

Baptist Herald

Vaccination Clinics Around the Commonwealth

The following churches participated in the
Vaccination Clinics:

- ❖ Second Baptist Church South Richmond
- ❖ Second Baptist Church West End, Richmond
- ❖ CHVB, South Chesterfield
- ❖ Second Calvary Baptist Church, Norfolk
- ❖ St. Mark Baptist Church, Portsmouth
- ❖ Grove Baptist Church, Portsmouth
- ❖ Third Baptist Church, Portsmouth
- ❖ Shiloh Baptist Church, Norfolk
- ❖ First Baptist Church, Berkeley
- ❖ First Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ First Baptist Church, Petersburg (West)
- ❖ Gillfield Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Metropolitan Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Morning Star Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Sharon Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Trinity Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Union Grove Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Zion Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Providence Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ First Baptist Church - City Point, Hopewell
- ❖ Friendship Baptist Church, Hopewell
- ❖ Harrison Grove Baptist Church, Hopewell
- ❖ Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Hopewell
- ❖ Union Baptist Church, Hopewell
- ❖ Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, North Chesterfield
- ❖ Friendship Memorial Baptist Church, North Chesterfield
- ❖ New Hope Baptist Church, Chesterfield
- ❖ First Baptist Church - Centralia, Richmond
- ❖ Second Baptist Church, Chester
- ❖ Union Branch Baptist Church, Chesterfield
- ❖ Tabernacle Baptist Church, Chesterfield
- ❖ Shiloh Baptist Church, Petersburg
- ❖ Brown Grove Baptist Church, Midlothian
- ❖ Community Independent Methodist Church, Chesterfield
- ❖ Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Hopewell
- ❖ Zion Chester AME Zion Church, Chester
- ❖ Branches Runn Baptist Church, Amelia Court House
- ❖ Fourth Baptist Church, Richmond
- ❖ Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley
- ❖ Fifth Baptist Church, Richmond
- ❖ Fifth Street Baptist Church, Richmond
- ❖ Bethesda Baptist Church, Colonial Heights
- ❖ First Baptist Church, Centreville
- ❖ Bethlehem Baptist Church, Alexandria
- ❖ First Baptist Church, Vienna
- ❖ First Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Dumfries
- ❖ Cedar Street Baptist Church of God, Richmond

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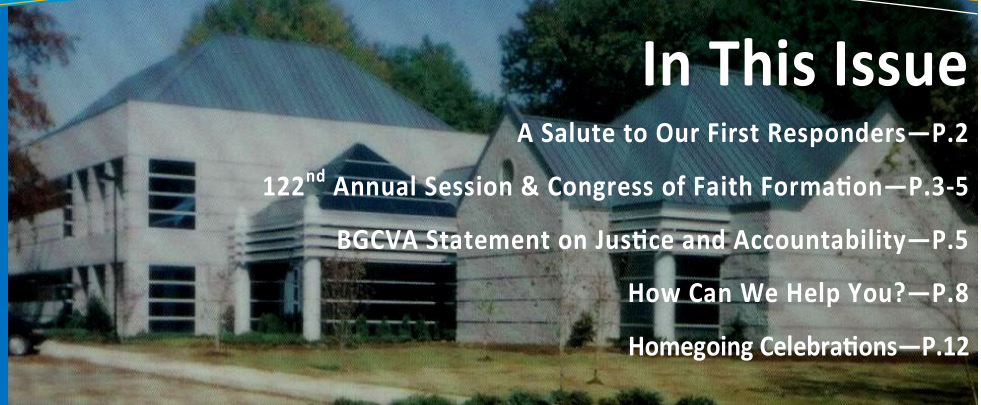
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BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA

www.bgcva.org

COVID-19 VACCINE



CHVB Vaccination Clinic

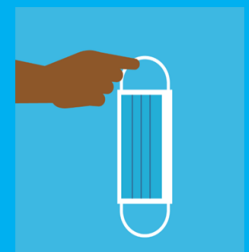
Every Wednesday from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
By Appointments Only!

Please use the link below to register and you will receive an
email or call regarding the time for your appointment.

Link: <https://forms.gle/8Ctp3RZeWxA22Gsy7>

Also, we ask you to encourage your family and friends to
join you in getting vaccinated. All persons 18 and older are
eligible to participate.

For more information, please call BGCVA at 1-804-228-2421
or info@bgcva.org.



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THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA
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DR. JAMES E. VICTOR, JR., PRESIDENT
DR. LEO WHITAKER, EXECUTIVE MINISTER

May 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				Pray Each Day 	1 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	2 Youth Discussion/ Planning Session
3 FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA	4 ACTIVITY: POST "THANK YOU TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS" IN SPANISH	5 CINCO DE MAYO SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	6 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER NURSES WEEK BEGINS	7 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	8 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	9 MOTHER'S DAY HOSPITAL WEEK BEGINS Youth Discussion/ Planning Session
10 FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA	11 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	12 NURSES WEEK ENDS SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	13 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	14 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	15 HOSPITAL WEEK ENDS SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	16 SHAVUOT BEGINS Youth Discussion/ Planning Session
17 FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA	18 SHAVUOT ENDS SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	19 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	20 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	21 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	22 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	23 "PENTECOST SUNDAY" Youth Discussion/ Planning Session
24 FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA	25 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	26 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	27 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	28 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	29 SEE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	30 Youth Discussion/ Planning Session
31 MEMORIAL DAY						



THIS MONTH THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS OUR EFFORTS DURING THIS COVID-19 PANDEMIC TO SALUTE OUR FIRST RESPONDER.

