

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.

Pastor Antwan L. Jones
Rev. Dr. Leroy M. Bray, Jr.
Pastor John J. Nicholas, Jr.
Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III
Sister Christine E. Baker
Sister Anetra D. Alford
Rev. Charles Edward Glover, Sr.
Bishop Wilbert L. Daniels, Sr.



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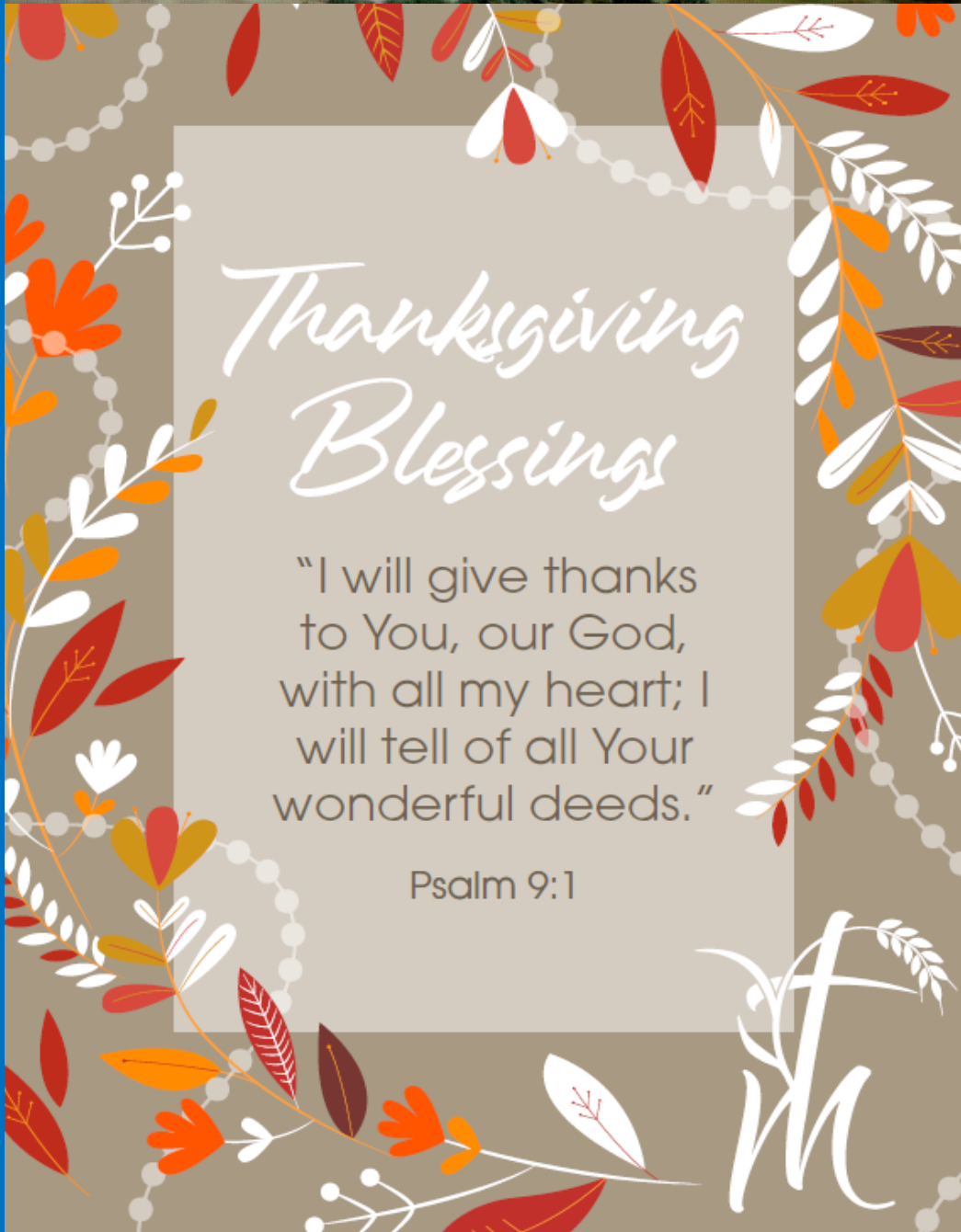
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Thanksgiving Blessings

"I will give thanks
to You, our God,
with all my heart; I
will tell of all Your
wonderful deeds."

