



BNoC Spring Mission Project Update

Southside

Forty-four infant car seats were collected. We also received \$9,717.05 in donations that was sent to the Crisis Pregnancy Center. Calculating the car seats costing \$130 each, the money will purchase about 74 new infant car seats for a total of **116 new seats**. You will have an impact on 116 babies and their families. Thank you for your heart to help these families.



Eastern Shore

A generous amount of baby items were collected for the Accomack-Northampton Pregnancy Center in Onley. Along with the items collected, \$430.00 was sent to the Center from donations received.

Thank you for your heart to help these families.

May Staff and Spouse

Birthdays

2	Melissa Langford	Great Bridge
6	Scott Maccubin	Greenbrier
7	John Robertson	Red Bank
7	Michele Blakeslee	Point Harbor
7	Diana Purnell	First Camelot
7	Michael French	Zion
11	Betty Roberts	BNoC
12	Dan Blakeslee	Point Harbor
14	Beth Anderson	King's Grant
17	Mike Muender	Maranatha
19	Shannon Colvin	Great Neck
20	Kevin Tremper	Crossroads
21	Rob Vincent	Discover
26	Daniel Jung	Tidewater Korean
26	Melodi Terhune	Raleigh Heights
27	Shannon Terhune	Raleigh Heights



LEADING WHEN TIMES ARE DIFFICULT

By Lynn Hardaway

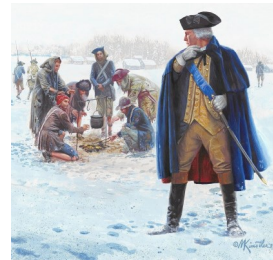
“Above all, Washington never forgot what was at stake and he never gave up.”

David McCullough wrote these words as he reflected on the horrific struggle George Washington experienced in learning to lead his “rabble in arms” against the superior forces of Great Britain in **1776**.

Washington learned from his mistakes, which had cost American lives, and, though he was often dejected and depressed over the troops who chose to leave the army when their time was up, he kept a brave face.



Amid scathing criticism, he wrote, “Many of my difficulties and distresses were of so peculiar a cast that in order to conceal them from the enemy, I was obliged to conceal them from my friends, indeed from my own army, thereby subjecting my conduct to interpretations unfavorable to my character.”



Through a harsh and brutal winter, forced retreats, dwindling equipment and supplies, he truly believed the cause of freedom was

worth the sacrifice. The stories of the battles of that first year of his leadership are beyond remarkable and contain clear interventions from God, giving Washington and his troops reasons to praise Him.

Abigail Adams, wife of John Adams, wrote of those hard times, **“Affliction is the good man’s shining time.”**

Pastor, take heart during trying circumstances; lead the best you know how, learn from your mistakes, never forget what is at stake and ***never give up!***

**NEVER
GIVE UP**

Pastors’ Upcoming Events

Pastors’ Prayer Breakfast: second Tuesday of each month, next one is May 14, 7am at Indian River Baptist Church.

Dr. Mark Croston meetings on the Eastern Shore: On Friday, May 17 at Exmore Baptist Church there will be a Pastor and wife’s dinner. The cost is \$15 per couple. RSVP to Exmore Baptist Church, 757-442-9491. On Sunday, May 19, Dr. Croston will be speaking at Exmore Baptist Church, 9am and Red Bank Baptist Church at 11am. That evening at 6:30pm he will speak at Exmore Baptist Church for the Night of Unity.



DNOW

Save the Date:
November 15 - 16

DNOW weekend is a weekend for Student Ministries across Virginia to come together for Deep Teaching, Inspirational Worship, and Epic Games! This year, we will emphasize our God-given command to serve others. The weekend will include a time for us to live that command out and serve Coastal Virginia!



May 30



VBS AND KIDS' CAMPS: HOW TO MAKE THE IMPACT LAST LONGER THAN A WEEK

VBS and local kids' camps provide a wonderful opportunity for your church's children to move closer to God and for you to connect with community children and their families. It is also an excellent time to identify potential volunteers for church ministry.

VBS and camp offer an intensive time of Bible study and activities that encourage children to go deeper in their personal relationships with God. Many children accept Christ as Lord and Savior during summer ministries for the simple reason that they encounter God's story and how it impacts their lives daily.

VBS and camp are community outreach events that are fun and exciting for children who do not normally attend church. They provide opportunities for children and their families to become comfortable with your church and with the biblical stories. These events can be a steppingstone to regular church participation for children and their families. Once VBS/camp is over, make sure you have additional events and activities to invite them to attend. This bridges VBS and camp participants and their families into the flow of your church's ministries.



VBS and Kids' Camp utilize many volunteers at different levels of participation from the director to the game assistant. The director spends hundreds of hours choosing curriculum, enlisting volunteers, and making crucial decisions for the success of the ministry. Teachers spend time planning and teaching lessons. Crafts, music, and recreation volunteers spend time planning for and working with children in fun activities. Assistants spend a few hours that week helping with specific events.



Every volunteer is vital to the success of the week. Following VBS/camp, many of these volunteers will feel like they have contributed to the ministry of the church in a way they have never experienced before. Make sure you recognize and celebrate each volunteer; so, they know how important they are to the ministry of the church. Prior to VBS/camp, make a list of potential positions that these volunteers can consider after VBS/

camp to keep them involved in active ministry. Ask: How can these volunteers be integrated into the regular ministries of the church? How can we capitalize on their sense of ministry fulfillment to help them find their next place of service?



VBS and other summer children's ministries are great opportunities to disciple children, connect with community children and their families, and identify future volunteers.

Ministering with intention,
Kim Jessie

ES PASTORS' WIVES LUNCH
May 29, 11:30am
Little Italy in Nassawoddox
Please let Kim know if you are interested:
kjessie@thebridgenet.org/757-572-6134

The Bridge Network of Churches hosts
**Writing Bible Studies
Workshop
for Women**
Led by Wendy Foreman and Rachel Piferi

What to Expect:

- A Workbook to Guide Your Writing Process
- Leave with an Outline for Your Bible Study
- Begin Writing Your Bible Study
- Learn about Publishing Options
- Find a Community of Fellow Writers

9:00-3:00
(Note Extended Time)
Saturday, May 4
Calvary Baptist Church
4832 Haygood Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

\$30 Includes Workshop, Workbook and Lunch.
Space is limited.
Registration required.

To Register:
Call 757-938-9793
Email admin@thebridgenet.org

1407 Stephanie Way
Suite F
Chesapeake, VA 23320

BABY BOUTIQUE

Baby Boutique was blessed with bountiful donations in April! We have mothers needing help and we are excited to share! We received several private donations in addition to donations from churches! We are so humbled and overwhelmed by the generosity of so many people. When our inventory gets on the lower side, God always fills in the gap! If you know of anyone in need of our help, please have them go to www.thebridgenet.org and fill out a Baby Boutique application which is found under the Resource tab. Someone will get in touch with them about an appointment. We offer a onetime visit to get items for infants up to age 2.

Thank you for your continued support! Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions about applications or donations!

Bonnie Cuthriell,
Director
(757)681-7056



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Network Missionary
Leadership & Ministry Strategist
Support Team Leader
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