SONGS OF APPRECIATION: HEZEKIAH WALKER: "I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE"

IMPORTANCE DATES

- CINCO DE MAYO
- NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- MOTHER'S DAY
- NATIONAL NURSES' WEEK
- NATIONAL HOSPITAL'S WEEK
- MEMORIAL DAY
- PENTECOST SUNDAY

PRAY FOR YOU... AND POST IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

- HOST A FREE CAR WASH AND INVITE FIRST RESPONDERS TO HAVE THEIR CARS WASHED.
- MAKE MINI FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS [FLOWERS CAN BE FOUND AT THE DOLLAR STORE] TO DELIVER TO FIRST RESPONDER (I.E. HOSPITALS, FIRE STATION, NURSING HOME....).
- PURCHASE HAND MADE MASK TO GIVE TO FIRST RESPONDERS.
- PURCHASE DUNKIN DONUTS/KRISPY KREME AND DELIVER THEM TO LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS.
- HOST A ZOOM MEETING AND INVITE A PANEL OF FIRST RESPONDER TO TALK ABOUT THEIR PARTICULAR AREA OF EXPERTISE.
- CREATE POSTER BOARD OF APPRECIATION AND ASK THE HOSPITAL TO POST THEM AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE HOSPITAL.
- PURCHASE WATER BOTTLES WITH AT THANK YOU MESSAGE PRINTED ON THE LABEL AND DELIVER THEM TO THE LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS.
- HONOR A FIRST RESPONDER THAT HAS PAST WHILE WORKING AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 ON MEMORIAL DAY.
- PENTECOST SUNDAY IS A TIME TO SAY THANK YOU TO FIRST RESPONDERS IN VARIOUS TONGUES (LANGUAGES).

EACH WEEK THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE SUGGESTED FOR OUR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & YOUNG ADULTS TO MINISTER AND TO LEAD THEIR CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS IN SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS. PLEASE TALK WITH YOUR CHILDREN & YOUTH TO PLAN EACH EVENT.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- CREATE A UNIQUE THANK YOU CARD FOR A FIRST RESPONDER AND POST IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

- POST AN INSPIRING QUOTE OR SCRIPTURE DAILY AND DEDICATED TO EVERY FIRST RESPONDER.
- DURING HOSPITAL WEEK, HAVE YOUR MINISTRY MAKE SMALL TREAT BAG FOR ALL OF THE MEDICAL STAFF AT YOUR LOCAL HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, FIRE STATION, POLICE STATION, ETC...
- POST A LIVE PRAYER SESSION VIA SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR ALL FIRST RESPONDERS.
- CREATE "PRAYING HANDS" AND PLACE A NAME OF A FIRST RESPONDER ON IT, THEN SAY "I



Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Mark your CALENDARS for the

122nd Annual Session and Congress of Christian Faith Formation

June 27—June 30, 2021

Attendee Registration

Includes Virtual Session Links and Electronic Souvenir Journal

Adults—\$50.00

Youth (Ages 18 and under)—\$20.00

SAVE THE DATE!

GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr. Tyrone McKinley Freeman,
Author of *Madam C. J. Walker's Gospel of Giving: Black Women's Philanthropy During Jim Crow*

LECTURE SERIES MONDAY
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY



Bishop John E. Guns,
Senior Pastor of St. Paul
Church of Jacksonville, Inc.,
Jacksonville, FL

MONDAY EVENING
WORSHIP



Dr. Alison Gise-Johnson, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Historical
and Theological Studies, School
of Theology, Virginia Union
University

WEDNESDAY EVENING
WORSHIP

Look Out For The Official Registration Packet In The Coming Weeks!!!

www.bgcva.org

804-228-2421

info@bgcva.org

122nd Annual Session & Congress of Christian Faith Formation Week At A Glance

Saturday, June 26th

11:30 AM—12:30 PM “Down by the Riverside”
Memorial Prayer Service @ Point Comfort—Dr. Colita
Fairfax & Dr. Todd Davidson—First Baptist Church
Hampton (1619—The 402nd Anniversary)

Sunday, June 27th

CHILDREN-YOUTH-YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES DAY

5:00 PM Youth Explosion

Featuring: Praise, Prayers, Scriptures, Songs, Mime,
Dance, Spoken Word, & Instrumental Offerings by
Children & Youth Ministries.

YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

7:00 PM Evening Worship

Preacher: TBA

Monday, June 28th

CLERGY MINISTRY & COMMUNITY DAY

7:00 AM BGCVA PRAYER CALL
Facilitated by Clergy Ministry

9:00—10:30 AM CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN
FAITH FORMATION CLASSES & SEMINARS
Select one (1)

11:00 AM MINISTRY SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Select one (1)

YOUTH MINISTRY: BGCVA & Tidewater YMAT
CLERGY MINISTRY: Dr. Gregory Beechaum, Sr.
MEN'S MINISTRY: Mr. Larry Pinchback
WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Mrs. Polly Jones Mason

2:00—4:00 PM Social Justice: Candidates Forum

6:00 PM Lecture Series
The Gospel of Giving—Dr. Tyrone McKinley Freeman

7:00 PM Evening Worship
Preacher: Bishop John E. Guns

Tuesday, June 29th

PRESIDENT'S DAY & MEN'S MINISTRY DAY

7:00 AM BGCVA PRAYER CALL
Facilitated by Men's Ministry

9:00—10:30 AM CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN
FAITH FORMATION CLASSES & SEMINARS
Select one (1)

11:00 AM MINISTRY SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Select one (1)

YOUTH MINISTRY: BGCVA & Tidewater YMAT
CLERGY MINISTRY: Dr. Gregory Beechaum, Sr.
MEN'S MINISTRY: Mr. Larry Pinchback
WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Mrs. Polly Jones Mason

2:00—4:00 PM Intergenerational Ministry

4:00 PM The Business Meeting

6:00 PM Lecture Series
The Gospel of Giving—Dr. Tyrone McKinley Freeman

PRESIDENT'S NIGHT

7:00 PM Evening Worship
Preacher: Dr. James E. Victor, Jr., President

Wednesday, June 30th

WOMEN'S MINISTRY DAY

7:00 AM BGCVA PRAYER CALL
Facilitated by Women's Ministry

9:00—10:30 AM CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN
FAITH FORMATION CLASSES & SEMINARS
Select one (1)

11:00 AM MINISTRY SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Select one (1)

YOUTH MINISTRY: BGCVA & Tidewater YMAT
CLERGY MINISTRY: Dr. Gregory Beechaum, Sr.
MEN'S MINISTRY: Mr. Larry Pinchback
WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Mrs. Polly Jones Mason

2:00—4:00 PM Women's Ministry Award Ceremony

6:00 PM Lecture Series
The Gospel of Giving—Dr. Tyrone McKinley Freeman

7:00 PM Evening Worship

- Gala Celebration & Recognition of Givers
- Memorial Tributes
- Ministry Announcements
- Religious, Civil, & Business Greetings

Preacher: Dr. Alison Gise Johnson



The iconic
businesswoman's
life of generosity
and inspiration

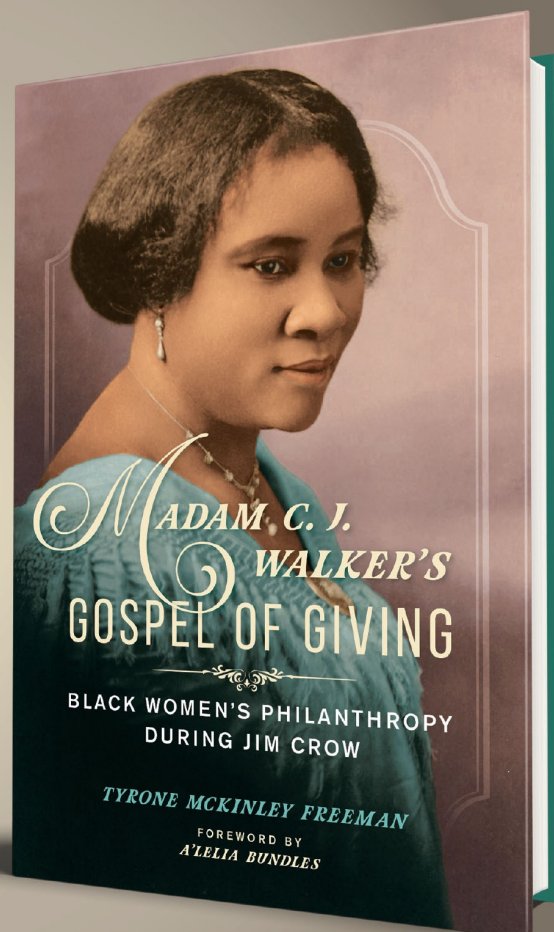
Get 30% off!

Visit <http://go.illinois.edu/f20Freeman>

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Baptist General Convention of Virginia Presents

Virtual VBS Conference 2021

Scripture Reference
Deuteronomy 6:1-25



Sacred Spaces:
Preserving the Gift of
Our Heritage

Saturday, May 1, 2021 @ 9 AM

Registration is **\$100** per church with unlimited attendees!

Register Today @ www.bgcva.org/events.html

804.228.2421

info@bgcva.org



BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA

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Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Keshia H. Butler
Program Secretary

Mr. Bruce J. Martin
Operations Technician

May 2021

Justice and Accountability in Remembering George Floyd Statement from the Baptist General Convention of Virginia Commission on Social Justice

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. (Proverbs 27:17)

On Tuesday, the 4th Judicial District in the State of Minnesota found former police officer Derrick Chauvin guilty in the death of George Floyd. Chauvin's verdict included being found guilty of second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter. Many of you have prayed for change in being able to live without fear and live with unity and peace. We reflect on this verdict as a need for change and a need for accountability. This moment is not truly a celebration, but more a sample of joy. Our few hours of hope, where we tasted the sweet joy of the morning, became the bitter taste of tears as time reversed to the night of weeping in the death of Ma'Khia Bryant in Columbus, Ohio.