Psalm 9:1



Baptist Herald

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BGCVA Advent 2022

Introduction

Preparing for the Fruition of the Promise

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Readings for 2022

Written by

Dr. William H. "Bill" Whitaker

What is Advent? Advent is the spiritual season, that sacred time when Christians are invited to rest from the hustle of holiday preparations, gift buying, and parties with family and friends to focus on the birth and coming of the Jesus Christ. The word "Advent" has its origin from the Latin term *adventus* which means "arrival" or "coming" which for Christians, refers to the arrival and coming of Jesus Christ.

There are two Advents in the Christian faith, both of which speak of the personal coming of Jesus Christ. However, the purpose of the **First Advent of Christ** differs from that of the second in that the *First Coming* is purposed to redeem humankind from the penalty of sin from which we could free ourselves.

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned... ^{20b} But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:12, 20b-21 (NIV)

The First Advent (coming) of Jesus Christ has already taken place and was to purchase, to "buy us back" from the penalty of sin. The purpose of the **Second Advent of Christ** is not to take away our sin, but to Save all who have lived for and believed in Him.

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will

appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.
Hebrews 9:28 (NIV)

Today, we celebrate the First Advent of Christ: AND yet, we also await and live for His equally glorious Second Advent.

When is Advent? Advent begins four Sundays prior to Christmas Day. The 2022 BGCVA Advent dates and themes are related to highs and lows of waiting. They are as follow:

1st Sunday

November 27, 2022

The Promise—Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

2nd Sunday

December 4, 2022

The Preparation—Isaiah 40:3-5

3rd Sunday

December 11, 2022

The Peace—Luke 2:10

4th Sunday

December 18, 2022

The Praise—Luke 2:10-20

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

The Presence—Matthew 2:9-12

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR CHURCH AND FAMILY FOR AD- VENT

As a Congregation and Family, many celebrate Advent by incorporating **Advent Wreaths** and **Advent Readings** into their worship services and homes. Advent Wreaths are typically an ever-green wreath containing five candles (two purple candles side by side; followed by a pink candle; and, another purple candle. A large white candle is in the center of the wreath.)

Click [HERE for a Virtual Advent Wreath](#). Click [HERE for a brief history](#) of Advent and Advent the wreath.

The Advent wreath is usually lit at the beginning of the weekly service with its accompanying Advent reading from the

Holy Bible. However, many families choose to create an Advent wreath and set it on the dinner table or mantel, lighting the candles and using that family time to remind themselves and their children that the Christmas season is first and foremost about Jesus. Other families place the Advent wreath on their mantel. Again, the beauty of this tradition is that you can make it your own, as it suits you and your family.

Your Personal Preparations for Advent are more intimate and private experiences between you and Jesus as your Christ and Savior.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR PERSONAL "INN" (Your Spiritual House) for ADVENT

1. Examine Your "Inn" for old relationships and situations that contain unforgiveness towards others. The Christian heart (your intentions, motives, and hidden desires) is often filled with emotions that clutter space where Christ desires to be in your life. Advent for you begins with you identifying these "unkept" areas in your spirit.

2. Clean Your "Inn": Remove unwanted dirt and un-Christlike ways of living. Be sure to clean those areas of hurt from your past you have intentionally ignored due to hurt and anger. Purposefully offer forgiveness for the wrongs others have done to you and request forgiveness for the wrongs you have done to others. Remember that the one who may need your forgiveness the most is "YOU".

3. Redecorate Your "Inn": Special guests require special decorations. The décor (emotions) of your old, former life will not do!!! Replace old emotions of hurt, anger, unforgiveness, and indifferences with God's decorations of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gen-

teness, and self-control (the Fruit of the Holy Spirit).

4. Be Welcoming & Inviting in Your "Inn": Jesus is on His way! He's preparing to knock at the door of your inn. As the host, it is your responsibility to make your Special Guest (Jesus Christ) feel welcomed and invited. How do you do that? By living as Christ lived and obeying His every will and command!

ADVENT: FIRST SUNDAY -



November 27, 2022
The Promise

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. We light the first purple candle as we await the Advent, the coming of Jesus, the Christ Child. Come! Let us celebrate the coming of our King!

Advent Scripture: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. [...] For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."

