



# A View From The Bridge

October 2024

## 2024 ANNUAL FALL MEETING

### “UNWAVERING LOVE”

HEBREWS 13:1

**Thursday, October 24th at Great Neck Baptist Church**

1020 General Jackson, Virginia Beach, VA

Dinner will begin at 6pm (Stuffed porkchops)

**Meeting will begin at 7pm.**

**Please register by Friday, October 18th, so a packet, name badge, and meal (with paid reservation) may be prepared for you.**

There are three ways to register: 1. **Visit** our website ([www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org)), under Resources click on “2024 Fall Annual Gathering”. You may register and pay for your meal on that page. 2. **Return** the completed form that was mailed to your church. 3. **Email** [admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org). You may mail a check to the office or pay online by visiting the “2024 Fall Annual Gathering” page at [www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org) (under Resources). If you have any questions, please call the office, 757-938-9793 or email [admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org).

## FALL LEADERSHIP TRAINING



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT GREAT BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH**

640 S. Battlefield Blvd, Chesapeake

**Dinner (Deadline to register for dinner is Thursday, 9/26): 5:30pm; Cost: \$8 (fried chicken) Training begins at 6pm**

### Classes to Choose From (Please pick two):

- ◇ How to Build a Multi-Generational Church/Reaching the Various Generations (First session only)
- ◇ Building a Preschool & Children’s Ministry in a Small Congregation
- ◇ Recruiting, Training, and Keeping Volunteers
- ◇ Establishing a Leadership Development System
- ◇ Developing an Effective Prayer Ministry
- ◇ Effective Communication and Listening Skills
- ◇ Establishing Healthy Boundaries in Life and Ministry
- ◇ Understanding and Serving Through Your Spiritual Gifts
- ◇ How to Mentor Others (Second Session only)

**3 ways to register, [www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org), call 757-938-9793 or email [admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org)**

# Happy Birthday



3	Alex Zabel	Horizon
4	Connie Pumphrey	Azalea
5	Kit Laxton	Exmore
7	Ruth Castleberry	Great Bridge
8	Yvonne Price	Holy Trinity
8	Connie Inman	Black Creek
15	Jay Albritton	Life Point
16	Chris Cunningham	GO
23	Jerry Tucker	Catalyst
23	Robin Houston	Point Harbor
24	Amos Eby	Southside
25	Will Langford	Great Bridge
25	Pedro Sanchez	Mappsville
25	Aubrey Houston	Point Harbor
26	Bruce Purnell	First Camelot
28	Martin Jones	First View

## October Staff and Spouse Birthdays

## WHEN LEADERS LEAD

By Dr. Lynn Hardaway

"I Got You, Babe" became the timeless hit of Sonny and Cher in 1965. It topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart on August 14 and remained at number one for three weeks. The tune and lyrics are permanently stored in the memories of those who listened to the radio that summer; just a few bars into the recording and we can instantly identify it. Music has that kind of power to send us back to simpler days and recreate visually the scene of them singing the song on their television show.



When Deborah and Barak wrote a song to memorialize God's great deliverance of Israel from the dominating power of the Canaanites, it would have been learned and sung in the homes and around the campfires of the

Hebrews. For decades to follow, God's people could transport their memories back to the stunning victory and the fresh air of freedom they had experienced on that unforgettable day when God sent a powerful storm to neutralize nine hundred chariots of iron and scatter the thousands of enemy troops across a landscape which had been turned into a muddy and deadly trap.

In recounting the people and events of that day, the singing duo began with the reason God moved in – "When leaders lead in Israel, When the people willingly offer themselves, Bless the Lord!" (Judges 5:2, NKJV)

As the leadership team of Israel, Deborah and Barak had listened carefully to the LORD's instructions and obeyed them exactly. When they turned to the ten thousand unarmed (see Judges 5:8) men and told them to charge down Mount Tabor against an undefeatable foe, the men "willingly offered themselves" and God showed up!

How wonderful it is to belong to a congregation where the leaders lead by listening to God and, when a need arises for help, the people willingly offer themselves to accomplish God's purposes for the church!



## New Resource

***What's Next?***  
By Chris Hodges



A deeper and more intimate relationship with God is closer than you think.

Have you ever felt as if something were missing from your life? Are you longing for a clearer sense of purpose? Do you feel stuck in a spiritual rut? In *What's Next?*, bestselling author Chris Hodges offers a practical guide to all those looking for clarity and direction and reveals the four steps to spiritual maturity: know God, find freedom, discover purpose, and make a difference.

He demonstrates how each step is part of both a linear path and a cycle leading to deeper levels of faith. Accessible and clear, concise and profound, no matter where you are in your journey, *What's Next?* is the guide you need to find your way and discover the joy that comes walking the road of richer faith.

Come by the office, email [admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org), or call 757-938-9793 to reserve this study.



Will be celebrating their 71st Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 15th at St. John's Baptist Church, 10am. The church is located at 2300 Holland Road,

Virginia Beach.

We look forward to seeing you there!



**SBCV Kids Ministry Conference**  
Open to all Churches

**Saturday , March 22, 2025**  
**Great Bridge Baptist Church**  
9:15 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**Breakout Tracks**

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

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

**250 YEARS OF SERVING THE LORD!**

Blackwater Baptist Church in Virginia Beach celebrates their **250<sup>th</sup> anniversary** on October 6. Founded in 1774 as a daughter church to Oak Grove Baptist Church, Blackwater has lived through every generation of America's history. They give God the glory for His enduring faithfulness and are excited about the new life He has given them in recent months through salvations, baptisms and new families joining to help them to continue to fulfill His purposes for the church.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**PASTORS' WIVES GATHERING**

**Western District Wives:** Tuesday, October 1, 12:30 pm, Serve Restaurant, 102 N. Main St., Franklin, VA.

**Eastern Shore Wives:** Thursday, October 17, 1pm, El Maguey Mexican Restaurant, Exmore, VA.

**Norfolk Area Wives:** Tuesday, November 12, 11am, Lockside Bar and Grill, Chesapeake, VA.

Please RSVP with Kim Jessie, text, 757-572-6134, or email, [kjessie@thebridgenet.org](mailto:kjessie@thebridgenet.org), if you will be attending.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. GALATIANS 6:9

October is a time we set aside each year to honor and give thanks to our pastors who give, care, and serve us, our families, and our communities in remarkable ways.



How exactly should we celebrate our pastors? Ask the whole congregation, young, old, and in between, to write a personal note of encouragement. Shower your pastor with their favorite things, such as gift cards, candy, books, .

Remember to recognize their families as well. They are a large part of our pastors' support network and should be celebrated along side them.



COSTAL VIRGINIA  
**DNOW**  
WEEKEND

THE BRIDGE  
Network of Churches

# OUTCAST

finding our place in God's kingdom

**DNOW** weekend is an opportunity for **Student Ministries** across Virginia to unite for a time of **Deep Teaching, Inspirational Worship, and Epic Games!**

Host Church  
**New Song Fellowship**  
865 Woodstock Rd.  
Virginia Beach VA, 23464

November 15-16 \$25

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