



**EASTERN SHORE
MINISTERS
CONFERENCE
SCHEDULE**

Eastern Shore ministers meet the first Tuesday in October (Oct. 1). They will meet at Crossroads Coffee Shop in Onley at 11:45am. Contact Andrew Matthews, 757-710-2352 for directions to the Coffee Shop.

**Mission Impact '19
For the
Southside Churches**

**Goal: \$10,500
Received: \$6,227.54**

For a Prayer Guide or a MI'19 Flyer visit our website:
www.thebridgenet.org
(Under the Resource tab). If you need envelopes, please call the office at 757-938-9793

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
Hebrews 13:16



A View From The Bridge

OCTOBER 2019

ANNUAL FALL MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

Afternoon Session: 3:30PM

Pastor Rodney Burns and Pastor Ken Pruitt will be speaking

Evening Session: 6pm

Pastor Michael Daniels will be speaking

Dinner with paid reservation: 5pm (\$7)

Enoch Baptist Church

5641 Herbert Moore Road, Virginia Beach

The business will be at 4:30pm in the afternoon session.

Please RSVP by Monday, October 21 so that a packet, name badge and a meal may be prepared for you. You may mail the form that was sent to your church, call the office 757-938-9793 or email admin@thebridgenet.org. You may pay for the meals online by clicking on the "Give" button on the website. Please put in memo section that it is for Fall meeting dinner or you may mail a check to the office, 1407 Stephanie Way, Suite F, Chesapeake 23320.

Make Plans to Attend, this will be an Exciting Time Together!

RENA B WRIGHT SCHOOL SUPPLIES UPDATE

August 28, delivered 10 boxes of school supplies and 14 gifts cards valued at \$50 each for the teachers.



Note from the Principal, S. Brown:

Thank you so much for delivering supplies to our students and gifts cards to our staff! Because of dedicated, generous people like you, our students and staff members will have everything they need to have a successful school year! Thank you for choosing RBW as the school you blessed!

OCTOBER STAFF AND SPOUSE

BIRTHDAYS

3	Alex Zabel	Horizon
5	Connie Pumphrey	Awaken
7	Ruth Castleberry	Great Bridge
8	Yvonne Price	Holy Trinity
13	Debbie Saul	Elizabeth River
18	Shirley Lawson	Retired
19	Richard Saul	Elizabeth River
25	Will Langford	Great Bridge
25	Pedro Sanchez	Mappsville



Very Good Few Weeks

The Network has had a very good few weeks beginning with the "Making Waves" Baptism weekend in August with 120 people being baptized from 25 Network churches. On September 10 and 17 the Bridge Leadership Conference was held on the Eastern Shore and the Norfolk area. The Shore had the highest attendance so far with 102 people being trained. The Norfolk area had 108 signed up to attend. Both Conferences had a high ethnic diversity.

God Is Good!

OCTOBER OUTREACH IDEAS

By: Kim Jessie

As the weather becomes cooler and the leaves begin to change, individuals and families anticipate the fun associated with Fall activities. Here are some simple ideas to gather crowds and build community.

Pumpkin carving: Make it a contest or just a fun gathering. Everyone brings their own pumpkin (or you can purchase in bulk). People can bring their own carving supplies. You can provide templates and have design categories – if you are going to have a contest. Make sure you have plenty of plastic and trash bags. A side benefit is roasting the seeds while people are carving pumpkins.

Pumpkin Painting: Switch out the carving with paints. Provide lots of colors and let people of all ages paint pumpkins of all sizes.



Pumpkin Cookies: Provide large sugar cookies and lots of colored icing and let children of all ages decorate and then eat their pumpkin cookies.

Pumpkin Crafts: Gather felt, glue, glitter, scissors, construction paper, etc. and let the fun begin. Pinterest.com has loads of simple pumpkin craft ideas. These can be used with children, teens, and adults.

Scarecrows: Instruct people to bring their old clothes and provide straw and newspaper for stuffing. Other helpful items include chenille sticks, felt, markers, large eyes, glue, scissors, twine/string, etc. to help construct the perfect scarecrow.



Guys Grill Day: Men love to BBQ; so, round up grills and smokers and let them bring their favorite grill items to show off their expertise. Side bonus: provide a way to watch/listen to the big games.

Firepits: As the weather cools, firepits can provide an excellent opportunity for groups to gather around firepits to roast hot dogs, make S'mores and have conversation.

Cornhole Tournaments: Everyone loves a good competitive game, and Cornhole is a simple game that every age group can play. Gather some boards, create some teams, and let the competition begin. You can even provide small trophies for the winners! Better yet, combine this activity with any of the others and you have a doubly fun event.

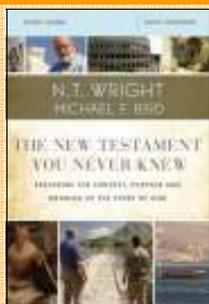
Block party: Now is the time to reserve a block party trailer for next October. These dates book fast; so, don't miss out. On October 1, you can reserve for October '20!



