

Middle District Baptist Association 2022 Book of Reports

October 16, 2022
Chesterfield Baptist Church

Theme: Sharing God's Love: One Neighbor at a Time



Love your neighbor as yourself.” Mark 12:31

Middle District Mission Statement:

We exist to start and strengthen churches that passionately care for people, bring honor to God, and impact communities and the world with the transforming love of Jesus.

Annual Book of Reports
of the Middle District Baptist Association
October 2022

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Agenda

Annual Business Meeting

October 16, 2022; 3:00 p.m. Chesterfield Baptist Church

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Moderator, Bill Duganne

Registration of Messengers and Guests:

please sign roster as it is passed around

Approval of Semi-Annual Minutes (attached and posted on the MDBA website)

Reception of Book of Reports

2023 Budget Approval

John Gray, Finance Committee Chair

(attached and posted on MDBA website)

New Member to the Search Committee,

Bob Beasley, Leadership Committee

Due to the resignation of Woody Jones from the Search Committee, the Leadership Committee approved that Carl Peyton, be added to take his place. That being the case, the Leadership Committee makes the motion that the Association confirm the appointment of Carl Peyton.

Search Committee Update

Chair, Kelly Harris

Bylaw Approval (attached and were on the MDBA website)

Carl Peyton, Leadership Committee

Confirming Membership of New Churches

David Benjamin, Leadership Committee

The Leadership Committee moves that New Walk Bible Church be accepted into membership of Middle District in the category of "Provisional: Watch-Care" and that First Baptist Church of Midlothian comes into full membership in the category of "Active Church".

Executive Director Comments

Jim Hamacher

Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes May 24, 2022

7:00 PM Winfree Baptist Church Chapel

The Moderator, Bill Duganne, Stockton, welcomed members to the meeting and gave a brief history of Winfree Baptist Church.

Pastor of Winfree, David Benjamin, opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: Due to Covid, the October 2021 meeting was held on-line; the minutes of the meeting were sent out, on the web, and attached for the May 2022 meeting. The motion was made and seconded that the minutes be approved.

Executive Administrator, Brenda Green gave her report concerning the upcoming projects and events:

School supplies will again be collected; NASCAR will be held on August 13 and 14 – lots of help and cookies will be needed; The golf tournament is being planned for Saturday, September 10, at Amelia Golf and Country club; members were encouraged to get teams together for the event.

Finance Committee Member, Linda Loving, gave an overview of finances referring to the information included in the agenda packet.

Bylaw Changes: Chairman of the Leadership Committee, Carl Peyton, and Executive Director, Dr. Hamacher, explained the Bylaw changes that are to be presented for approval and will be voted on at the October 16, 2022 meeting. These changes can be found on the website: www.mdba.org

This year's Local Missions Offering goal is \$7000; with the theme being: "Sharing God's Love: One Neighbor at a Time". Two of the ministries this offering helps support are Meno and the Route 1 Corridor Outreach Ministry:

The messengers were introduced to Jeff Martin who explained the meaning of MENO = abide and remain. This is what his organization is doing by assisting men going thru substance abuse.

Carl Peyton explained the work of the Route 1 Corridor Outreach Ministry that is an outreach ministry of the Chesterfield Food Bank. Once a week the Ministry is helping by providing a warm meal and a listening ear to those living in motels along the Jefferson Davis Corridor.

Executive Director Report:

Several years ago, the Middle District adopted a Harassment Policy and the Executive Director referenced this in light of the recent television and newspaper articles concerning Southern Baptist pastors. He also asked the churches to contact him if there is a need or if further information is desired.

The Director announced his retirement at the end of 2022. He became Middle District's Executive Director of Missions in 2005.

Prior to announcing his retirement to the messengers, Dr. Hamacher informed the Leadership Committee. The MDBA by-laws state it is their responsibility to contact individuals to serve on a Search Committee. Messengers voted to accept the Search Committee members, as presented by the Leadership Committee. These names and email addresses will be listed on the MDBA website so the Association at-large can contact them for recommendations or questions.

Messengers were encouraged to take a tour of the MDBA offices, and the meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Bill Duganne, Moderator.

Minutes taken by acting clerk, Linda Hammer in lieu of absence of clerk of record, Pam Munden.

Proposed Budget 2023 for Middle District Baptist Association

With the full approval of the Leadership Committee, the Finance Committee moves
that this budget be approved as printed below.