Justice would have been George Floyd living to see his 50th birthday or watching his youngest child and grandchildren grow up. We must pull back the curtain of injustice and fight for what happened during the trial: accountability. We point to the jury as the place of accountability, but the real accountability was the officers speaking up during the trial. Proverbs 27:17 is used in many of our congregations as a text for mentoring, but it is more about accountability.

It is time for our churches to push the call for justice and greater accountability in law makers (legislative branch), law enforcers (executive branch), and law interpreters (judicial branch). The time is now for us to push for internal accountability, where the true quest for justice is in the spirit of speaking up. We encourage everyone to continue praying for all families affected by these tragic deaths and trials, as we look not only to sentencing, but also to how we can create a more just system of law enforcement and governing. Where that begins is with your local community.

Dr. Linwood T. Blizzard II
Chairman, BGCVA Social Justice Commission

Dr. J. Elisha Burke,
Director, Social Justice

Dr. Leo Whitaker
Executive Minister

Dr. James E. Victor, Jr.
President

We are BGC...Bringing People Together, Growing Churches, and Changing Communities!

~ Act 1:8; Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 10:13-16



KRISTI GUILLORY REID PRESENTS

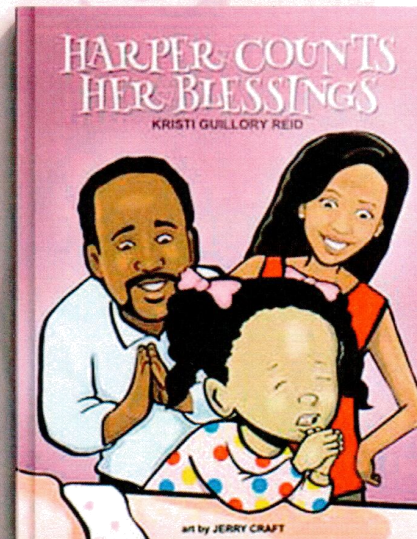
HARPER COUNTS HER BLESSINGS

At the end of a seemingly ordinary day, four-year-old Harper doesn't think that she has much to be thankful for. Fortunately, her loving parents are there to point out all the wonderful things that happen each day that she should cherish. Harper Counts Her Blessings shows children the importance of taking time each day as a family to reflect upon their blessings and to thank God.

Harper Counts Her Blessings is a thoughtful and engaging book that can be used to encourage family bonding and to foster discussions concerning gratitude.

KEY BOOK ELEMENTS

- Confident African-American girl as main character
- Exemplifies strong African-American family
- Timeless themes of gratitude, faith and daily prayer
- Contains a majority of the "sight words" for children ages 4-7
- Promotes self-confidence
- Encourages critical thinking
- Supports development of communication skills
- Relatable Situations that children experience
- A Quick Read - Book can be read in 5-10 minutes



HARPERCOUNTSHERBLESSINGS.COM

amazon **BARNES&NOBLE**
HARPER COUNTS HER BLESSINGS



HARPER COUNTS HER BLESSINGS BOOK

How Can We Help You?

"Dr. Bill" Whitaker,
whwhitaker2@bgcva.org

How Can We Help You?

That's the question asked at the beginning of every training offered by the Clergy Ministry of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. Ministry training is offered twice a month to pastors, associate pastors, lay leaders, and church employees on a wide range of subjects that impacting their ministries.



On the 1st Thursday of each month from 12:00noon-1:00pm, **Clergy Conversations** are held virtually via Zoom as a support group for clergy.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5Nm1TbDNNU1IWMWFGTkVJOVAvQ09)

[pwd=c2d5Nm1TbDNNU1IWMWFGTkVJOVAvQ09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5Nm1TbDNNU1IWMWFGTkVJOVAvQ09)

Meeting ID: 876 5365 4568

Passcode: 790104

Training presentations are prepared for each session. However, the primary focus is always on your answers to, "How Can We Help You Today?" Biblical Leadership Styles, Pastor/Lay Leadership Relationships, Ministry Conflict Management & Prevention, and the Balancing of Ministry/Personal Life are some of the topics discussed in this year's Clergy Conversations.

The **Ministry Training Track (MTT)** meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at from 12noon – 1:00pm via Zoom as a training source for churches.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952979107?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952979107?pwd=eStXTm5XNIR0a1RseER3dFA1YUtdz09)

[pwd=eStXTm5XNIR0a1RseER3dFA1YUtdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952979107?pwd=eStXTm5XNIR0a1RseER3dFA1YUtdz09)

Meeting ID: 889 5297 9107

Passcode: 457526

Pastors, lay leaders, and church employees from within Virginia and, also from

other states come together to receive training current ministry-related matters. MTT sessions are recorded and available for viewing on the BGCVA website.

Clergy Conversations and Ministry Training Track sessions are facilitated by Dr. Bill Whitaker, the Ministry Assistant to the Executive Minister. MTT sessions are recorded and available for viewing by contacting the BGCVA office. However, Clergy Conversations are not recorded allowing clergy a safe place to talk about the needs, worries, challenges they are facing in their ministries.

Current BGCVA Clergy Ministry training includes...

Constitution/Bylaws for Virtual Ministry ...

Does your constitution/bylaws include the current governance (church meetings, finance meetings, etc.) meetings held via virtual means?

