WINTER ISSUE 2022

A Publication of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Baptist Herald

Homegoing Celebrations

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

On behalf of President Bunting, Executive Minister Whitaker, staff, and officers of the Baptist General Convention, our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the families of the following persons, who have transitioned into eternal rest in 2022.

- Rev. Dr. Marshall D. Burgess Sr.
- Sis. Mildred Brooks Norris
- The Honorable A. Donald McEachin
- Sis. Karen Sabrina Hardy Newby
- Sis. Pamela L. Southall
- Dr. Joseph Welch
- Sis. Pamela Jenkins
- First Lady Elaine Brown



In This Issue

President Greetings—P.2 Executive Minister Greetings—P.2 Empowering Healthy Families —P.10 BGCVA 2023 Calendar—P.11



hristmas BLESSINGS From our hearts to yours

Rejoice

In the glory of the birth of *Christ* and celebrate the

Miracles and Blessings

of the Holy Spirit Baptist Herald Executive Editor: The Reverend Dr. Leo Whitaker

State Officers

The Reverend Milton P. Bunting President

The Reverend Dr. James E. Coleman, Jr. 1st Vice-President

The Reverend Dr. Griselda A. Bayton 2nd Vice President

The Reverend Dr. Ricardo L. Brown 3rd Vice President

The Reverend Dr. Glenn E. Porter, Sr. Secretary

> The Reverend Dr. William J. Reid Assistant Secretary

> > The Reverend Willis A. Funn Treasurer

The Reverend Dr. G. W. C. Lyons, Jr. Parliamentarian

The Reverend Dr. Raymond L. Palmer. Esq. Legal Advisor

BGC Foundation

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Murray Chairperson

Ministry Presidents The Reverend Gloria Newsome Brickhouse Clergy Ministry

> The Reverend Dr. Johnie E. Hopkins Men's Ministry

Minister Dr. Margaret Delk Edney Women's Ministry

> Ms. Joy Coleman Youth Ministry

<u>Administration</u>

The Reverend Dr. Leo Whitaker Executive Minister

The Reverend Janet L. Wynn Accounting Consultant

The Reverend Alden G. Vaughan Executive Assistant

Program Ministries

The Reverend Dr. William H. Whitaker, II Director of Clergy Ministry and Leadership Development

The Reverend Dr. J. Elisha Burke Director of Sacred Spaces, Health, Wellness, Men, and Social Justice Ministries

> The Reverend Dr. Stephanie Wilkes Sacred Spaces Assistant

> > Mr. Jae Howard Sacred Spaces Assistant

> > > Mrs. Keshia H. Butler Program Secretary

President's Greetings



Grace and peace to my beloved BGCVA Family. We have approached one of my favorite holidays of the year, the holiday where we observe the birth of our Lord

and Savior, Jesus Christ, Christmas. It is one of the few times of the year where I have some downtime. I am able to relax, refresh, and renew myself before the new year approaches. I truly believe that during this time of year, we lay aside any indifferences and insensitivities that we may have amongst each other and focus on enjoying what this season brings.

The Advent season concentrates on 4 themes: Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. I pray that all four of these would fill your life in every way this Christmas and beyond. Without Christ's presence among us we would be lost. Through God's presence working within us we are being healed, transformed, reconciled and made whole.

For those of you who observe Kwanzaa, I want to wish you unity, faith, and purpose that emphasize bringing communities together, recognizing achievements and fostering creativity during your week of celebration into the new year.

I would like to take a moment to say thank you. I am forever grateful for how you have served so sacrificially the past six months since I have become President of this great organization. We are nearly approaching 2023 and I pray that it will bring new happiness, new goals, new achievements, and many new inspirations to your life. We are going in one direction...UP!

Lastly, I hope that this holiday season will be filled with family, friends, good health and the thoughts of Christ and his everlasting power to keep us, cover us, sustain us, and provide us a reason to give thanks and know that Christ will forever be with us.

Working for the Kingdom,

M. P. Bunting



Executive Minister Greetings

Let There be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God as our parent, siblings all are we. Let me walk with my sibling, In perfect harmony. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

PEACE!