EXPENSES	2023	2022	MINISTRIES INCLUDED
Cooperative Ministries	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Collegiate Ministries
Missions/Ministry Development	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	Benevolence, Women's Ministry
Church Leader Development	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Networks, Coaching, Consultation to help churches
Church Resource	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00	Media, Communications, Annual Report, Website, Memorials,
Fellowship Ministries	\$ 500.00	\$ 450.00	Association Meetings, Local Missions Offering
Administrative Ministries	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 4,940.00	Workers Comp., Liability Ins., Telephone, Postage, Office Supplies, Equipment
Personnel Salaries/ Benefits/Expenses	\$172,594.00	\$203,884.00	Staff, Insurance, Taxes, Conference/Education, Annuity, Mileage, Hospitality
Miscellaneous & Contingency	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	For discretionary use in non-budgeted items shortfall/unexpected
Total Budget	\$185,214.00	\$215,024.00	The 2023 budget is \$30,810 (approx 14%) less than the 2022 budget.

Finance Committee

Linda Loving, Chesterfield

John Gray, Elkhardt

Steve Mapp, Treasurer-



Bylaw Changes

The Leadership Committee moves the following changes be adopted at the
October 2022 Annual Meeting:

Article 2.02 Annual Meetings

From: Annual Meetings. The October meeting of the Association shall be deemed the “annual meeting” of the Association and shall be held at a time and place recommended by the Leadership Committee.

To: Annual Meetings. The October meeting of the Association shall be deemed the “annual meeting” of the Association. ~~and shall be held at a time and place recommended by the Leadership Committee.~~
This meeting, and other meeting, may be held virtually, if approved by the Executive Director and the Leadership Committee, and then the Association is notified not less than two weeks in advance.

Explanation for change: This provision regarding the role of the Leadership Committee was proposed years ago, when the Leadership Committee assumed the responsibilities of seldom used committees, such as the “Annual Meeting Planning Committee”. However, the MDBA staff has accepted this responsibility and the Leadership Committee has never been involved. Provisions for virtual meetings should be included in our documents and this wording stipulates this possibility.

Article 6.09 Finance Committee

From: The Finance Committee shall be composed of six members who serve rotating three-year terms. The Treasurer is ex-officio, voting member of the Committee. Meetings shall be held not less than quarterly. The Committee shall select its own chairperson.

To: The Finance Committee shall be composed of **three** members who serve rotating three - year terms. The Treasurer is ex-officio, voting member of the Committee. **The Committee will meet at least three times per year.** The Committee shall select its own chairperson.

Explanation: For the last few years this Committee has functioned well with three members. In addition to the three members, the Executive Director and the Executive Administrator attend and, sometimes, the Association’s Treasurer. This number of people are very adequate to administer the budget. For many years, the Committee has not met in the last quarter of the year because there was no need.

Article 6.12 The Missions and Ministry Team

From: B. Administer the annual missions offering of the Association.

To: **B. Participate in the development of the annual Local Missions Offering of the Association.**

Explanation: The original wording should have been worded as the proposed change is worded. The team does not “administer” the funds. Rather the team is consulted in the choice of the ministries the offering will support.

By-law Changes

Bylaw Changes, cont.

Article 9.01 Policy and Procedure Manuel

From: The Middle District Baptist Association Policy and Procedure Manual details the policies and procedures used throughout the Association. It may be amended or changed by the Leadership Committee.

To: The Middle District Baptist Association Policy and Procedure Manual details the policies and procedures used throughout the Association. **In consultation with the Executive Director**, it may be amended or changed by the Leadership Committee.

Explanation:

Every change in the manual has been at the request and initiative of the Executive Director. The purpose of the Article is to ensure that changes proposed by the Executive Director do not go into effect without approval of the Leadership Committee. For this reason, the proposed change explicitly includes the role of the Executive Director, rather than assuming it. Likewise, the wording change ensures that recommended changes that originate from the Leadership Committee, are discussed with the Executive Director before being enacted.

Bylaw, Article 3.01.C Secretary of the Association

From: The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Leadership Committee.

To: The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Leadership Committee. **The official copy of the records, digital and/or printed, shall reside in the Association's office.**

Explanation: All records should be maintained in the Association's office, not in a personal residence.