Advent Saying:
Who is Jesus, the Christ Child? He is our Wonderful Counselor, our

Mighty God, our Everlasting Father, our Prince of Peace who came to be our Light in our times of darkness. He is our Savior who rules and reigns throughout eternity with justice and righteousness. What is **The Promise?** That "*the zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*"

Advent Selection: Silent Night (One Verse)

Silent night, Noly night
All is calm, all is bright
Round Yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so Tender and Mild
Sleep In Heavenly Peace
Sleep In Heavenly Peace

Advent Prayer: (To Be Given by the Advent Reader)

ADVENT: SECOND SUNDAY -
December 4, 2022
The Preparation

Today, is the second Sunday in Advent. We re-light the first purple candle to commemorate **The Promise** of the coming of Jesus Christ, our Wonderful Counselor, our Mighty God, our Everlasting Father, and our Prince of Peace. Today, we light the second purple candle to remind us of **The Preparation**, our need to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming of our Lord.

Advent Scripture: Isaiah 40:3-5
"A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'"

Advent Saying:
Advent is much more than just "waiting" for the coming of the Lord. To the Christian, Advent is more importantly about us "preparing" the day when Christ will arrive. If, on the day when Christ arrives, all we have done

is wait with no preparations, we will not have fulfilled the mandate of God to "...*prepare the way for the Lord*". What is *The Preparation* we are to make? To live as Christ has called us to live so that "...*the glory of the Lord will be revealed and all people will see it together.*"

Advent Selection: Away in a Manger (One Verse)

Away in a manger, No crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his Sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Advent Prayer: (To Be Given by the Advent Reader)

*ADVENT: THIRD SUNDAY -
December 11, 2022
The Peace*

Today, is the third Sunday in Advent. We re-light the first purple candle to commemorate *The Promise* of the coming of Jesus Christ, our Wonderful Counselor, our Mighty God, our Everlasting Father, and our Prince of Peace. We re-light the second purple candle to remind us of *The Preparation*, our need to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming of our Lord. Today, we light the PINK candle which represents *The Peace* we receive through the birth of Christ.

Advent Scripture: Luke 2:10

¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Advent Saying:

The angel praised God and declared that upon the birth of Jesus Christ, there might be peace on earth. It's part of *The Promise* of God within the Gospel of Jesus Christ that those whom God's favor rests will have *The*

Peace of Christ in times when the world is filled with darkness and sin. Let there be Peace on Earth!

Advent Selection: 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 father, brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother, In perfect harmony.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Advent Prayer: (To Be Given by the Advent Reader)

*ADVENT: FOURTH SUNDAY -
December 18, 2022
The Praise*

Today, we welcome you to the fourth Sunday in Advent. We re-light the first purple candle to commemorate *The Promise* of the coming of Jesus Christ and the second purple candle which represents *The Preparation*, our need to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming of our Lord. We re-light the pink candle for *The Peace* we receive in the favor of God. Today, we light the final purple candle as we honor God through *The Praise* for sending Christ to save us from our sins.

Advent Scripture: Luke 2:16-20

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds

said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. – Luke 2:16-20

Advent Saying:

Good news is hard to keep to yourself. What greater news has there ever been to the Christian than the birth of Jesus Christ! We've heard *The Promise*. We've endured *The Preparation*. We've experienced *The Peace*. Now, it's time for us to give God *The Praise*. Let us glorify Him Who has wonderfully and marvelously done great things!

Advent Selection: Angels We have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria In Excelsis Deo
Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Advent Prayer: (To Be Given by the Advent Reader)

*Christmas Day -
Sunday, December 25, 2022
The Presence*

This morning is Christmas and we re-light the first purple candle to commemorate *The Promise* of the coming of Jesus Christ and the second which represents *The Preparation*, our need to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming of our Lord. We re-light the pink candle for *The Peace* we receive in the favor of God and the final purple candle as we honor God through *The Praise* for sending Christ to save us from our sins. Today, we light

the center, white candle – “The Christ Candle” which signifies *The Presence* of Christ in our lives.

Advent Scripture: Matthew 2:9-12

⁹ After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way. The star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. ¹¹ The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road.

Advent Saying:

Christmas morning represents the end of the first Advent, the coming of Jesus Christ, but it symbolically represents the beginning of our continued journey with Christ towards His second coming. The birth of Christ signifies “Immanuel”, *The*

Presence of God with us through the life of Jesus Christ. With the presence of Christ Jesus, we come to Him, we bow down before Him, we worship Him, and we glorify His Name. Some things, you just MUST see for yourself!