The joy of this season is beyond the sights and sounds of festivity but is grounded and rooted in sacred peace. Our homes, churches, communities, Commonwealth, and this celestial ball called the earth, all need GOD'S peace. I thank you for your prayers, support, and participation you have offered to the ministry of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. Your generosity offered us not only peace but grace sufficient to handle well the work of ministry. This collective generosity allowed us to celebrate a record year of service in our ministries and missions. Our return to an in-person Annual Session and Congress of Faith Formation, and Fall Session demonstrated the commitment we observed with best health practices while maintaining a level of spiritual togetherness and fellowship. The Fall Session was held at the Children's Home of the Virginia Baptists (CHVB), where again your unified generosity helped to assuage their debt. The matching funds of the Titmus Foundation also truly blessed this initiative. We salute the churches, associations, BGCVA ministries, and individuals who thought it not robbery to support these efforts. Our prayer is for God's peace and God's grace to be with the pastors and people of BGCVA.

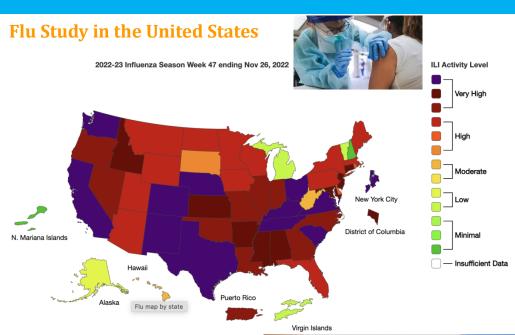
We pray for peace and grace for God's people everywhere who are experiencing hardships, difficulties, and insecurities. Let us find moments to extend acts of kindness, grace, and peace to those who need the blessing of Christmas, anew. Your prayers and support of the BGCVA staff and our families is heartfelt and greatly appreciat-Sister Cathy Whitley Whitaker, ed. our sons, and I are thankful for each of you and pray that you and your loved ones will have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. Ministry is family! We are a family of love, joy, and peace. We thank God for the Rever-

end Milton P. Bunting,

BGCVA President, and our leadership team as they continue the work of "Bringing People Together, Growing Churches and Changing Communities!"



Executive Minister Leo Whitaker



Please encourage persons to get their vaccination with the boosters and to get a flu shot as well as wear masks when in a crowd.

Blessings and peace!

Exciting Update! Books Available Now for BGCVA 2023 Curriculum

The BGCVA welcomes our 2023 author of the year, Dr. Theron D. Williams, who penned a series of books entitled: The Bible is Black History. These rich Afrocentric resources will be presented via Zoom for children and youth ministries, Vacation Bible School, and Church School Conference. We encourage you to join us on these dates: January 19, April 15, June 3, and September 16, 2023.

The paperback books are: The Bible is Black History - \$16.00 The Bible is Black History Personal Workbook - \$8.00 The Bible is Black History - Children's Edition - \$15.00 The Bible is Black - Children's Activity Book - \$11.00 The Bible is Black History - Alphabet Book - Preschool - \$14.00 Young Heroes of the Bible - Contemporary Conversations - \$18.00 Great Women of the Bible - Contemporary Conversations - \$20.00 Contact the BGCVA office to purchase your books (postage not included).

Additional paperback book – highly recommended for ministers and lead-



ers is Black Church/White Theology - \$25.00

2022 U.S. FALL FLU SEASON

2,900 DEATHS

6.2 MILLION ILLNESSES

53,000 HOSPITALIZATIONS

For more than 30 years, Dr. Theron D. Williams has been the Pastor of the Mt. Carmel Church of Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Williams was born in Detroit, Michigan. He is an alumnus of Virginia Union University and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor, School of Theology at Virginia Union, earning a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Divinity degree, respectively. Dr. Williams is also a graduate of The Chicago Theological Seminary, receiving a Doctor of Ministry Degree. Dr. Williams is the founder and president of The Bible is Black History Institute, LLC. Its mission is to educate communities of African descent of their biblical heritage.