Ministry Nominations for 2023

Nominating Report

***Below are the positions that are elected. (Middle District teams are not elected.
A full list of those serving on MDBA teams are also located on our website, mdba.org)***

The Leadership Committee moves that the following individuals serve in the following areas of ministry:

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Rotating off 12/2023: Carl Peyton, Bob Beasley, Kay Fletcher

Rotating off 12/2024: James Reid, Brent Brennan, Jeff Easton

Rotating off 12/2025: Eric Carrol; Nate Travis; Angie Frame

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Rotating off 12/2023: John Gray

Rotating off 12/2024: Buck Proffitt

Rotating off 12/2025: Betty Reed

OTHER ELECTED LEADERS for 2023:

Moderator: Bob Beasley

Assistant Moderator: Jerald Jacobs

Clerk: Jeannie Beales

Treasurer: Steve Mapp

Assistant Treasurers: Ralph Dillard; Joan Hudson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ALL COMMITTEES:

	Executive Director, MDBA
Bob Beasley	Moderator

OTHER LEADERS AND TEAMS



The following groups/ names are being presented for information and to indicate the full scope of volunteers. These people serve at will and normally for unspecified periods of time. If you would be interested in serving, contact a team member.

SENIOR ADULT CONSULTANT

Dorryce Ann Rudd

CHURCH REVITALIZATION CONSULTANT

Dennis Green

WOMEN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Brenda Green

Cathy Jones

Rany Schmitz

Jill Carroll

CENTRAL VIRGINIA BAPTIST

MINISTRY TEAM

Executive Director, MDBA

Ron Wyatt

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE PLANNING TEAM: CVBM

Michael Edwards

Caroline Davidson

CHRISTMAS STORE PLANNING TEAM

Betty Reed

Doris Wampler

Julie Pickels

Bill Vickers

Margie Taylor

Brenda Green

MISSIONS & MINISTRY TEAM

Anne Potts

Virginia Smelley

Sam Grozdanov

Jim Bowling

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ALL COMMITTEES

Executive Director, MDBA

Bob Beasley, Moderator

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

BGAV MISSIONS COUNCIL

Oscar Contreras

Michael Edwards

BGAV EXECUTIVE BOARD

David Benjamin

LIFESPIRE OF VIRGINIA

Robert Hopson

Leadership Committee Report

October 2021 - September 2022

This year the Leadership Committee's primary focus has been the retirement of Dr. Hamacher.

It was in November that Dr. Hamacher gave the Committee the news he would be retiring at the end of 2022. He assured the Committee that if a candidate was not elected by that time, he would continue to be available and to begin serving in the capacity of "Acting Executive Director", with reduced responsibilities, with minimal financial remuneration.

Dr. Hamacher presented the Committee with the opportunity for the Association to hire a well-established ministry consultant firm to guide the Association's church leadership and the new Executive Director in discussing and planning Middle District's next phase of ministry. The cost of the consultation is greatly reduced and would begin in 2024, upon the approval of the in-coming Executive Director. The Leadership Committee agreed.

At the beginning of 2022, the first major decision for the Committee was to come to grips with the question "Is the financial condition of Middle District at the point that the next Executive Director should be parttime – not full-time." Dr. Hamacher explained that the time requirement of ministering to the number of churches, pastors, and lay leaders of Middle District is, in his estimation, not a full-time job. However, if the Association wants to continue to expand with new ministries and to develop meaningful relationships with pastors of churches that could potentially join Middle District, then full-time is the only option. This discussion also included providing salary for the new Executive Director that is commensurate with others in the area. The Committee unanimously decided to continue with full-time.

The next responsibility the Committee faced was nominating a Search Committee. The following individuals were nominated by the Committee and elected by the Association in its semi-annual meeting: David Benjamin, Kay Fletcher, Sammy Frame, Kelly Harris and Woody Jones. Soon after the Committee began its work, Woody realized that his schedule did not permit him to attend the meetings and the Committee appointed Carl Peyton to serve in his place. (Carl began to serve immediately and it is anticipated that, at the annual business meeting, the Association will confirm Carl's placement on the Search Committee.)

As it does annually, the Leadership Committee discussed and approved the Finance Committee's proposed budget for the coming year and developed a slate of next year's leaders, which it will nominate for election by the Association at the annual meeting.

