGUST activities

Monday, August 1

7pm Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, August 2

Wednesday, August 3

Thursday, August 4

Friday, August 5

Saturday, August 6

Sunday, August 7 ~ services

Youth mission trip (Sun-Sat)

Monday, August 8

Tuesday, August 9

6-8pm Sr. Adult Birthday Party ~ KH

Wednesday, August 10

7:30pm Choir rehearsal resumes

Thursday, August 11

Friday, August 12

Saturday, August 13

Sunday, August 14 ~ services

Monday, August 15

Columns Deadline

Tuesday, August 16

6:45pm M.Saunders WMU @ Chip. Ret. Cnt.

7pm Finance Cmte. ~ CR

Wednesday, August 17

Bon Secours Care-A-Van

Thursday, August 18

Friday, August 19

Saturday, August 20

Sunday, August 21 ~ services

12:30pm Retirement Reception

Monday, August 22

Tuesday, August 23

Wednesday, August 24

Thursday, August 25

10:30am Sr. Adults ~ KH

Friday, August 26

Saturday, August 27

Sunday, August 28 ~ services

Monday, August 29

Tuesday, August 30

Wednesday, August 31



Deacons Meeting August 1st @ 7:00pm



Tuesdays

1:30pm Adult Fitness

2:30pm Coffee & Prayer w/ Pastor ~ CR

Thursdays

9am Computer Class

6:30pm Adult Creative Worship

Saturday

1-3pm Young People Creative Worship

**Deadline for the September
issue of The Columns is
August 15th.**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Services

9:15am Prayer Time

9:45am Sunday School/Bible Study

11:00am Worship Service

Wednesday Services

6:30pm Prayer Meeting

*7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
resuming August 10th*