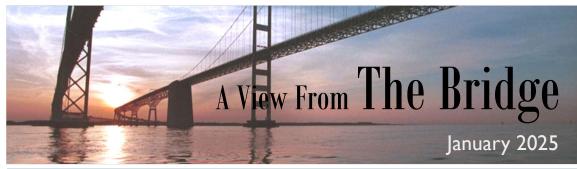


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Staff and Spouse Birthdays

4	Tom Tuttle	Point Harbor
19	Greg Brinson	London Bridge
19	Valerie Lee	Collinswood-Agape
22	Bill Heffelfinger	Acts 2
26	Tinney Parrish	Central
28	Judy Liu	First Chinese
29	Joe Price	Holy Trinity
29	Jen Zabel	Horizon
31	Marisa Sanchez	Cape Charles



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING

Thursday, January 23rd

If you are a Pastor or a Lay Representative of a Network church, this meeting is for you. This meeting reviews the business that will be presented at the Annual Spring meeting.

You may attend either in person (at the office) or via Zoom. <u>Seating at the office is limited, so pre-registering is a must.</u> To register, please call 757-938-9793 or email admin@thebridgenet.org.

Pastors Book Study-Zoom God Initiated Leadership Tuesday, January 7th, 9am

Everyone leads someone. But there are some who lead from a different source. They have learned the extraordinary art of listening to the Lord and leading by God's initiation. Christ (the greatest leader in history) led this way, as did all of the great Christian men and

women of history. Those who master this make a mark, not only for the moment, but for eternity.

Group meets weekly, 9am-10am, via Zoom, each Tuesday.

To register for the study and receive your book, call the office at 757-938-9793 or email, admin@thebridgenet.org.



PASTORS' WIVES GATHERING

Eastern Shore Wives: Tuesday, January 21, 5pm, Little Italy Restaurant, Nassawaddox, VA.

Please RSVP with Kim Jessie, text, 757-572-6134, or email, kjessie@thebridgenet.org, if you will be attending.





The Song of the Shepherd Who Became a King

By Dr. Lynn Hardaway

So many voices can be heard of people who are anxious and fearful approaching the new and unexplored year of 2025; here's a guiding principle and promise to help us face the future, whatever it holds, with absolute confidence and unshakable hope:



"The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

David may have written this song while he was a teenager, keeping watch over his father's sheep on the hills of Judea. If so, he displayed the wisdom of a much older and more mature man when he reflected on Who would be his Guardian and Guide as he faced the years before him.

He declares emphatically: **YAHWEH** is my **Shepherd!** Surely, he recalled this most holy name of God within its historical context, remembering the story of the



burning bush and the call of God to Moses to lead His people out of the slave labor pits of Egypt. Commentary writers tell us the name is a combination of three tenses of the Hebrew

verb "to be." **Yehi** ("He will be") – that's the future. **Hove** ("being") – that's the present. **Hahyah** ("He was") – that's the past. The meaning is clear: He was God in eternity past, He is God in the seeable present and He will always be God in eternity future.

The same God Who plagued Egypt with ten tragic tests, Who split the waters of the Red Sea, Who led the nation through the wilderness with a pillar of cloud and provided bread from heaven for forty years — that same God was David's personal Shepherd! If He took care of an entire nation of people (some say 4 million souls) through such interruptive and magnificent displays of His ability to provide, it was certain He could and would take care of David; he harbored no doubt about it.

"I shall not want," according to W. Phillip Keller, is a shepherd's way of saying, "I shall be under the careful and expert supervision" of One Who will provide all I need to face whatever the future has for me.

David took this promise with him onto the field of battle against Goliath, in the face of the furious jealousy of King Saul, and onto the throne when they settled the crown on his head as the new king.

2025 will hold challenges for each one of us; let's face them with the courage and confidence of young David and speak truth to our soul: "YAHWEH is my Shepherd; I shall not want."



SBCV Kids Ministry Conference

Open to all Churches Saturday, March 22, 2025 Great Bridge Baptist Church 8:45 a.m.—3:50 p.m.

Breakout Tracks

- VBS (Lifeway's Magnified VBS)
- Multiple Children's Ministry Tracks
- Spanish

Conference is FREE including lunch, resources, giveaways, and over 50 door



BABY BOUTIQUE

Happy New Year! Hard to believe it's already 2025! Baby boutique is ready to help more little ones this year. We have been blessed with several donations lately and have been able to fill many of our empty bins and get them ready to meet the needs of our families. If you know of anyone in your church or community who could use help with clothes and baby items suitable for newborns through age 2, please have them go to www.thebridgenet.org and fill out a Baby Boutique application from our drop down menu under resources. We will be in touch to make an appointment. We offer a one-time visit to get what is needed.

Since we operate through donations, we always need various items. If you are interested in donating and would like to know our needs at the time, please contact me! We always appreciate your help! I'm sorry I don't always have the opportunity to thank everyone personally for their donations since many times I don't know who left the items at the church. Please just know that we thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts for each and every item. You make it possible to keep Baby Boutique up and running!

Bonnie Cuthriell, Director (757)681-7056



1407 Stephanie Way, Ste F Chesapeake, VA 23320

Church News



Elizabeth River Baptist Church is offering Financial Peace University, a series by well-known Financial Planner, Dave Ramsey, beginning Wednesday, January 15, 2025. In just nine lessons, participants will learn common sense ways of handling money

including ways to eliminate debt, save, budget, spend wisely, and invest for the future.

Financial Peace University classes will meet weekly from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Registration is required. The \$79.99 registration fee covers the cost of materials and workbooks. If you cannot afford the course fee, scholarships to cover your cost may be available.

The class will be taught by Ed Beaton. Contact the church office at 757-420-8478 for more information. Elizabeth River Baptist Church is located at 601 Sparrow Road Chesapeake, Virginia. 23325

Office Phone: 757-938-9793

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