At the last meeting of the Leadership Committee, discussions continued regarding the recognition of Dr. Hamacher at the annual Missions Celebration. Also, two requests for church membership into Middle District were approved. The churches are First Baptist Church of Midlothian, in the category of "Active Member" and New Walk Bible Church in the category of "Watchcare."



Search Committee Report

October 2022

The Middle District Baptist Association started the search for its next Executive Director this year. This is a full-time position that will provide support to the more than 30 diverse churches in our tri-county area, approximately 20 minutes south and west of Richmond, Virginia.

Dr. Hamacher became Middle District's Executive Director of Missions in 2005 and on May 24, 2022, he informed the messengers at Middle District's semi-annual meeting he would be retiring at the end of this year. Prior to announcing this to the Association at large, he informed the Leadership Committee and, given their responsibility from the MDBA by-laws, they began contacting individuals to serve on the Search Committee. The search committee was voted on at the Spring meeting and approved as follows:

David Benjamin, Kay Fletcher, Woody Jones, Kelly Harris, Sammy Frame: Each of these individuals have had a long-standing involvement with Middle District and all but one has served on the Leadership Committee. All of them have a high awareness and appreciation of Middle District's unique life and ministry. Resumes were to be sent by September 30, 2022. (After the committee organized, Woody Jones had to resign due to schedule conflicts. Carl Peyton was his replacement, and the explanation is in the Executive Director's report in this Book of Reports.)

The Search Committee posted a profile of the type of person they believe God would have lead Middle District into the future – a person with bold creativity, proven effectiveness, and strong faith in our changing world.

The Search Committee was overwhelmed by the response our ads received and we had many resumes to review. We first narrowed the candidates to a pool of about ten that we have or will be having introductory meetings with via Zoom calls. We hope to have chosen a group of five or less to start interviewing in the next two weeks.

- Submitted by Kelly Harris, Chair of Search Committee





Christmas Store Report 2022

Through out the summer our Christmas Store representative keeps in touch with Julie Pickels, our Chesterfield County representative to start planning for this year's application process.

The applications were updated and sent to the school counselors so they could begin contacting the families as soon as school began. This year, the counselors called each parent and helped them fill them out with the children's information to cut down on some of the paperwork but mostly so each application would be complete and turned in on time so more families could be helped.

In the meantime, information is sent to the churches asking if they will sponsor the children and how many they want to help. As soon as we get our request from the churches and we have the children's application in hand, we begin assigning them to the churches.

Last year, 2021, we helped 224 children. At the writing of this report, we have 111 families and 277 children.

Our Christmas store is held each year the first week of December. For 2022 those dates are Nov. 30 - Dec. 1. We will be collecting donated items such as household items, clothing, toys again this year.

This year on November 28-29, we will receive the presents from our sponsors. We ask that they deliver the items to Ironbridge Church, 10900 Ironbridge Rd., Chester, between 9am till 2pm and mark the gifts/bags with the family # on each item.

Speaking for the committee, we count this a privilege to serve Christ in this manner. We trust you will pray for our efforts, that Christ will be made known in our service to Him.

In His Service,

Brenda Green

Dorryce Wampler

Margie Taylor

Bill Vickers

Betty Reed

Julie Pickels (CCPS)

(and the many volunteers who we could not do this without their help)



Executive Director's Annual Report



October 2021 – September 2022

COVID continues to have a residual impact on Middle District churches' ministry efforts, as well as in attendance and receipts. Almost none have returned to pre-COVID levels of activity and ministry. Most churches' attendance is between a low of 60% to a high of 90% pre-COVID numbers. Every church has fewer volunteers in programs such as Sunday School, choir, and ministry efforts. They are all doing their best to adapt to a new normal.

Some of Middle District's core ministries: youth Kingdom Builders, ministers' luncheons, and THE GATHERING, were cancelled this past year for different reasons, indirectly connected with COVID and the fact that so many pastors and church ministries are in transition. I anticipate these ministries returning into full swing within the coming months. (In a few days, THE GATHERING will be held at Winfree.) While I have no leadership responsibilities with the Christmas Store ministry, I want to report that it was held with great success at Ironbridge church for the third time. (This ministry is more than 30 years old and each year Middle District churches provide Christmas for 300 -500 children.)

For the fifth year, Middle District partnered with the Baptist General Association of Virginia to host the youth ministry of Impact Chesterfield. Youth groups both locally and from outside our region gathered for fun, fellowship, inspiration and ministry opportunities. Chester Baptist Church was one of the headquarters for the week. As always, Impact Chesterfield was a genuine blessing for the youth and homeowners.