Advent Selection: We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Advent Prayer: (To Be Given by the Advent Reader)

FOR A PRINTABLE VERISON OF BGCVA ADVENT 2022, GO TO OUR WEBSITE, WWW.BGCVA.ORG

President's Greetings

Grace and Peace to all of my beloved BGCVA family:

I am delighted and overjoyed that God has given us another time to give thanks as family and friends. I marvel at the handywork of our Lord and I give thanks for all of the wonderful things God has done and continues to do in our lives. As we approach this festive season allow me to take a moment to first say thank you once again for all that you continue to do to exemplify your love for our convention. Down through the years you have been continuously giving your best to BGC, and we are grateful for it. This year as we embark on another Thanksgiving season, we pause to also thank you for your support of our Fall Session which was held at the Children's Home of Virginia Baptists in Petersburg during the first part of November. God truly met us at the home and we are still rejoicing over the great and mighty things that God did during our time together.

I'm sure by now you have been made aware that our financial issue with the home has been almost resolved through the process of refinancing of the loan note and funds that you gave which helped pay on the principle of the note itself. This could not have been done without your generosity and grace. Everyone is delighted all over the commonwealth as we praise God for this blessing. Details are forthcoming as to the date of the closing and the process of restructuring which will make the home self sufficient and self sustaining. I truly believe God has once again shown us grace and mercy in this endeavor.

As we move throughout the holiday season, I want to take a moment and thank all of our state officers for their continuous sacrifice and hard work. I could not do the work of the convention without the help of these mighty men and women of God. I also want to ex-



press my thanks to our office staff for the work they do on a daily basis which keeps the convention running smoothly. We have some of the greatest theological thinkers on our team and we are truly blessed as a convention to have them.

I want to invite you to begin making plans to be apart of our Mega Mid-winter Retreat which will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel on March 2023! We are planning a unique and one of a kind experience for us as a convention. Preachers and presenters from all across the length of our Commonwealth will be with us and the information that will be shared will be quite different from that of years past. I am praying that you will join in during that weekend. God is going to meet us down by the river and we will enjoy God's presence that weekend.

Once again, thank you for all of your kindness and grace and we pray God will bless you during this Thanksgiving Season. I also hope that this Season will be filled with family, friends, good health and the thoughts of Christ and his power to keep us, cover us and provide which will give us a reason to give thanks.

Working for the Kingdom,

M. P. Bunting, President



Executive Minister Greetings

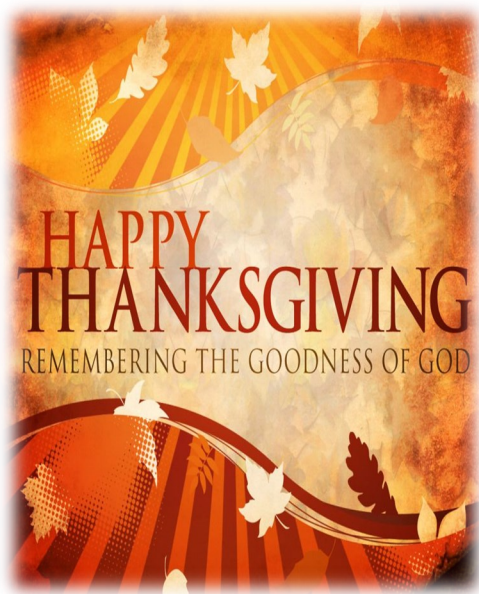
Last Friday, November 18th, marks for me another year of life. Thank you JESUS! I am grateful to my mother and father for their nurturing love. Many thanks to my wife and sons for sharing each day with me with loving joy and peace. With a grateful and humble heart, I thank each of you for your overwhelming support and participation in the mission and ministries of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia for 2022. Your generosity to both BGCVA and to the Children's Home of the Virginia Baptist was record setting. We are still praising GOD and praying to GOD that peace and prosperity will rule and reign on our 260 acres and each building. We believe that "all things work together for the good of those who love the LORD!"



in March 2023.

Both events will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel. You are encouraged to place these dates on your church and associational calendars. When you encourage your members and leaders to attend – you strengthen the BODY OF CHRIST! I praise GOD that I was able to share my 30th Birthday Celebration at BGCVA in 1991. It was a surprise planned with grace and love by my bride, Sister Cathy Whitaker. This year I am here at BGCVA sharing sacred salutations on my 16th Birthday (LOL). The LORD is blessing me Right NOW! At Thanksgiving, may your table be adorned with love and joy. When you celebrate Advent, shout everywhere you go - JESUS is the Reason for the Season!

