

Middle District Baptist Association

Starting and Strengthening Churches...

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BLOG



Ministry Assistants

OTHER CALENDAR DATES TO REMEMBER

2/4FBC Midlothian, 178Anniversary2/14Valentine's Day2/19Presidents DayOffice Closed/School Out

3/30-31 Raceway Ministries 3/31 Easter Sunday



COMMUNICATOR February 2024

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MDBA



See mdba.org for more information including application !

Church & Clergy Tax Seminar

February 22, 2024 9:30 a.m. until Noon Location: Virginia Baptist Resource Center or Virtual

More info or register: www.bgav.org/events

Annual Church Profile Report

Due February 29

This annual report is for historical purposes but also to give leader-ship updates.

If you need a hard copy form, log in info or have no idea what this is, contact <u>brenda@mdba.org.</u>



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I want to take this opportunity to thank all who came out for the MDBA lunch on January 23rd at Transformation Church RVA. In addition to a delicious barbecue lunch compliments of Pastor Carl Peyton, we heard a great presentation about the future growth opportunities in our churches by Matt Thornhill.

If you were unable to attend, Matt helped us to see why the future of our churches may look different than we've historically thought. Based on his years of generational research and the population breakdown studies that were shared, we learned how the median age in Amelia, Chesterfield and Powhatan has and will continue to increase in our lifetimes. As a result of this shift, **the percentage of young families with small children in Central VA has and will continue to decline in our lifetimes.** So, what does this all mean? Is it possible we need to reevaluate how we have historically thought about church growth? Great question!

We also heard about some of the creative ways churches are being proactive in addressing this population shift. At the end of the day, I believe we all left feeling more informed and better equipped to think well about our shared desire to live out the Great Commission.

The success of our lunch gathering wouldn't have been possible without your enthusiastic participation. We will have another lunch gathering on April 11th. Save the date; and together let's pray and strive for unity, collective growth and Kingdom impact in Central VA.

Grace and Peace, John <u>Jsawyer@mdba.org</u>

*If you would like a copy of the presentation, contact <u>brenda@mdba.org</u>.



Richmond Raceway Dates

March: Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st, 2024

August: Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th, 2024



We need help to:

- Set-up under the tents and in Lot F.
- Transport the tables and chairs, igloos, etc.
- Distribute the "cup of cold water," lemonade and cookies, Easter Eggs (March)
- Maintain tables where we give out free Bibles,
- tracts, New Testaments, etc.
- Hand out flyers before races to advertise worship services and big celebration Sunday afternoon.
- Guide the fans around the track.
- Run games/matchbox car races, paint faces, & serve snowcones and popcorn at our Kids Corner locations.
- Provide homemade cookies

To volunteer or ask questions, please call Charles Ward

at 804-317-0094 to get info for your short online, self-paced training.

Staff Updates

Rev. Dr. Jimmie Miles Minister of Congregational Care, Winfree

Ms. Caroline Hankinson, Winfree, Office Manager

Ms. Lauren Harrison, Interim Preschool Director, Winfree

Rev. Greg Morgan, Pastor, Sandy Creek



"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt ." - Charles Shultz



Church Staff Birthdays

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

- 2/3 Christy Turner, Central
- 2/6 John Sawyer, MDBA
- 2/17 David Engleman, Retired



Ministry Anniversary

John Sawyer, 1 yr! MDBA