Defining the "Virtual Member" ...What is a "Virtual Member"? What rights does a new "member" have that joins your church from other states? Can they vote on church matters if they are not physically present in the church meeting?

Baptist Doctrine vs. Church Habits ...Knowing the difference between our faith and our preferences.

Baptist Polity vs. Church Culture ..."The Way We've Always Done It" is not always according to the way our faith says it should be done.

Post-Pandemic Hybrid Ministry Preparations ...how to prepare and position to provide in-person worship and ministry while maintaining a thriving virtual ministry presence as well.

Virtual/Cyber Ministry on a Shoe String Budget ...Churches not currently offering on-line worship service and Bible studies are taught how to develop a Virtual/Cyber ministry on a limited budget.

Virtual Evangelism ...How to evangelize and grow your virtual membership.

Please Email Dr. Bill at

whwhitaker2@bgcva.org if you...

- **Are a Pastor interested in submitting a**

devotional to be included in *The Resting Place*.

- **Have a clergy/ministry related topic you would like to have addressed in an upcoming Clergy Conversation.**
- **Have a specific area of training you would like to receive in MTT.**
- **Are unable to attend the noon Clergy Conversations and Ministry Training Track sessions.**

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance



FEMA

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

We are working with stakeholder groups to get their input on ways we can best provide this assistance, and to enlist their help with outreach to families and communities. FEMA will begin to implement COVID-19 funeral assistance in April.

Additional guidance is being finalized and will be released to potential applicants and community partners as soon as possible. In the meantime, people who have COVID-19 funeral expenses are encouraged to keep and gather documentation.

FEMA will begin accepting applications for Funeral Assistance on Monday, April 12, 2021 through our dedicated call center. Learn more.

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number 844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time

APPLY ONLINE: <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>

Purple Power Worship



The Alzheimer's Association of Virginia would like to invite you to participate in Purple Power Worship, an opportunity for your faith community to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and help members to access services.

WHY SHOULD YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATE?

- Raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease as a growing epidemic.
- Hear testimony from families in your congregation affected by the disease.
- Learn the latest information on research and public policy efforts.
- Connect congregants to valuable programs, services, and support.
- Identify members of your community to plan ongoing activities to educate and raise awareness.

HOW CAN YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATE?

In lieu of COVID-19, we ask you to share during your virtual, in-person, drive-in services and on your social media sites to help us raise awareness. Learn more, by selecting below Join Us Today!

Purple Power Worship is a collaborative initiative with the VDH Office of Health Equity Virginia Partners in Prayer and Prevention (VA P3) and the four chapters of the Alzheimer's Association serving Virginia: Central and Western Virginia; Greater Richmond; National Capital Area; and Southeastern Virginia.

VDH Partners in Prayer & Prevention "PURPLE POWER OUTREACH" Video: <https://youtu.be/vynuOPAj8OY>

alzheimer's  association®

Forward Virginia: Guidelines

Religious Services

How do the gathering restrictions apply to religious services?

There is not a limit to the number of participants who can attend a religious service. However, if the religious service has more than 50 individuals indoors and 100 individuals outdoors, the service is subject to the distancing, cleaning, and signage requirements found in section I, subsection B, paragraph 1(b) of [Executive Order 72](#), which include, but are not limited to, seating parties a minimum of six feet apart and mandatory masks.

Any social gathering held in connection with a religious service (for example, a reception following a wedding) is not considered part of the religious service and is subject to the generally applicable ban on public and private in-person gatherings.

Virginians are encouraged to seek alternative means of attending religious services if possible, such as virtually or via "drive-through" worship.

Wearing a mask is mandatory for religious services. The exemption for "religious rituals" is intended to allow for practices, including but not limited to communion, where masks must be removed temporarily.

Religious services such as **wedding ceremonies and funeral rites** with more than 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors may occur subject to the distancing, cleaning, and signage requirements, found in section I, subsection B, paragraph 1(b) of [Executive Order 72](#).

Any social gathering held in connection with a religious service is subject to the generally applicable ban on public and private in-person gatherings.



What is drive-through worship? What about drive-in churches?

Attendees may travel to their place of wor-



ship, park in the parking lot and listen to the religious message while remaining in their vehicles. Participants must remain in their vehicle at all times, except as necessary to visit a restroom. Any interaction by the faith leaders and those in the vehicles must be strictly limited, such as using physical distancing methods when passing out palms, serving Holy Communion using sealed or self-contained elements, and priests directing congregants to place ashes or water on their own forehead as opposed to priests applying the ashes or water directly on the foreheads of the congregants. Any objects used for collecting monetary offerings shall not be passed from attendee to attendee but may be offered to attendees in a vehicle as long as the object stays in the possession of the person assisting with collection. Appropriate measures should be taken for the safety of those functioning outside of the cars. Faith communities should also adhere to any noise ordinances.