this holiday season SACRED SPACES

Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Dr. J. Elisha Burke, Director

ealth/Social Justice/SACRED SPACES News



In response to the ongoing reality of food insufficiency (hunger) in Virginia, BGCVA SA-CRED SPAC-ES partner rep-

resentative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Saints (Mormons)

asked us to work with them to provide nonperishable food for distribution a locality in with significant need. We decided on Central and Southeast

Virginia, including Hopewell, Peters-



burg, and surrounding counties for this first distribution.

invited We Community Transformers Foundation (CTF),



Foundation

the

General

Healthcare

Community

ginia,

partnered with

vention of Vir-

vanSix, United

Plan and Aetna

Baptist

Con-

Ad-

Hopewell, VA, our existing Health, and Social Justice partner. As the agency lead CTF collaborated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to



Latter-Day Saints. To effectively distribute the food Community Transformers Foundation has linked

with local governments, area churches as well as food banks/ pantries and agencies to

feed families in need over the next 6-12 months in the Central and Southeast Virginia Areas.



Thank you,

ROOM

J. Elisha Burke, M.Div., D.Min.

SACRED Director, SPACES, Health, Men, & Social Justice



Better Health to provide meals to

communities and families facing

tough economic times and suffering from Food Insecurity. This initiative

was possible by the donation of

40.000 lbs. of non-perishable food

from the Church of Jesus Christ of

provide healthy and wholesome foods

to residents. In supporting this mis-

sion, the Community Transformers



<u>STATE OFFICERS</u> The Reverend Milton P. Bunting President

The Reverend Dr. James E. Coleman, Jr. 1" Vice President

The Reverend Dr. Griselda A. Bayton 2nd Vice President

The Reverend Dr. Ricardo L. Brown 3rd Vice President

The Reverend Dr. Glenn E. Porter, Sr. Secretary

The Reverend Dr. William J. Reid Assistant Secretary

The Reverend Willis A. Funn Treasurer

The Reverend Dr. G. W. C. Lyons Parliamentarian

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Murray Chair, BGC Foundation Board

MINISTRY PRESIDENTS

The Reverend Gloria Newsome Brickhouse Clergy Ministry

The Reverend Dr. Johnie E. Hopkins Men's Ministry

Minister Dr. Margaret Delk Edney Women's Ministry

Ms. Joy Coleman Youth Ministry

ADMINISTRATION

The Reverend Dr. Leo Whitaker Executive Minister

The Reverend Janet L. Wynn Accounting Consultant

The Reverend Alden Vaughan Executive Assistant

PROGRAM MINISTRIES

The Reverend Dr. William H. Whitaker, II Director of Clergy Ministry and Leadership Development

The Reverend Dr. J. Elisha Burke Director of Men's Ministry, Health, Wellness, Social Justice, & Sacred Spaces

The Reverend Dr. Stephanie Wilkes Assistant for Sacred Spaces

Mr. Jae T. Howard Assistant for Sacred Spaces

Mrs. Keshia H. Butler Program Secretary

BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA

1214 West Graham Road, Suite 1, Richmond, Virginia 23220-1400 Phone: S04-22S-2421 ♦ Fax: (Administration) S04-22S-1040, (Program Ministries) S04-22S-1998 Website: www.bgcva.org ♦ E-mail: info@bgcva.org

December 14, 2022

Dear BGCVA Family and Business Partners!

Greetings!

May the joyous and glorious celebration of this Christmas season extend throughout the New Year to you and yours!

As we, the BGCVA, reflect on the awesome ways God has revealed God's self to us in past years, we are excited about what the year 2023 will bring. In anticipation of doing the good work that has been assigned into our hands, we encourage you to join us in recognizing and financially supporting Virginia Union University's 158th Founders' Day on Friday, February 3, 2023.

Your financial commitment to Virginia Union University during its 158th Founders' Day will enable us to continue to support the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology which has been a beacon of theological light for many of our BGCVA clergy and ministry leaders through the years. With your monetary nurturance, the possibilities for potential matriculation at VUU, a proud member of the historically black colleges and universities, is indeed limitless and can be realized by those who are called into ministry.

Please prepare and send your financial gift for Virginia Union University to the office of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia by January 31, 2023. Visit our website, www.bgcva.org for electronic giving options, or mail your gift to the state office. Your gift will be recorded and recognized as part of the BGCVA giving moment during the roll call of donors on February 3, 2023.

