

# **Baptist General Convention of Virginia**

**2017 – 20 Thematic Focus**

**Reviving Our Roots: Prophetic Preaching and Our  
Missional Mandate**

**Luke 4: 18-19**

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## **Historical Perspective**

**In 1899 the Baptist General Convention of Virginia was established to be both a prophetic and missional witness throughout the Commonwealth, nation and global society. The work has been arduous yet rewarding. God has been glorified as lives have been transformed and delivered from various socio-cultural, political and religious bondages. Through it all, we have faced our successes and our challenges. However, it is by the Grace of God, the Cross and Community that we have overcome many “dark and stormy nights”.**

## **2017 – 20 Thematic Vision**

As we enter the current day in the life of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia, we shall be motivated and led by the thematic vision of **“Reviving Our Roots: Prophetic Preaching and Our Missional Mandate...Luke 4:18:19”**. It is paramount that we speak truth to those in positions of power in our attempt to advance the Kingdom of God where there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female, as we are all one in Christ Jesus. Such prophetic preaching will not only be proclaimed from pulpits and ambos but through social justice initiatives and advocacies; such preaching and teaching will influence the ideas that shape public policies.

## **2017 – 20 Thematic Vision**

**Lastly, BGCVA will reimagine and reinvest in our ministry partners; as well as in ways of advancing our shared objectives of meeting the needs of God's people. We will devise new means of generating and extending support to Virginia Union University and its Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology; Lott Carey Foreign Missions; Virginia One Church One Child; the properties of The Children's Home of Virginia Baptists, Inc.; and national Baptists denominational bodies (ABC, PNBC, NBC, etc.). In addition, we will create opportunities for us to carry out national and global mission projects through the offices of the BGCVA.**

# Strategic Planning

The Executive Board and a team of co-laborers are currently planning our next steps toward an even brighter future. With the assistance of Mrs. Donna Speller-Turner and Advantage Business Strategies, Inc., we have begun the journey of developing a ten-year Strategic Plan that will detail our aims, objectives, projects, projected outcomes and obligations as stewards of our Lord's Convention. The Strategic Plan is scheduled to be completed December, 2017.

## 3 Areas of Concern:

- **Membership**
- **Stewardship**
- **Programs**

# **Imminent Practices and Projects**

- **Children's Home of Virginia Baptists**
- **BGCVA Foundation**
- **VUU and its Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology**
- **Ordination Track and Chaplain Endorsements**
- **First Response Team and Mission Projects**
- **Preaching Institute**
- **“A Call for Papers”: BGC Publishing House**