



Middle District Baptist Association

Starting and Strengthening Churches...

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SOCIAL MEDIA



BLOG



[Ministry Assistants](#)



PO BOX 73023

**N CHESTERFIELD, VA
23235**

COMMUNICATOR

September 2023

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MDBA



EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY LEADERSHIP COURSE for PASTORS and LEADERS PART 1

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: [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

For more information please email Rev. John Sawyer, jsawyer@mdba.org.

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 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 us.

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

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!

SAVE THE 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!

Church Staff Birthdays

(Includes church staff current and retired as well as spouses)

- 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



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

Being a Neighbor...in an emergency

- 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!!