Thank you for living Luke 6:38, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

For the Kingdom of God, We Are.

1. P. Buntina

The Reverend Milton P. Bunting President

The Reverend Dr. Leo Whitaker Executive Minister

We are BGC...Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities! ~ Act I:8; Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 10:13-16

Day for All People – January 18, 2023

BGCVA Social Justice Ministry invites you to join us and our social justice advocacy partner Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy for Day for All People 2023 at the General Assembly. This is the annual day at the General Assembly to advocate for social justice on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023!

Join us in Richmond to make a difference at the state capitol! Registration will begin at 7:30 am. We will have a light breakfast available, and the program will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

We will review our priority issues and then everyone will meet with their State Senator at 10:00 a.m. and Delegate around 10:45 a.m. Lunch will be served around 11:30 a.m. and people will have an opportunity to gather with others from their area. Workshops will be held after lunch. The day will end by 3 p.m. Location: Centenary United Methodist Church, 411 East Grace St., Richmond, VA 23227

There will be an option to participate virtually in just the plenaries, but that will not include legislative visits or most of the workshops.

Register before December 31 to receive early bird pricing (\$30)! The price for tickets purchased after January 1, 2023, will automatically go up to \$40.

Contact

Phone: 804-643-2474 ext. 108 Email: office@virginiainterfaithcenter.org Event Fee(s) In-person \$30.00 In-person, waiver for financial hardship \$0.00 Virtual \$10.00 Virtual, waiver for financial hardship \$0.00

Register Here: <u>https://</u> <u>virginiainter-</u> <u>faithcenter.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/</u> <u>event/register?id=241&reset=1</u>

Clergy Ministry Greetings



Greetings My BGC Family, As we take time

this Advent Season to reflect over our lives, it is with appreciation that the Clergy Ministry Team pauses to

thank each of you for your faithful and committed support. Life is full of challenges and ever-changing seasons: times of plenty, times of crisis, times of joy, and times of sorrow. But you have been faithful in each season, whether joyful or challenging helping us to live out the BGC Theme: "Bringing People Together, Growing Churches and Changing Communities." As we celebrate the Greatest Gift to the World, the Clergy Ministry Team wishes you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year filled with Love, Peace, Joy and Hope as we continue to pray for Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward all.

Reverend Gloria Newsome Brickhouse, Clergy Ministry President

The Clergy Ministry 2022 Review

In 2022, the Clergy Ministry worked diligently with the convention's theme of "Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities". Clergy and ministry leaders alike received ministry development through Clergy Conversa-Ministry Training tions, Track (MTT), convention-wide sessions, ministers' conferences, and Baptist associations. On a more local and personal level, the Clergy Ministry provided in-person, virtual, and hybrid "BGC 1-On-1" sessions to individual churches and even privately, via conference calls with Pastors who were experiencing various forms of personal and ministry related crises.

The 2022 Clergy Ministry presented

a total of 58 training sessions on a wide variety of topics and ministry needs with 21 training sessions being held during the last 6 months Attendance in the Ministry alone. Training Track (MTT) has increased exponentially to an average of 140 from the original registrations of 15 when MTT began. Clergy conversations has grown to an average of 45 to 50 pastors and ministers to include clergy from outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Clergy Ministry also provided policy resources as churches re-opened their doors. Finance policies, building usage policies, special event planning, funeral protocols, and wedding packets were just a few "gifts" provided by the Clergy Ministry to the churches and leaders within BGCVA.

Looking forward into 2023, the Clergy Ministry is not yet finished "Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities". With our world and community still realizing new facets of COVIDera living, many churches are still trying to adjust to pulpit vacancies, longterm interim pastorates, declining church membership, and decreased congregational attendance and ministry involvement. These are the key areas of training and ministry development the Clergy Ministry will be addressing in the new year.

We thank God and you for a wonderful year in the BGCVA Clergy Ministry. Be encouraged! The best is yet to come.