Executive Minister Leo Whitaker



Please share the information in this Herald on each upcoming event as well as those planned in 2023. My hope is that your church or association will join us for the various ministries designed to make significant your impact on communities you serve. Please plane your calendar of events

Together, your spiritual and financial contributions will continue to enhance greatly our theme of Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, & Changing Communities! GOD is blessings us right now.

Please join me in praising GOD for the pastors and people and the Moderators and Associations of the BGCVA for making BGC The Place To BE! Our HERALD has the calendar of events and flyers for 2023.

We are delighted to announce the return of our MEGA Retreat for Women, Men, Clergy and Children in February as well as the BGCVA Youth Retreat

My BGCVA Reflections...

The glorious expectations of this Advent Season also include the activation of the 2023-2024 goals and objectives of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia (BGCVA) under the leadership of President Milton P. Bunting. The past accomplishments of the BGCVA are the framework for future activities. The thematic focus of the BGC: Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities continues to afford us the opportunity to creatively imagine methods of engaging persons for the work of Christ. I pray that the hope, preparation, joy, and love of this Advent Season will linger in your heart, be present on your mind, and show up in your words and deeds as we, the BGCVA family, witness to the world the great things God can do!

Rev. Alden G. Vaughan, MACE
BGCVA Staff



Pastoral Installations

- Dr. Mark Micaiah Whitaker—New Bethel Baptist Church, Portsmouth
- Reverend Tereke' D. Hutcheson—Wharton Memorial Baptist Church, Nelson

Celebrating Years of Service

- ♦ Dr. Curtis J. Strader, Jr.—30 years
- ♦ Dr. Archie German, Sr.—30 years
- ♦ Dr. Walter C. Johnson—35 years

Celebrating Church Anniversaries

- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Goochland—155 years
- The Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Richmond—135 years
- Gillfield Baptist Church, Petersburg—225 years



VIRTUAL YOUTH MINISTRY LOCK-IN DECEMBER 17TH @ 6:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!



Change for the Better

HOLIDAY DIAPER DRIVE

**HELP BABIES IN OUR COMMUNITY
DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

Diapers are a necessary part of day-to-day life for young children and their families. However, providing them is not always easy.

Now through December 3rd, Anthem HealthKeepers Plus, Baptist General Convention Virginia, Saint Paul's Baptist Church and Urban Baby Beginnings are organizing a community-wide Change for the Better diaper drive and distribution campaign focused on providing diapers to low-income families from Metro Richmond to Petersburg, Virginia.



Stop by a drop off site today!

During the month of November Diaper Donations can be dropped off at the following locations:

**Baptist General Convention:
1214 W Graham St, Richmond, VA 23220**

**St. Paul's Baptist Church
Sundays until 1pm
Creighton Campus: 4247 Creighton Rd, Richmond, VA 23223
or
Belt Campus: 700 E Belt Blvd, Richmond, VA 23224**

**Once Upon A Child Colonial Heights
52 Southgate Sq, Colonial Heights, VA 23834
or**

**Once Upon A Child Richmond West End
9015 W Broad St, Richmond**

**Closing Ceremony and Diaper Distribution from 11-1pm on December 3rd
St. Paul's Baptist Church
Elm Campus: 29 Elm St, Petersburg, VA 23803**

**HELP BABIES IN
OUR
COMMUNITY
DURING THIS
HOLIDAY
SEASON**

More information :

To become a community partner or for more information, contact JohnJason L. Cecil, Community Relations Representative at (804) 774-6134 or by email at johnjason.cecil@anthem.com.



BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA
PRESENTS

MEGA MINISTRIES RETREAT 2023

AT THE 
SHERATON
Norfolk Waterside Hotel

777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 622-6664

Room Rate: \$129 per night

Registration
is
\$200
per person

*Women's Ministry ~ Men's Ministry ~ Clergy Ministry
~ Special Featuring Children's Ministry (Grades 1-5) ~*

MARCH 2023

Register Today!
Events at
www.bgcva.org

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

Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Church Finance and Tax Compliance Conference

January 21, 2023

8:30 AM—1:00 PM

First Baptist Church Centralia
2920 Kingsdale Road
Richmond, VA 23237

Registration: \$60 Per Person

"But let all be done properly and in an orderly manner." (1 Cor. 14:40 NASB)

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

This exciting, one-day
conference is designed for Pastors, Trustees,
Deacons, Treasurers, Finance Ministry, Finance
Committee, etc.