Source: <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/forwardvirginia/faq/?1>
04/23/21

Baptist General Convention of Virginia Health & Wellness Ministry

CVHB VACCINATION CLINICS



The Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Services Initiative

The Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Services initiative will provide an intergenerational skilled [weatherization training series](#) to enhance the Baptist General Convention of Virginia's and Rebuilding Together Richmond's engagement of non-profits, academic institutions, government agencies, businesses, and civic communities in providing weatherization services for 15 households in need. The initiative has three significant facets, namely **(1) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Workshops**, **(2) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Coaches**, and **(3) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Tune-Ups**. Each facet is designed to inform, to inspire, and to involve junior and high school students, disengaged young adults, college and graduate students, [veterans, and selected clients who are seniors or have a disability](#).

(1) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Workshops will be developed virtually and shared through the ZOOM video conferencing platform. We will invite Dominion Energy's contractors, employees, and retirees to serve as instructors for the virtual Workshops and leaders of the Tune-Ups. When in-person gatherings are safe, programming will be held at the Baptist General Convention of Virginia and the Children's Home of Virginia Baptists, which will provide its facility and buildings as learning labs for the program.

Each workshop must be created and formatted for the various age groups/audiences by the staff and the consultants. There will be a curriculum for the areas of weatherization, energy efficiency, volunteering, the role of the coaches, and related disciplines. The instructors will teach life skills and provide hands-on experiences on practical weatherization, ecology, energy efficiency, and environmental justice.

Participants who complete the Workshops will have the opportunity to serve as a Coach to assist with performing Tune-Ups directed by RTR.

(2) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Coaches will work with residents of the 15 assigned households to review utility bills and provide individualized, helpful tips to help them with cost savings. Each Coach will continue to follow the clients twice before the

end of the initiative to share additional information, conduct satisfaction surveys, and report on other improvements made on the home. The Coaches will also be available for public service announcements and conversations regarding the initiative and Dominion Energy's Share Programs. Coaches can allow the clients to speak to the benefits of both the Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Services and Dominion Energy Shared Programs.

(3) Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Tune-Ups will provide 15 low-income households—consisting of seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities—with weatherization and energy efficiency services. With the guidance from Energy Conservation Inc. (ECI), RTR's trusted weatherization partner with over forty years of experience, we will provide weatherization and energy efficiency recommendations and relevant upgrades. The purposes of the Tune-Ups are as

follows:

- To reduce unnecessary energy consumptions,
- To reduce high energy costs,
- To reduce emissions that harm the environment, and
- To improve the living conditions of the home.

The Tune-Ups will be free of charge to each household. The exact services that each recipient receive may vary by home. Services may include but are not limited to, the following:

- Energy assessments
- Replacing incandescent lights with LED lights in high use areas
- Air vent and duct sealing
- Attic insulation
- Water-saving services
- Installation of energy-saving showerheads and high-efficiency faucet aerators
- Wrapping water heater and hot water pipes
- ENERGY STAR refrigerator replacement
- Indoor air quality improvements

Coaches will assist with volunteer-friendly weatherization and energy-efficient services that can be conducted during the assessment.

For more information contact Dr. Leo Whitaker, Executive Minister, at executiveminister@bgcva.org



Brotherhood Mutual Church Resources



<https://www.brotherhoodmutual.com/resources/church-security/church-security-resources/>

- Build A Safe Church Environment
- Preparing For Disaster
- Protecting Your Ministry's Youth
- Safety & Security Publications
- Online Safety Library
- Develop A Volunteer Safety And Security Team
- Surviving A Violent Attack At Church
- Responding To Violence Checklist


<https://www.brotherhoodmutual.com/resources/safety-library/risk-management-articles/disasters-emergencies-and-health/general-health-and-injury-prevention/coronavirus/>

- Before We Gather
- Funding And Loan Forgiveness
- Insurance Information
- Navigating The COVID-19 Pandemic



For these or other resources from Brotherhood Mutual go to the website or contact our exclusive Brotherhood Insurance Agent Mr. David Rogers at rogersdh2@yahoo.com or 804.334.4953 .


BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA YOUTH MINISTRY PRESENTS



NO JUDGEMENT ZONE

YOUTH WILL HEAR FROM >>>

- Elementary Educators
- Middle School Educators
- High School Educators

Presented by  **zoom**

JUNE 5 >>> 6 PM

REGISTER @ WWW.BGCVA.ORG >>> EMAIL: YOUTH@BGCVA.ORG >>> PHONE: 804.228.2421

Preserving Sacred Spaces Update

Please visit our website for more information the Preserving Sacred Spaces survey.

<https://www.bgcva.org/bgcva-preserving-sacred-spaces-survey.html>



BGCVA Member Church Information Survey

We are updating our church directory. Visit our website for the questionnaire survey. www.bgcva.org or go to this link, <https://forms.gle/WX6j2wUAbKvAED2o8>



Anniversaries

- ❖ The Reverend Dr. Wesley K. McLaughlin—30th Pastoral Anniversary
- ❖ First Baptist Church of Midlothian, The Reverend Pernell J. Johnson, Pastor—175th Church Anniversary
- ❖ Dr. Wilson and Leading Lady Cynthia Shannon—30th Pastor Anniversary

VUU Commencement Celebrations

Virginia Union University has announced that Anthony Anderson, the star and executive producer of ABC's multi-award nominated sitcom "black-ish," will deliver the 122nd commencement address on May 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held virtually on VUU Facebook and on YouTube VUU TV. After the ceremony, students are invited to virtually attend separate school-based celebrations with their classmates, Deans, and faculty.




VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT
MAY 8 2021

Featuring Keynote Speaker
Anthony Anderson 10th EST OF
Actor • Producer • Philanthropist



COMMENCEMENT
2021
MAY 8

Honoring
Del. Delores McQuinn
Virginia House of Delegates, 70th District



VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT
2021
MAY 8

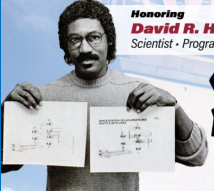
Honoring
Del. Luke Torian
Virginia House of Delegates, 52nd District



VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT
2021
MAY 8

Honoring
David R. Hedgley, Jr.
Scientist • Programmer • Educator



VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY

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 Victor, Executive Minister Whitaker, staff, and officers of the Baptist General Convention, our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the families of the following pastors, who have transitioned into eternal rest in 2020.

- * The Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Dennis, Sr.
- * Brother Luke Elijah Burke, Sr.
- * The Reverend Dr. Ralph Reavis, Sr.
- * Sister Rosette Graham
- * The Reverend Dr. Walter R. Dean
- * First Lady Mary P. James
- * Brother Reginald S. Davis, BGCVA Men's Ministry President (2005-2007 and 2020-present)
- * Deacon Percy Pollard, Sr. (Chair of the BGCVA James Cary Scholarship)
- * Charlotte Whitley McDaniels
- * Edith Mae Whitley Scott
- * Clara Bell Cherry
- * Deacon Charles Inlo Moultrie
- * Dorothy Shannon
- * Lorraine Hill
- * Mary E. Freer Pittman
- * First Lady Jacqueline Nora Peele-Henderson



Virtual Youth Retreat II

July 16 & 17
SAVE THE DATE!

Energy Assistance



While much has changed in our world, one thing will always remain the same — serving you when you need us most. Any balance you have on your Dominion Energy Virginia account greater than 30 days past due as of September 30th will be wiped clean. If you are still behind on your bill, even after outstanding balances are forgiven, we are here to help with payment arrangements or energy assistance funds.



Balance Forgiveness

If you are struggling due to the pandemic and have a balance on your Dominion Energy account greater than 30 days past due as of September 30th, that balance will be wiped clean.

- In addition to supporting the budget language forgiving customer balances greater than 30 days past due as of September 30th, we have applied to CARES Act funding on behalf of eligible customers to provide additional relief for outstanding balances accrued after that date.
- It will take 1-2 billing cycles to determine the dollar amount by account granted but eligible customers could expect to see credits on their bills soon.
- We are not disconnecting customers in Virginia due to nonpayment.
- For past due amounts accrued on or after September 30, we are still here to support you with payment arrangements and energy assistance funds that can help you move forward.



Payment Extension

If you need more time to pay your energy bill, we offer short-term payment extensions.

- Available to residential customers, small businesses, mid-size businesses, and places of worship.
- No fees, extra charges, or down payment required to enroll.
- Payment must be scheduled prior to your next bill date.



Payment Plan

If you just can't keep up with your bill, we also offer long-term payment plans.

- Available to residential customers, small businesses, mid-size businesses, and places of worship.
- No fees, extra charges, or down payment required to enroll.
- Past balance is divided into equal payments for up to 12 months.
- Extensions can be made while on Bank Draft or Budget Bill.



Bill Payment Assistance

If you are facing a crisis and need help with paying your energy bill, EnergyShare can help with your home's primary heating and cooling sources (wood, oil, natural gas, propane, kerosene, electric).

- EnergyShare is not income based, so any customer in crisis may be eligible to apply.
- If approved, the benefit is paid directly to your energy provider.
- Individuals 60 and older, military veterans, and individuals living with disabilities may be eligible for additional assistance.



Weatherization

If you have received EnergyShare bill payment assistance, you may also be eligible to receive a free home energy assessment and the installation of free energy efficiency upgrades.

- A home energy assessment can help identify areas where your energy bill could be reduced.
- All services are provided by Dominion Energy at no cost to you.
- Enhanced safety measures have been put in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our customers and weatherization partners.



Energy Saving Tips

If you are looking for some low-cost or no-cost ways to save on your energy bill, EnergyShare also offers some easy, practical solutions, most of which you can do yourself, to help you become more energy efficient at home.

To learn more about these offerings or other resources available to you, scan the QR code, visit, or call:



Dominion Energy

Call: 866-366-4357
Visit: [DominionEnergy.com/virginia/billing](https://www.dominionenergy.com/virginia/billing)



2-1-1 Virginia

Call: 2-1-1
Visit: 211virginia.org



Department of Social Services

Call: 855-635-4370
Visit: commonhelp.virginia.gov/access

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Baptist General Convention of VA

2021 Event Calendar

EST. 1899

January

- 9 Virtual Church Finance and Tax Compliance Conference
- 18-19 MLK Celebration and Day of Ministry Service
- 24 Statewide BGCVA Day

February

- 5 Virtual VUU Founders' Day
- 19-20 Virtual Mid-Winter Ministries Session

March

- 6 Virtual Children, Youth, & and Youth Workers' Conference

April

- 8 Virtual Spring General Board Meeting
- 23-24 Virtual Youth Retreat I
- 24 VUU Church Leadership Conference