Rev. Gloria Newsome-Brickhouse (President), Pastor Michael Shannon (Vice-President), Dr. Tracey Dawkins -Holley (Secretary), and Dr. Barbara Cain (Assistant Secretary), Dr. Bill Whitaker (Director of Clergy Ministry & Lay Leadership Development)



Men's Ministry Greetings



During this season of ADVENT we must remain vigilant watching and waiting for Jesus' return. Jesus did not come to us in gay apparel or on a fine horse. No,

He came in swaddling clothing to poor parents. He was wrapped in flesh and having blood running through His veins like you and I. He was vulnerable to pain and hunger and in need of friends and family also. He was touched with our infirmities and subject to the trials and schemes of Satan (Hebrews 4: 15). When Jesus return, He will return in the full pageantry due to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

This Christmas, unwrap the greatest gift ever given to humanity. Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world.

Amen

Rev. Dr. Johnie E. Hopkins, Sr., Men's Ministry President

Youth Ministry Greetings

Happy Holidays from the Youth Ministry Officers:



Ms. Joy Coleman of Lynchburg President



Ms. Alexandria Hunt-Quarles of Tappahannock Secretary



Mr. James Sognikin of Richmond/Chesterfield Vice President



Mr. Primas Paige, Jr. of Portsmouth/Norfolk Assistant Secretary

Women's Ministry Greetings



Happy Holy Holiday Greetings on behalf of the Women's Ministry of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia!

If our history has shown us anything, it is that we are people of great Faith, Wisdom, Courage and Spirit. Despite a continuing global pandemic and the lingering systemic injustices that create disparities among us, by the Grace of God, we are still able to gather as the body of Christ - united and affirming one another as we experience exceeding joy. During this Advent Season and as the New Year approaches, along with my Sisters of Substance, my prayer is for Peace. Joy and Blessings upon each of you. Remember to "Be that guiding light". There is always someone passing your way!

Your Sister in Christ and Service, Minister Dr. Margaret Delk Edney President, Women's Ministry BGCVA Health Advisory Update – Wear A Mask for Healthy Living



The wholeness of our family is of upmost importance to us, especially with the tripledemic health threat of COVID-19, the flu and RSV or respiratory syncytial virus that we are currently experiencing. According to the Centers for Disease Control, hospitalizations for Covid-10, influenza and RSV are increasing. RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Most people recover in a week or two, but RSV can be serious, especially for infants and older adults. CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said wearing a mask is an everyday precaution that people can take to reduce the chances of catching or spreading a respiratory virus. Masks should be worn whenever indoors or in a crowed outdoor environment. Join us in working to keep our family, friends, and community safe by wearing a face mask.



Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Church Finance and Tax Compliance Conference



Best Practices For Stewardship Ministries

January 21, 2023

8:30 AM—2:00 PM First Baptist Church Centralia 2920 Kingsdale Road Richmond, VA 23237

Registration: \$40 Per Person

"But let all be done properly and in an orderly manner." (I Cor. 14:40 NASB)

Inclement Weather Date: January 28, 2023



Mrs. Janiel Youngblood



Mrs. Brenda Bashir



Rev. Dr. Barbara Morton



Rev. Joseph Waddy

This informative one-day conference is designed for Pastors,

Trustees, Deacons, Treasurers, Finance Ministry, Finance



Rev. Pierce Williams



Featuring...

Rev. Dr. Raymond Palme

REGISTER ON-LINE AT: www.bgcva.org For more information call 804.228.2421 Email: info@bgcva.org

We are BGC...Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities! ~ Act 1:8; Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 10:13-16



** For more information contact the BGCVA Office 804.228.2421 or info@bgcva.org **

Empowering Healthy Families Research Study

Program for Families with Children in 1st - 5th Grade

The Empowering Healthy Families (EHF) program is recruiting churches for Spring 2023! EHF is hosted in partnership with the Baptist General Convention of Virginia (BGCVA), Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, and Cooperative Extension. We are excited to help families throughout Virginia improve their healthy eating and financial wellness habits. "Open Enrollment" is an opportunity for churches to share their interest to host the program. Once registered with "Open Enrollment," the EHF team will follow-up with additional information. Churches must recruit at least 10 families, a Program Coordinator, and 2 people that will be trained to teach program classes. All positions will receive a stipend for their assistance. Families and the church program team can be recruited from the congregation or the community. Classes are held weekly for 8 weeks. All classes can be hosted virtually (zoom), inperson, or a combination of the two.

