



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

December 2023

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MDBA



May the joy of the season bring you peace, hope, and love
as you enjoy time with family and friends.

We appreciate you all and wish you a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS!! - John & Brenda

Ministers Luncheon

SAVE THE DATE!!

Tuesday, Jan 23

Transformation Church



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Bridging RVA hosts an annual **Christmas Day Dinner** for anyone needing or looking for a place to go on Christmas Day. Last year more than 3,000 dinners were served.

This year Bridging RVA will again be hosting the in-person sit-down dinner, as well as delivering dinners to the homes of those in need.

[CLICK HERE FOR INFO.](#)

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



On December 5th, I was on my way back from Sandy Creek Baptist in Jetersville when I received word from Brenda about the fire at **Promised Land Baptist** in Amelia. I made my way over to Promised Land. Upon arrival, my heart sunk as I stood next to a completely destroyed and still smoldering church building. Mason Archer, a 70 year old gentleman who has attended Promised Land for his entire life, greeted me in the parking lot. As we stood there looking at the smoldering ashes, he began to reminisce about all of the life events his family had experienced at Promised Land.



A woman was also standing nearby staring at the rubble through tear-filled eyes. As we spoke, she began to offer words of thanksgiving to God because no one was injured in the fire. At one point someone exclaimed, "***We worship and serve a God who makes beauty out of ashes.***" Although I've heard this scripture hundreds of times over the years, it took on a whole new meaning that day. Although the building burned to the ground, the church that met inside of it was still in tact.



As we move through Advent with Christmas just right around the corner, it's easy to get wrapped up in all the decorations, programs, facilities, etc. Let's not lose sight or be distracted from our understating that the people are the church. I also invite you to join with me and others in **prayer** for the congregation at Promised Land Baptist Church.

Blessings,

John

Jsawyer@mdba.org

Photos- Amelia Bulletin Monitor





*"Merry Christmas to you and your family.
Thank you for helping my family have a
wonderful Christmas.
Love, Davis family"*



YES, we absolutely have FUN while serving!!



Church Staff Birthdays

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

- 2 Stephanie Blanton, Bethel
- 4 Debbie Ellison, Stockton
- 11 Carl Peyton, Transformation
- 16 Brenda Green, MDBA/Tomahawk
- 19 Karen Bradbury, Bethel
- 22 Dana Long, Stockton
- 24 Karen Reid, PCC
- 25 Lindy Moore, Winfree
- 28 Shezana Grozdanov, Branch's



CALENDAR DATES TO REMEMBER

- 22 - 29 - Office closed for Christmas Holidays
- Jan 1-2 Office closed for New Years Holiday
- 23 Ministers Luncheon, Transformation