

SYCAMORE

weekly newsletter

— February 15, 2019 —



***NEW* Photo Directory Online Gallery — NOW AVAILABLE!**

Thank you to everyone who had their photo taken by Tony Sylvestro for the upcoming Sycamore photo directory!

Please click [here](#) to view the online gallery. This gallery is password protected for privacy and peace of mind. To access the gallery, please use the password SoliDeoGloria. We want you to enjoy these photos and share them with friends and loved ones, but please don't post any photos that are not of you or your family members on social media channels.

Did you miss the chance to have your picture taken, but wish you hadn't? Then mark your calendars for Sunday, June 2. Tony has offered to hold one more photo session on that day for those who were unable to make it. This session will start after the late service ends (~12:15 PM) and is on a first-come-first-served basis. Just a gently reminder: we're not accepting submitted photos or photos from previous directories. You don't want to miss this—Tony takes amazing photos!

The deadline to order prints is Thursday, February 28. Orders may be picked up at Sycamore starting Friday, March 15. Please be aware all prints will be cropped to best fit the print size selected and the word "PROOF" will not be visible on the final print. At Tony's request, all print sale proceeds will go directly to Sycamore in her support of the PRC and Set Free ministries.

Anxiously awaiting the new photo directory? Copies will be available for distribution on Sunday, February 24. Then, after the June photo session, an updated version will be available.

Questions? Please email Melissa Prior.

NEWS & EVENTS

***NEW* Citizenship Class — Sundays | 4:00-5:30 PM**

Do you know someone interested in gaining their US citizenship? Sycamore is holding a citizenship class that will run for 6 weeks, starting Sunday, February 17, and ending Sunday, March 24. The class will meet in Room 25 from 4:00-5:30 PM and is taught by our ESL leader, Sandra Learned. The class will cover the 100 Questions, practice reading and writing, and go over the N-400 application form.

To sign up, please stop by the church office.

***NEW* New Adult Sunday School Classes — Starting March 3 | 10:00 AM**

New Adult Sunday School classes are starting in a few weeks, on Sunday, March 3. We hope you'll join us!

Galatians/Ephesians Devotional Study

Taught by Mark Severson in the Library

God in Our Midst

Co-facilitated by Stephen Righter and Jim Bates in Room 25

Adult Inquirer's Class

Taught by Pastor Harry Long in the Parlor

Jesus through the Gospels

Led by Jim Shefferly and Gene Whitehead in Room 3

To read full descriptions of each class, please visit our website. Questions about our Adult Sunday School classes? Please contact Gene Whitehead.

Fifth Grade Sunday School Teachers Needed — Sundays through May | 9:50 AM

We are so grateful for the Weis' ministry to our 5th Graders! The Weis family will be moving to New York in a few short weeks and we need two volunteers to take over teaching their 5th Grade Sunday School class. This is a short commitment, just through the end of May, and the curriculum is provided.

This is a great opportunity for parents of teens, empty-nesters, or retired persons! If you're interested in helping, please contact Becky Boone. Volunteers will need to be members and have attended Sycamore for at least one year. A background check, provided by Sycamore, is also required. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

Questions? Contact Becky Boone.

Lost & Found — Claim Your Items by Feb 24

Missing something? Check the "Lost and Found" table in the back hallway by the Parlor for a variety of items: dishes, baskets, water bottles, travel coffee mugs, umbrellas, vitamins, Bibles, keys, eye glasses, assorted clothing and outerwear, and more. The two most unusual items: a skateboard and a lamp! All unclaimed items will be donated to Goodwill the week of February 25.

Questions? Please email or call the church office at 804-794-0238.

Sycamore Book Club — Saturday, April 6 | 9:00-10:30 AM

Join the next Sycamore Book Club in discussing Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus: A Devout Muslim Encounters Christianity by Nabeel Qureshi in the parlor on April 6 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM.

In this book, Qureshi describes his dramatic journey from Islam to Christianity, complete with friendships, investigations, and supernatural dreams.

