

## Middle District Baptist Association

Starting and Strengthening Churches...

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# SOCIAL MEDIA





in





BLOG



Ministry Assistants



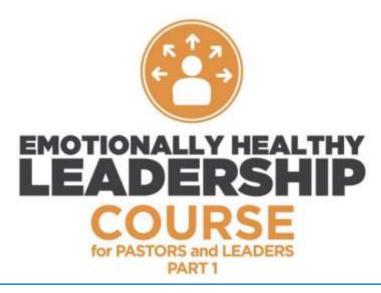
PO BOX 73023

N CHESTERFIELD, VA

## COMMUNICATOR

September 2023

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MDBA



### The Emotionally Healthy Leader Course Part 1

Our Executive Director, John Sawyer, has worked with Dr. Peter Scazzero over the past 16 years who created the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course. Now, we are excited to offer the **Emotionally Healthy Leader Course**.

#### What you can expect:

- An 8-week course with assessments for leaders and teams to measure their leadership health
- Practical, proven strategies that are being implemented in the local church and equipping leaders around the world. How to develop a deep, inner life with Christ, examining its profound implications for surviving stress, planning and decision making, building teams, creating healthy culture, influencing others, and much more.
- Going beyond simply offering a quick fix or new technique, The Emotionally Healthy Leader Course gets to the core, beneath-the-surface issues of uniquely Christian leadership.

DATE: Begins Thursday, Sept. 28 (Every Thursday for 8 weeks)

COST: \$50 (to cover material)

**Register Here: <u>REGISTRATION LINK</u>** 

For more information please email Rev. John Sawyer, <a href="mailto:isawyer@mdba.org">isawyer@mdba.org</a> .

# A FEW WORDS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### **Greetings!**

As I continue making my way around the Middle District, I'm constantly reminded of our shared calling to live out the Great Commission. As I interact with the pastors and leaders, I'm in awe of your efforts to nurture and promote unity within and amongst Middle District Churches.

Whether it be in a staff or lay capacity, following Jesus in our world today is constantly being been put to the test. We live in a world where people are divided on many issues. Some people and organizations are willing to "cancel" other people and organizations who don't think, behave or hold to the same beliefs and values they do. While I believe God certainly calls us to think, behave and live differently than the world, I remain grateful that he doesn't cancel <u>us</u>.

As followers of Jesus, how do we live out this counter cultural way of life? How do we enter into someone else's world and remain true to our convictions and values? How do we stop making assumptions about those with whom we disagree? Are we making disciples?

On September 28th, we launch into an eight week journey that will help us answer these questions. The Emotionally Healthy Discipleship Leader course is an interactive deep dive into understanding of our faith and our role in God's bigger plan. You can learn more about it in this newsletter.

In the meanwhile, I'm honored to walk alongside you in proclaiming the Good News. We will do far more together than if we simply went it alone.

**Grace and Peace,** 

John





Virginia Church Library Association

**Fall Conference** 

Saturday, October 21, 2023

8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at North Run Baptist Church

2100 Lydell Drive, Richmond, VA 23228

Information and Registration at

vacla.org

September 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR at a GLANCE

- 4 Labor Day
- 18 Leadership Conference, CVBM
- 19 Leadership Committee
- 28 EHL Training Starts Zoom

### Church Staff Birthdays

(Includes <u>church staff</u> current and retired as well as <u>spouses</u>)

- 3 Peggy Samuels, Elkhardt
- 3 Hannah Roberts, Winfree
- 8 Marjorie Button, Chesterfield
- 10 Debbie Eason, Retired
- 21 Lisa Beard, Muddy Creek
- 21 Kirsten Peyton, Transformation
- 22 Meagan Doan, Winfree
- 24 Nicolle Averette, Central



### **Bellwood Baptist Church**

invites you...

75th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, October 8 - 11:00 AM

This special Homecoming service will feature special activities and music featuring the Unity Quartet, followed by a catered lunch.

Additionally, Pastor Tony Young celebrates 12 years of ministry as Pastor.

All are welcome!

### **SAVETHE DATE!**

ANNUAL MEETING/
MISSIONS CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023
CHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH

This tree is **empty of gifts** but you can help by sponsoring a child through the

### **CHRISTMAS STORE!**

Dates are **November 27-28** to **drop off gifts** at Ironbridge Church.

Kid sponsorships will be ready in October so let us know if you would like to help. Perhaps your small group can sponsor several kids or make it a church wide project!



More details are available at mdba.org!

### Ministry Anniversary

Carl Peyton, Transformation Church 5 yrs.!



# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE!

# **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

# 5:15-8:30 PM SHALOM BAPTIST CHURCH

8116 Walnut Grove Rd. Mechanicsville, VA 23111

DINNER, FELLOWSHIP, AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## WWW.BAPTISTLEADERS.ORG

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS:



### BEING A NEIGHBOR...

### Being a Neighbor...by learning from others

Learning from others in the BGAV, MDBA, DBA, and RCFN
 Session Leaders: Wayne Faison, Maria Lynn, Win Davis, and John Sawyer









Being a Neighbor...in our racial present Session Leader: David Bailey (also Keynote)





Being a Neighbor...safely
- Safety in Churches
Session Leader: Deputy Barry Bland



# Being a Neighbor...outside the walls

 Small Groups Outside the Walls Session Leader: Christy Foldenauer



### Being a Neighbor...to the end

Hospice Care and Education for church leaders and members.
 Session Leader: Sheila Stells



### Being a Neighbor...in a diverse world

How churches can take the beginning steps to knowing and engaging their diverse neighbors
 Session Leaders: Erik & Caroline Davidson



Is your church prepared to help its neighbors in an emergency?
 Session Leaders: Allison Collier, Amanda Lott, Alex Hamp, and Bonnie Wilmoth









## Being a Neighbor...as a deacon

- Deacon Ministry: Beyond the Four Walls Session Leader: Karl Heilman



# MORE TO COME!!