Click here to access the open enrollment form: <u>https://docs.google.com/</u> forms/d/

e/1FAIpQLScc2NEC17os5WLoyoZLX fCN-ku4kHgIiBbfRhQQ5Tgz-359ZA/

viewform?usp=sf link

Important Dates to Know

A calendar with program dates is provided in a separate attachment.

• EHF Open Enrollment to recruit churches for Spring 2023 begins: October 1st, 2022

• EHF Open Enrollment closes Wednesday, November 30th, 2022

• EHF Church preparation & training December 2022 & January 2023

• EHF Pre-Program data collection February 2023

• EHF Program will start the week of March 2023

• EHF Program ends the week of May 2023

• EHF Post-Program data collection May & June 2023

All churches that sign-up for "Open Enrollment" will receive an invitation to participate in our EHF Information Sessions to learn more about the EHF program and program preparation.

• EHF Information Session 1: Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 (6-715pm)

• EHF Information Session 2: Thursday, October 13th, 2022; 6pm-7:15pm

• EHF Information Session 3: Tues-

day, October 25th, 2022; 6pm-7:15pm

• EHF Information Session 4: Thursday, October 27th, 2022; 6pm-7:15pm o Click here to view program information packet

Important Information to Know

Church representatives who review the information presentation ahead of time can opt into a shorter meeting with an EHF team member to answer questions and receive an EHF preparation packet to begin program planning and participant recruitment. Please visit https://

cphpr.publichealth.vt.edu/ehf/ resources.html and select "Congregation Orientation" under EHF Webinar PDFs. This resource will provide:

- Inspiration for EHF
- Steps to implement the program

• Background on the two programs delivered through EHF

• Church team roles and responsibilities \circ To learn more about each role, please visit https:// cphpr.publichealth.vt.edu/ehf/ resources.html and select "job descriptions"



(EHF) Spring 2023 Cohort Calendar

December 2022

• 30-day paperwork process for church teams begins: Thursday, December 1st, 2022 o W9 o Background check

o Volunteer agreement

January 2023

• Church team curriculum training round 1 o Children's Financial Wellness Training (Money Smart) (Must attend 2 of 3 training dates) Tuesday, January 10th, 2023; 6pm-830pm • Thursday, January 12th, 2023; 6pm-

830pm

Saturday, January 14th, 2023; 11am-

1:30pm • Contact BGCVA for Grade 1-2 curriculum

• Contact BGCVA for Grade 3-5 curriculum

o Children's healthy eating and activity training (Pick a Better Snack,

Choose Health Food, Fun, Fitness)

((Must attend 2 of 3 training dates)) • Tuesday, January 24th, 2023; 6pm-830pm

 Thursday, January 26th, 2023; 6pm-830pm

 Saturday, January 28th, 2023; 11am-1:30pm • Contact BGCVA for grade 1 -2 curriculum

• Contact BGCVA for grade 3-5 curriculum

o Individuals will be compensated \$50 for completing the curriculum training

February 2023

• EHF Data Collection Options o Saturday, February 4th, 2023; 11am-1pm o Saturday, February 11th, 2023;11am -1pm

o Saturday, February 18th, 2023;11am -1pm

o Saturday, February 25th, 2023;11am -1pm

o Weekday options available from 6pm-8pm if preferred

March 2023

• EHF Program Launch Options o Week of March 6th, 2023

Program can be hosted M, T, W, TH

Empowering Healthy Families from 6pm-8pm or Sat from 11am-1pm

o Week of March 13th, 2023 - Program can be hosted M, T, W, TH from 6pm-8pm or Sat from 11am-1pm

o Week of March 20th, 2023 • Program can be hosted M, T, W, TH from 6pm-8pm or Sat from 11am-1pm

o Week of March 27th, 2023 - Program can be hosted M, T, W, TH from 6pm-8pm or Sat from 11am-1pm

Copyright©2018-Present. Virginia Tech Center for Public Health Practice & Research. All Rights Reserved.