People enjoy the changing seasons and will participate in fun activities in the Fall. Find ways to connect regular attenders new guests and interested individuals and families. Make sure friendly, engaging members and attenders connect with those who are guests at your events. Be on the lookout for opportunities to share Jesus and to invite them to worship or other church activities.

NEW MEDIA LIBRARY RESOURCE "The New Testament You Never Knew"

By: N.T. Wright & Michael F. Bird



We all share a fascination for discovering 'the rest of the story.' In this eight-session video Bible study, you will take a tour of the story

behind the explosive story of the New Testament. You will discover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection, the incredible expansion of the early church into the Greco-Roman world, and how the transforming mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today.

Come by the office to check this out or call 757-938-9793.

BE DECISIVE!

By: Lynn Hardaway

Chip and Dan Heath, in their book *Decisive*, give this advice to decision-makers: *when your decisions are based on conflicting values, identify your core priorities.* Church leaders can fall into the trap of making decisions based on short-term emotions, like capitulating to the chronic complainer just to keep the 'peace' in the congregation or deciding to launch a new ministry because an enthusiastic person thinks it will work.



The solution is to **identify your core priorities**. Ask yourself, "Which long-term emotional values, goals or aspirations are most important to me (or to the church)?" If we allow the very vocal complainer to keep us from reaching out to new people, what will be the long-term effect on the church? If we keep hundreds of thousands

of dollars in the bank, rather than using some of it for needed ministry or repairs, how will that limit our ability to fulfill the Great Commission?

The competing values are obvious in these two scenarios: the person complaining about the attention new people receive is nurturing the personal values of comfort and control, both of which will keep the congregation on a downward spiral. Those values compete with the values of evangelism and making new disciples. *If you know your core priorities are based on biblical values, make your decisions based on those priorities.*



Keeping a large sum of money in the bank is based on a value of security first; the higher value of serving Christ's passion for lost individuals is pushed down the priority list, often to the place of disobedience to His command to "preach the gospel to every person." It is not uncommon for churches to close their doors with hundreds of thousands of dollars in the bank!

Decide what your core priorities are, make decisions based on those priorities and not the current emotional trend of the congregation, and the long-term results will honor the One Whom we serve!

- i. I am not suggesting a church empty its savings account, but use the excess for God's glory!

CHRISTMAS STORE MINISTRY



This ministry allows families to purchase new items for their children at 10-15% of retail (allowing them to maintain their dignity). You can help by donating new items and by volunteering your time.

Donation suggestions:

Infant to 4 years: clothing, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys, soft dolls, preschool cars/trucks.

Girls: Dolls (all ethnicities), dress up items, sports items, craft supplies, clothing

Boys: Trucks, Cars, sports equipment, skateboards, action figures, clothing

Teens: Clothing, sweats, coats, makeup, sports equipment, craft kits

Volunteers are needed to sort & price, greet, fill tables, help parents shop, cashier, share Christ and set up for the Children's party on Saturday.

Volunteer forms and family applications are available at thebridgenet.org under resources.

WORKING WOMEN'S WARDROBE

The drop off date is Monday, October 7, 10am-Noon. We are in need of kitchen trash bags, facial tissues, wet and dry Swifter cloths, paper towels, and Windex. We would love to assist ladies in our churches, please contact me with their Information.

Laura Coleman

757-651-3165 or Laura.coleman22980@gmail.com

Tracy Coleman

757-477-2804 or tracyraecoleman1977@gmail.com



SBCV Annual Meeting:

November 10-12, First Baptist Church in Roanoke.

BGAV Annual Meeting:

November 11-13, Bonsack Baptist Church in Roanoke.

Church News

Awaken: “Love Over Fear Tour” with author Dan White, Jr. Come and join in a time of story-telling and Q&A around the vital practice of loving our enemies like Jesus. Wednesday, October 9, 6:30pm at 4413 Wishart Road, Virginia Beach. \$5 suggested donation/\$15 includes book.

Blackwater: Celebrated their 245th Anniversary on September 15. Congratulations! Dr. Alan Krasnoff spoke at their picnic and Mark Croston provided the music.

Coastal: October marks their 20th Anniversary. Congratulations! Also they will be opening their new Coastal Kids expansion (in October/November). The construction project allows them to add lots of new ministry space for children. They also baptized 44 people on September 15. Awesome!

Greenbrier: has a 25 passenger vehicle to sell. It is a 2000 Ford E-450 Shuttle bus with about 132,000 miles, \$10,000 or best offer. For more information contact the church at 757-547-3898.

Virginia Beach Beacon: Will be holding their Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 19, 11am -3pm. Everyone is invited. It will be a great time of free family fun!



Office Phone: 757-938-9793

Staff Connections

Website: www.thebridgenet.org

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