REGISTER ON-LINE AT: www.bgcva.org
For more information call 804.228.2421
Email: 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), in-person, or a combination of the two.

Click here to access the open enrollment form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSec2NEC17os5WLoyoZLXfCN-ku4kHgIiBbfRhQQ5Tgz-359ZA/viewform?usp=sf_link

[viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSec2NEC17os5WLoyoZLXfCN-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 (6-7:15pm)

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

- EHF Information Session 3: Tues-

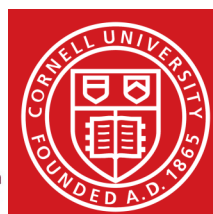
day, October 25th, 2022; 6pm-7:15pm

- 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 o To learn more about each role, please visit <https://cphpr.publichealth.vt.edu/ehf/resources.html> and select "job descriptions"



BGCVA Sponsors



Dominion Energy®



Empowering Healthy Families (EHF) Spring 2023 Cohort Calendar

November 2022

- Open enrollment closes: Wednesday, November 30th, 2022 o Churches that sign up to host the EHF program will immediately begin program preparation & launch
- o Churches can still sign up to host the EHF program on a rolling basis, and will be assigned to the appropriate cohort based on when they confirm participation (e.g., Spring, Summer, Fall)

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 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

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Inspiring Communities by
Connecting People to Real
Solutions™

www.cmttransformers.org

PRESS RELEASE:

Community Transformers Foundation (CTF) has collaborated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to provide healthy and wholesome foods to residents of Central and Southeast Virginia. In supporting its mission, the Community Transformers Foundation has partnered with the Baptist General Convention of Virginia, AdvanSix, United Healthcare Community Plan and Aetna Better Health to provide meals to communities and families facing hard economic times and suffering from Food Insecurity. This initiative was made possible by a donation of 40,000 lbs. of non-perishable food from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. To effectively meet the needs 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.

Baptist General Convention of Virginia SACRED SPACES

"Think of the past, of the time long ago; ask your parents to tell you what happened, ask the old people to tell of the past." (Deuteronomy 32:7 - GNT)

WEBINAR
DECEMBER 1ST @ 6:00 PM
SAVE THE DATE!



Baptist General Convention of VA



2023 Event Calendar

January

- 16-17 MLK Celebration and Day of Ministry Service
- 21 Virtual Church Finance and Tax Compliance Conference
- 22 Statewide BGCVA Day

February

- 3 Virtual VUU Founders' Day

March

- 24-25 Mega Ministries Retreat, Norfolk
- 24-26 Youth Retreat I, Norfolk

April

- 13 Hybrid Executive Committee Meeting
- 15 Hybrid VBS Conference
- 20 Virtual Spring General Board Meeting
- 22 VUU Church Leadership Conference

May (First Responders Month)

- 5-6 Regional Institute, Roanoke

June

- 3 Virtual Children, Youth, & Youth Workers Conference & Empowerment - No Judgement Zone!
- 25-29 Hybrid 124th Annual Session and Congress of Christian Faith Formation, Norfolk

Weekly

- Every Thursday @ 7:30 PM – Youth Ministry Advisory Team: Meeting & Training

July

- 8 BGC Day @ Kings Dominion
- 8 Virtual Children's Home Founders' Day
- 21-22 Virtual Youth Retreat II

August

- 25-26 Virtual Back 2 School Weekend

September (Christian Faith Formation Month)

- 14 Virtual General Board Strategic Planning Meeting
- 16 Virtual Faith Formation Conference

October (Clergy Appreciation Month)

- 5 Hybrid Executive Committee Meeting
- 8 Clergy Appreciation Day
- 8-14 BGCVA Week of Prayer
- 12 Virtual Fall General Board Meeting

November

- 7 Day of Social Action
- 10-11 Hybrid Fall Session
- 13-15 Virtual Children's and Youth Revival
- 13-16 VUU Ellison Jones Convocation

December

- 16 Virtual Youth Ministry Lock-In

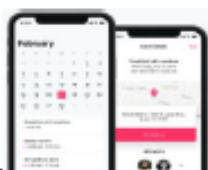
Monthly

- 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)



Baptist General Convention of Virginia

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