Providing an intimate window into a loving Muslim home, Qureshi shares how he developed a passion for Islam before discovering evidence that Jesus rose from the dead and claimed to be God. Unable to deny the arguments but not wanting to deny his family, Qureshi struggled with an inner turmoil that will challenge Christians, Muslims, and all those who are interested in the world's great religions.

You can get this book from your usual channels, from Christianbook Distributors or you can support Redemption Books at 3008 Stony Point Road, Richmond.

View the flyer for more information. If you're interested in attending, please sign in on the attendance sheet at the Welcome Desk in the foyer. Questions? Contact Stephen Evelyn.

VIP Brownbag Luncheon — Thursday, February 28 | 11:30 AM

VIPs will gather on Thursday, February 28, at 11:30 AM for a unique brownbag luncheon in Room 25. Our guest speaker will be long-time Sycamore member, Fran Williams. Fran has graciously agreed to share approximately 100 slides highlighting his recent trip to Israel with his wife Kay. You don't want to miss this very intriguing glimpse into the ancient land where Jesus Christ walked among us. Bring a friend!

Questions? Please contact Stephen Righter or call the church office at 804-794-0238.

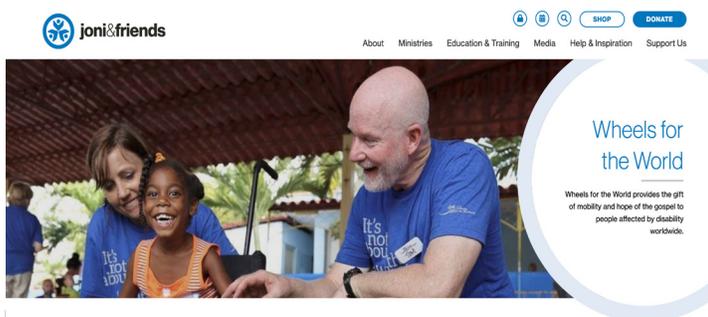
Men's Retreat — March 1-2, 2019

Registration is open for the upcoming Sycamore Men's Retreat on Friday and Saturday, March 1-2, 2019, at The Edge in Spring Grove, VA. We will hear from our **special guest, Dr. Robert C. Varney**, Vice President of Campus Crusade for Christ International.

Bob Varney holds a Ph.D. in computer science from Penn State University and spent over 25-years as a successful entrepreneur. To learn more about Bob and his heart and passion to reach the lost, along with his involvement in The Cities Project, click here. **Click here to view a 2-minute video introduction, especially for the men of Sycamore.**

Click HERE to sign up. Questions? Contact Marty Cates.

MISSIONS & LOCAL IMPACT



NEW Joni&Friends Wheels for the World — Help Move Wheelchairs!

Joni&Friends and Wheels for the World has a local need: volunteers to help move wheelchairs on Saturday, February 19 at 9:15 AM and Tuesday, February 20, 2019 at 8:00 AM. If you're interested in helping on Saturday, please arrive at the home of Carolyn Gile, 1211 Skipwith Road, Henrico. You will be moving the wheelchairs from her home to a warehouse at 3100 Williamsburg Ave, where they will have to be unloaded. Then, on Tuesday at 8:00 AM, the wheelchairs at the warehouse will need to be loaded onto a Walmart truck, which should take about an hour.

Questions? Contact Eileen Nyholm. If you can help on either of these dates, please contact Carolyn Gile at 804-547-5430.

NEW Elijah House Academy Oratorical Presentations — Volunteers Needed

Elijah House Academy (EHA) holds an Oratorical Presentations for its students every year. This year, the event will be held on Thursday, February 21, in two shifts, followed by a reception for each shift. Volunteers are needed to help prepare for each reception, then they can visit with the students and parents. The first shift is 9:30-11:30 AM and the second shift is 11:30 AM-1:00 PM. Feel free to help with only one shift or stay the whole time!

Interested in volunteering? Contact Marty Cates.