My BGCVA Reflections...



has December always been like a coin to me. It has two sides. One side is filled with the joy of the Holiday Season and the cele-

bration of Christmas. The carols, cards, and family gatherings are welcomed signs of the season. Then, there's, the other side of the coin. December marks the end of a year. It is the time for reflection. I find December to be the time to review the past eleven months and take inventory of my accomplishments, disappointments, trials, and triumphs. Did my work and deeds meet and or exceed my New Year Resolutions? Did I always do my best? Honestly, I must admit that most of the time. I failed to meet, let alone exceed the year's resolutions. However, I am



immensely grateful for the opportunity to try again. December is the time of year to express thanks for second As I celebrate Christ's chances. birth, I eagerly anticipate His second coming. This two-sided coin has no wrong side! It is a win-win situation. Enjoy the season and always remember the reason.

Rev. Alden G. Vaughan, MACE **BGCVA Staff**





Baptist General Convention of VA

2023 Event Calendar

January

16-17	MLK Celebration and Day of Ministry Service	8	В	
18	Day for All People at General Assembly	8	V	
19	Virtual BGCVA Workshop: The Bible is Black	21-22	v	
	History			
21	Virtual Church Finance and Tax Compliance	August		
	Conference	25-26	V	
22	Statewide BGCVA Day			
26	SACRED SPACES Webinar	September		
		14	V	
Februar	¥.	16	v	
3	Virtual VUU Founders' Day		В	
7	Heart Health Webinar			
		October	<u>(</u> Cl	
March		5	Н	
16	SACRED SPACES Webinar	8	C	
31-	Mega Ministries Retreat, Norfolk	8-14	В	
		12	V	
April				
-1	Mega Ministries Retreat, Norfolk		November	
13	Hybrid Executive Committee Meeting	7	D	
15	Hybrid VBS Conference: The Bible is Black	10-11	H	
	History	13-15	V	
20	Virtual Spring General Board Meeting	13-16	V	
22	VUU Church Leadership Conference			
		Decemb	er	
	st Responders Month)	16	V	
5-6	Regional Institute, Roanoke			
25	SACRED SPACES Webinar	Weekly		
		Every T	nurs	
June			Y	
3	Hybrid Children, Youth, & Youth Workers		Т	
	Conference & Empowerment - No Judgement	Monthl		

25-29

Zone! The Bible is Black History Hybrid 124th Annual Session and Congress of Christian Faith Formation, Norfolk

July

	BGC Day @ Kings Dominion
	Virtual Children's Home Founders' Day
1-22	Virtual Youth Retreat II

irtual Back 2 School Weekend

(Christian Faith Formation Month)

- irtual General Board Strategic Planning Meeting
- irtual Faith Formation Conference: The Bible is lack History

ergy Appreciation Month)

5 Hybrid	Executive	Committee	Meeting
----------	-----------	-----------	---------

- lergy Appreciation Day
- GCVA Week of Prayer
- irtual Fall General Board Meeting

7	Day of Social Action	
0.44	Hubrid Call Cossion	

- lybrid Fall Session 'irtual Children's and Youth Revival
- UU Ellison Jones Convocation

irtual Youth Ministry Lock-In

day @ 7:30 PM outh Ministry Advisory Team: Meeting & raining

Monthly

Every 1st Thursday @ 12PM – Clergy Conversations Every 3rd Monday @ 12 PM – Ministry Training Track Every 4th Thursday @ 12 PM – Moderators' Meeting

*** Some Events are Virtual Due to COVID-19. **** *** Dates and Locations are Subject to Change. *** Phone: 804-228-2421 Email: info@bgcva.org



We are BGC... Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities! (Act 1:8; Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 10:13-16)



Address Service Requested

BGC Easy Giving Methods

Mail-In Gifts: BGCVA 1214 West Graham Road Richmond, VA 23220



S Cash App: Download App Enter Amount Pay To: \$BGCVA



GIVELIFY: Download App Find: Baptist General Convention Tap Amount Give

PayPal: BGCVA Website: BGCVA.ORG Click on Donate