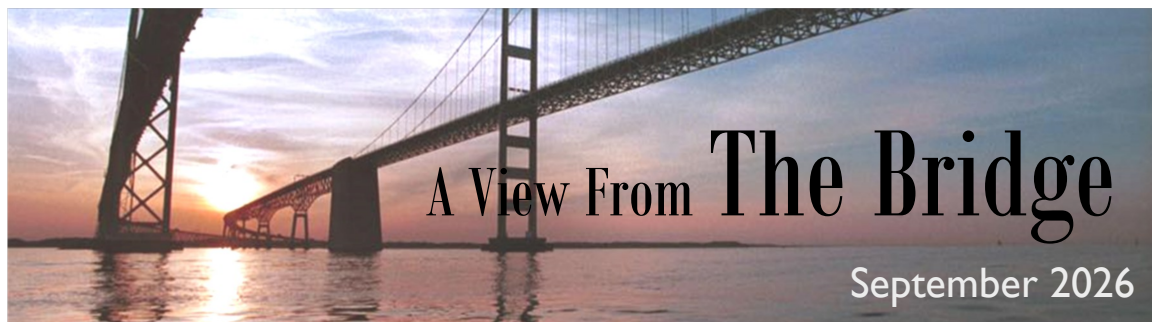




A View From The Bridge

September 2026

Mark
Your
Calendar!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 24, 11am

If you are a Network pastor or Lay Representative, this meeting is for you. It looks at business that will be presented at the Fall meeting. It will be via Zoom and in the office.

Spaces are limited at the office so please email
admin@thebridgenet.org or call 757-938-9793 to reserve your place.

22

October
2026

Great Neck Baptist Church
1020 General Jackson Dr.
Virginia Beach, 23454

Afternoon Session 4:30pm
Dinner \$8 ; 6pm
Creamy Lemon Thyme Chicken
Meeting 7pm



Dr. Bill Korver



CAROLINA COLLEGE
of BIBLICAL STUDIES

2026

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Staff and Spouse Birthdays

1	Bobby Parks	First New Church
2	Melannie Rhoad	ICC
4	Michelle Conway	Calvary
5	Deloris Pettaway	Park Place
5	Kristy Johnson	Holland
10	Sheree Martin	Elizabeth River
11	Cathy Jones	First View
14	Julie Albritton	Lifepoint
15	Tony Kohout	Buford Road
18	Dave Combs	Christ First
19	Katie Dininny	OV

Baby Boutique

As cooler weather approaches mothers are looking for warmer clothing for their little ones. Baby Boutique is preparing to do what we can! We offer a one time visit for moms (or dads) in need to get free items for their children age newborn thru around age 2. Our clothing goes up to a size 2. We have many other items suitable for this age group, too, but our inventory varies depending on what donations are received. If you know of anyone in your church or community who could use our help, please have them go to www.thebridgenet.org and fill out a Baby Boutique application which is found under the resource tab. Once received we will contact them for an appointment.

Since we depend on donations to keep our inventory well stocked, we rely on help from the community. If you have items to donate, please contact me directly for more info on what we accept and do not accept and info on when and where to drop off items. We accept new or gently used items with a few exceptions. We are currently in need of size 1 disposable diapers, size 2 or 24 month boys' new or gently used fall/winter clothing, infant swaddlers, blankets, towels, crib sheets, baby shampoo and wash, lotion, infant thermometers, infant nail clippers, new pacifiers, burp cloths and new or used books. As always, thank you for any help!

Bonnie Cuthriell, Director
(757)681-7056



Fall Festivals that Really Add Up

By Kim Jessie



October and November are great months for fall events that get church and community families together for fun and entertainment. To really capitalize on these events, consider incorporating one or more of the following strategies.

Meet a Need: There are a lot of needs right now due to back-to-school, natural disasters, changing weather, etc. People like to feel that they have contributed to the solution of a problem. Provide an opportunity for families to donate school supplies, canned goods, winter coats, or something else at your event. Provide information on where the donations will go – a local school, homeless shelter, food bank or pantry. In addition to having fun, families feel that they have helped meet community needs and your church provided the opportunity for that feel-good moment.



Family Fun: Many events are specifically for children; so, parents stand around while the children participate in fun events. To offset this, provide opportunities for parents and children to do fun activities together. These activities could be a fall craft, a fun game, a picture booth with accessories, etc. Creating these experiences for the parents and their children to have fun together provides fond memories of your church and communicates that your church loves families.

Open the Building: Many events take place in the parking lot or side yards of the church building, and community families never get to enter your building. Provide an opportunity for families to enter the unknown space by providing at least one activity inside the building. For example, at trunk or treat, include the preschool or children's classes in the candy giveaway by decorating these classrooms and having volunteers hand out candy. This provides an opportunity for families to see how safe and clean your facilities are. Additionally, you can provide diaper changing areas, preschool/children's potty stops and nursing stations inside the building to allow families a quiet place to handle these personal needs.



(continued on pg. 3)

(continued from pg. 2)

Providing friendly volunteers to greet and assist families with these needs shows you cared enough to think of their little ones.



New Volunteers: People who are new to your church or new to volunteering may not be ready for a yearlong commitment, but they may be ready for a few hours at a fun event. Enlisting new people to help

with simple tasks can ease them into larger commitments, as they join the volunteer team and build relationships with ministry leaders and other church participants. Look for simple ways to involve new people in fall ministry opportunities.

Don't Forget the Singles: Many of our fall events focus on children and their families. What about the young adults and singles who might want fall fun and fellowship? Some possible events include costume parties, football games and cookouts, and firepits and s'mores. These events provide singles and young adults with opportunities to build relationships and have fun in an environment connected to the church.



These are a few ways to capitalize on fall events and reach out into your community.

Legacy
Grandparenting
Summit • 2026
SIMULCAST

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12 | IN THE VENUE
9AM - 4:30PM

SIGN UP NOW FOR
EARLY BIRD
PRICING

Register at greatbridge.life

PASTORS' WIVES GATHERING

Western District: Wednesday, September 9th, Serve, Franklin



HAPPY LABOR DAY



Speaker

Courtney Veasey



SAVE THE DATE

**Feb 27,
2027**



Thalia Lynn Baptist Church



1407 Stephanie Way
Suite F
Chesapeake, VA 23320

LEGIT

The Truth Is Out There

DNOW

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

To register: scan QR code or visit,
www.thebridgenet.org/dnowregistration

November 6th & 7th

Newsong Fellowship
865 Woodstock Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Office Phone: 757-938-9793
Network Missionary
Leadership & Ministry Strategist
Finance Secretary
Office Secretary

Staff Connections
Donald Lynn Hardaway
Kim Jessie
Phyllis Wroton
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