Normally, in my annual report, I do not include the accomplishments of Brenda Green, MDBA's Administrative Assistant. This year is different, because of my approaching retirement. Brenda and I have worked together for 17 years and we have become good friends and, as most of you know, she has become my partner in this ministry. I value her insights and ideas. It is an understatement to say that I could not have accomplished what I have over these years without Brenda. For the last two years, the Christmas Store ministry has been in transition, because of Wanda Pratt having to step down due to health reasons. I speak on behalf of everyone associated with this ministry and say that we all are very appreciative of the role Brenda has played in working with the awesome Christmas Store Planning Team and helping everyone navigate these transitions. (There are many more areas of Brenda's ministry I could praise, but suffice it to say that we are all grateful for her 19 years of ministry in Middle District.)

Below is a list of my major ministry actions of this past year:

- I continued to raise funds for the purpose of Middle District purchasing, remodeling, and selling a home as an additional revenue stream for the Association. To do this, I formed the LLC, Missions First, and, to date, donors have committed over \$375,000. However, because of the change in housing market, we were not able to find a suitable house. Given my retirement at the end of this year, this effort has concluded. (Since coming to Middle District in 2005, it is estimated that I have raised approximately \$750,000 toward ministry efforts in MDBA.)
- Enjoyed providing informal mentoring conversations with Dover Baptist Association's new Director of Missions.
- Provided guidance to church leaders seeking membership in Middle District.
- As always, preached in many of our churches and a few outside our Association.
- As friends and colleagues, I continued communication with the African American pastor of First Baptist Midlothian.
- Provided church revitalization guidance for churches seeking next steps in church vitality.
- Counseled a pastor and church leaders during a season of extreme stress and duress.
- Facilitated two pastors' small groups that met monthly.

In closing, let me express my gratitude for the friendship and support of Middle District pastors and church leaders. You have made it possible for Middle District to make some significant ministry accomplishments over these seventeen years. More than you will ever know, it has been the joy of my ministry to serve you.

As the association moves into its next phase of ministry, Paul's prayer for the church Thessalonica, expresses my prayer for you – Middle District pastors and church leaders:

"Every time I think of you, I thank God for you. Day and night you're in my prayers as I call to mind your work of faith, your labor of love. It is clear to me, friends, that God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special.... 1 Thessalonians 1 :2-4 (The message, edited)

Minutes of October 25, 2021

Middle District Baptist Association Annual Business Meeting

Meeting conducted online



The annual meeting of Middle District was again held online, due to COVID. The online format for voting was used, rather than a zoom call, for the purpose of including more people. Voting was open via an online link from October 17 – 20. The link to vote was emailed to all pastors and messengers on October 17 and had to be completed by the end of the day, October 20.

The business items were: the book of reports, the passing of the motions regarding the 2022 budget and the nominations for people serving in places of leadership for 2022. All these items are located on Middle District's website: www.mdba.org/about-us/business-meetings.

The proposed budget for 2022 was approved. This proposed budget is approximately 2.6 increase over last year. Most all of the increases are related to cost of living adjustments. Also, be aware that, beyond the annual budget, a number of revenue streams fund many areas of MDBA's on-going and new ministry initiatives.

Nominating Committee Report was approved as follows:

The following individuals were elected to the following places of service:

Leadership Committee:

Serving through 2022: David Benjamin, Kathy Lilley, James Wilson

Serving through 2023: Carl Peyton, Robert Beasley, Kay Fletcher

Serving through 2024: James Reid, Brent Brennan, Jeff Easton

Vote Officers for the 2022 Leadership Committee (Board of Directors):

President, Carl Peyton; Vice President: David Benjamin; Clerk: Kathy Lilley

Finance Committee:

Serving through 2022 Linda Loving

Serving through 2023 John Gray

Officers:

Moderator Bill Duganne, Stockton

Assistant Moderator: Erik Davidson, Lyndale

Clerk Pam Munden, Chesterfield Community

Treasurer Steve Mapp, Winfree

Assistant Treasurers Ralph Dillard, Central; Joan Hudson, Mt. Hermon

The missions celebration portion of the annual meeting was an on-demand format with videos on the Middle District website for everyone to use in their churches and watch as their schedule permits.