Pregnancy Resource Center — Items Urgently Needed

The Pregnancy Resource Center of Metro Richmond (PRC) is committed to providing compassionate care to women and men unprepared for pregnancy by offering resources and practical assistance for life-affirming choices. All of their services are free and confidential. If you'd like to help the PRC by donating items, below is a list of urgent needs for this month:

- Winter Maternity Clothing: XL & Plus sizes, especially pants or leggings; ONLY maternity items can be used
- Baby Gowns
- Baby Blankets: heavy, winter
- Bottles: 4 oz & 8 oz (neutral colors)
- Diapers: Size 1, 4 & 5
- Onesies: Boys, Girls, and Neutral colors; 0-3 months and 3-6 months sizes
- Pacifiers
- Sleepers: 0-12 months size
- Socks: ONLY white
- Toiletries (baby oil, powder & wash)
- Towels & Washcloths
- Vaseline/Diaper Cream
- For moms: maxi pads, deodorant & body wash

Due to ever changing safety regulations and recalls, we are only able to accept NEW items. Please email or call Alison Brown at 804-673-2020 for donation drop off times.

MNA SecondCareer — Recreational Vehicle Enthusiasts

RV enthusiasts, have you considered using your RV in missions? This Spring, MNA SecondCareer is organizing two trips for RVers: March 30 - April 6, 2019, we head to Ridge Haven, the PCA's Camp, Conference and Retreat Center in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina, and May 26 - June 1, 2019, we go to Camp Westminster, a non-profit Christian camp in Conyers, Georgia. At each camp we will help with various tasks such as cleaning, painting, and general landscaping.

Needs are everywhere. If you are interested in learning more, please email Barbara Campbell, call her at 804-339-5005, or check out their website.

Volunteer at Redemption Books

Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity? Redemption Books is currently looking for volunteers interested in helping with Children's Reading times, processing used book donations, organization and much more.

If you are interested, please call the bookstore at 804-330-2812. If you'd like to learn more about the bookstore, please visit their website.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

NEW Support Group for Widowed Men and Women — Tuesday Evenings | 7:00-9:00 PM

Beginning in March, a 9-week support group for widowed men and women will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM in Westover Hills. This group is for individuals who have been widowed a few months through several years. Topics and discussions include: normal grief behaviors and feelings; loss of identity and roles; setting goals for a meaningful life; and stumbling blocks to moving forward (such as letting go and figuring out your new social world).

Maximum group size is 12 and the registration fee of \$30 covers all books and materials. To find out more, email or call Belinda Early at 804-513-5773 by March 8.

NEW Joy in the Journey — Tuesdays | 12:00-1:15 PM

Are you struggling with grief, worry, anxiety, loneliness, low self-esteem, depression or difficult relationships? Are you looking for a community of like-minded women who can walk along side of you in the midst of your struggles? Join us as we learn together how to run life's race with resiliency and strength.

Wellspring Christian Counseling will be leading a group for women on how to thrive in the midst of life's trials. You are invited no matter what the circumstances are in your life right now—come find support and answers in God's word. The 10-week group will meet on Tuesdays from 12:00-1:15 PM at Wellspring Christian Counseling located at Spring Run Presbyterian Church, beginning the week of February 19, 2019.

The cost for this group is \$199 for 10 sessions and space is limited. Please contact Julie Fletcher to sign up. If you are interested in an evening group, please let Julie know.

Design of Life Conference — TOMORROW, February 16 | 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

The Richmond Study Center and Redemption Books are honored present the following major conference:

Does Current Science Support Darwinian Evolution?: Two Scientists Examine the Most Recent Evidence

Time: 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Speakers: Dr. Michael Behe & Dr. Paul Nelson

Location: Stony Point Church, 2330 Buford Road

Cost: \$10 in advance/\$15 at the door, each additional family member is \$5

Co-sponsored by the Discovery Institute. Refreshments and a book table will be available. To register and for more information, please click here. Questions? Call 804-285-5802.