

# **Baptist General Convention of Virginia**

**Reviving Our Roots: Prophetic Preaching and Our Missional Mandate Luke 4:18-19(NIV)**

## **Healing Communities**

### **Stations of Hope Training – and Follow-up**

**April 7, 2018**

**9:00a.m. - Noon**

**Facilitator:**

**Rev. Dr. J. Elisha Burke**

You are invited to learn how church members can become involved in fulfilling the Christian mandate to forgive and restore formerly incarcerated persons as productive citizens via collaboration with local jails, Virginia Department of Corrections facilities and other re-entry organizations serving various localities.

This interactive workshop will include the following:

- The impact of church engagement on the lives of people affected by crime.
- Background information on criminal justice policies that have created the “cradle-to-prison pipeline” for so many of our youth.
- A guide walking pastors/leaders/members through the steps to create a Healing Community.
- A guide for disciples who embrace the work of Healing Communities.
- Resources, including references to films, websites, and books to illuminate this work; and within the guide, materials for members of the Healing Community.

It also offers practical suggestions for a congregation’s engagement at various points in the continuum from arrest to release from prison. Included among those suggestions are:

- Identifying who among your congregation is involved in the criminal justice system, directly or as a family member, whether under arrest, incarcerated, coming home from prison, reintegrating into the community after prison, or dealing with the consequences of a criminal record.
- Volunteering to help the person incarcerated by visiting and writing to him
- Providing support for the family of the person incarcerated – spiritually, emotionally, and materially.
- Mentoring the children of the prisoner.
- Helping the victim of the crime and/or his family.
- Addressing the challenge of reconciliation.
- Expanding healing to the community, including through policy advocacy.
- Identifying resources in the community that can help prisoners, their families, victims, and people coming home from prison.
- Helping the prisoner prepare for release.
- Welcoming the prisoner home.
- Helping the individual reintegrate into the community and with his/her family.

**Please pre-register by April 4th**

**Rev. Dr. J. Elisha Burke, Social Justice Director**

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**1214 W. Graham Road, Richmond, VA 23220**

**To register call: 804.228.2421 or email [eburke@bgcva.org](mailto:eburke@bgcva.org)**