May (First Responders Month)

- 1 Virtual VBS Conference
- 15 Virtual Post Pandemic Ministry Conference

June

- 5 Virtual Youth & Young Adult Empowerment - No Judgement Zone
- 27-30 Virtual 122nd Annual Session and Congress of Christian Faith Formation

Weekly

- Every Tuesday @ 7 PM – Youth Ministry Advisory Team Planning

July

- 10 BGC Day @ Kings Dominion
- 10 Virtual Children's Home Founders' Day
- 16-17 Virtual Youth Retreat II

August

- 27-28 Virtual Back 2 School Weekend

September (Christian Faith Formation Month)

- 4 Virtual Church School Conference
- 9 Virtual General Board Strategic Planning Meeting

October (Clergy Appreciation Month)

- 10 Clergy Appreciation Day
- 10-16 BGCVA Week of Prayer
- 14 Virtual Fall General Board Meeting

November

- 2 Day of Social Action
- 5-6 Virtual Fall Session

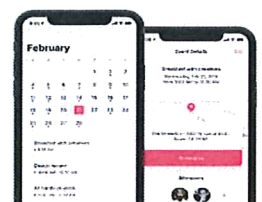
December

- 18 Virtual Youth Ministry Lock-In

Monthly

- Every 1st Thursday @ 12PM – Clergy Conversations
- Every 3rd Monday @ 12 PM – Ministry Training Track
- Every 4th Thursday @ 10 AM – Moderators' Meeting
- Every 2nd Saturday @ 9 AM – Youth Ministry Advisory Team Meeting

**** Events are Virtual During the Pandemic. ****
 *** Dates and Locations are Subject to Change. ***





Baptist General Convention of VA
Ministry Training Track (M. T. T.)



Preparing Leaders for Ministry in the Pandemic and Beyond

EVERY THIRD MONDAY
@ 12 PM

Meeting ID: 889 5297 9107

Passcode: 457526

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952979107?
pwd=eStXTm5XNlR0aIRseER3dFAiYUtgdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952979107?pwd=eStXTm5XNlR0aIRseER3dFAiYUtgdz09)

Dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592 US

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

www.bgcva.org



Baptist General Convention of VA Clergy Ministry Invites You To:



CONVERSATIONS IN CLERGY MINISTRY

EVERY FIRST THURSDAY
@ 12 PM

Topic Conversation
Spiritual Closure: Caring
for Ourselves
While Remembering
Those Who We Have
Lost



Meeting ID: 876 5365 4568

Passcode: 790104

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=
=c2d5NmItbDNNU1lWMWFGTkVJOVAwQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5NmItbDNNU1lWMWFGTkVJOVAwQT09)

Dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592 US

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

www.bgcva.org

Special Announcements from our Executive Minister



Zoom Links Offering - BGCVA has 15 Zoom accounts for member churches and association to borrow.



For the families, patients and first responders who are impacted by COVID-19 as well as the more than 520,000 loved ones who have passed from this virus.

Blessings and Peace!

President James E. Victor, Jr.

Executive Minister Leo Whitaker



Faith and Facts Fridays

Hosted By Dr. F. Todd Gray, Fifth Street Baptist Church, Richmond

Facts & Faith Fridays began in March 2020 as a weekly call led by Dr. Robert Winn, director of VCU Massey Cancer Center, with African American clergy in Virginia to address the disproportional impact the pandemic has had on the Black community. The call has evolved to address higher rates of cancer and other health issues in diverse communities and continues to address COVID-19.

This Zoom Webinar is co-sponsored by The Governor's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Office of Health Equity at the Virginia Department of Health, VCU Massey Cancer Center and faith leaders from Massey's "Facts & Faith Fridays" group.

Optima Health BGCVA Health Food Network

- ❖ Elam Baptist Church, Ruthville
- ❖ Cedar Street Baptist Church of God, Richmond
- ❖ BGCVA Women's Ministry, Richmond



Join Virginia One Church One Child for a Special Viewing



Of *Aged Out*

A Tomeka M. Winborne Film

Sunday, May 16, 2021

2pm-5pm

In Recognition of National Foster Care Month

"Aged Out" is a fictional depiction of the challenges and outcomes faced by one young man who aged out of the foster care system.



On-site viewing of film and Panel Discussion will be held:

Little Zion Baptist Church
1824 W Queen Street,
Hampton, VA 23666
Dr. Hallie Richardson, Jr.,
Senior Pastor

or

Via Zoom: ID: 871 7857 8103
Code: 385193
or via Facebook Live:
@Little Zion Baptist Church-
Hampton

For additional information, call
VA One Church, One Child
at 757-343-3358 or 804-329-3420
www.vaonechurchonechild.org



This event is supported by the VA Department of Social Services Grant #FAM-20_093

Baptist General Convention of Virginia Presents



Saturday, May 15 @ 9 AM



We are BGC..
Bringing People Together,
Growing Churches, and
Changing Communities!

Act 1:8, Matthew 9:35-38, Mark 10:13-16

Registration is **\$50** per church with unlimited attendees!
Register Today @ www.bgcva.org/events.html

804.228.2421

WWW.BGCVA.ORG

INFO@BGCVA.ORG

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BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA



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