

2025 Annual Fall Meeting

LEADING FORWARD

23 October 2025

Thalia Lynn Baptist Church 4392 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach, 23462

Afternoon Session 4pm Dinner \$10; 6pm Meeting 7pm

Dr. Richard Blackaby



3 ways to register, www.thebridgenet.org, call 757-938-9793 or email admin@thebridgenet.org



October Staff and Spouse Birthdays

3	Alex Zabel	Horizon
4	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	Pedro Sanchez	Mappsville
25	Aubrey Houston	Point Harbor
26	Bruce Purnell	First Camelot
28	Martin Jones	First View

BABY BOUTIQUE

Cooler weather is around the corner and that means mothers are looking for warmer clothing for their little ones. Baby Boutique is in the "helping" business and we are here to do what we can! We offer a one-time visit for moms (or dads) in need of free items for their children age newborn thru around age 2. Our clothing goes up to 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 you 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, along with information on when and where to drop off items. We accept new or gently used items with a few exceptions. We are currently in urgent need of size 1 disposable diapers and size 6-month girls fall and winter clothing and we are getting low on blankets, towels and sheets. As always, thank you for any help!

Bonnie Cuthriell, Director (757)681-7056



Tornado Alley

Dr. Lynn Hardaway



Tornadoes are part of life in West Texas. Sirens wailing, parents scrambling their kids to safety, dark and threatening skies, high winds, hail; these are memories permanently etched into the minds of

anyone who has lived in the infamous, "Tornado Alley." Because these powerful and destructive storms were regular visitors to our region, entire communities practiced tornado drills and prepared us to know how to react when twisters were nearby.

David Jeremiah shares the true story of Jason Nash in his book, "Shelter in God." Nash was suspended 375 feet above the ground, in the cab of a construction crane, when a swarm of tornadoes barreled through the city of Nashville in March 2020. The storm front approached so rapidly, he had no chance to scramble down the crane to find safety.

He pulled out his phone and captured the scene on camera. I cannot think of a worse scenario in which to face an oncoming tornado, but he survived to tell about it. Apparently, modern cranes are capable of going into "weathervane mode" and can spin freely in wind speeds of over 100 miles per hour!



Life's storms can hit as suddenly and destructively as a Texas tornado, can't they? If our soul is not protected by our nearness to God, or if we have not settled some heart issues

before Him, these wind spirals can send us spinning out of control mentally and emotionally; just ask Job and his wife!

Jeremiah finds help for these severe storms in Psalm 107: "They mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths; their soul melts because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end" (vv. 26–27)

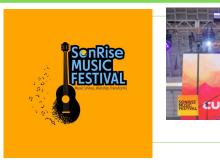
"Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses." (v. 28)

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Any one of us who has weathered the worst and deepest trials knows the length and depth of our prayers is increased when we grow desperate. Our heart cry becomes, "Lord – help!" We can also testify that He always comes and meets us in the storm; our knowledge of Him and His ways moves to the next level.

If you are facing the terror of the tornado and feel helpless to do anything – take shelter in His arms.







The Bridge Network of Churches, co-sponsored The SonRise Music Festival. 2025. The weekend was a tremendous success! We witnessed 34 salvations and celebrated 10 baptisms in the ocean.

None of this would have been possible without the prayers and support of the body of Christ.



PASTORS' WIVES GATHERING

Norfolk Area Wives: Thursday, October, 11:30am, Bread Box Cafe, Virginia Beach, VA.

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



The BNOC WMU Leadership Team is hosting our 72nd Annual WMU Meeting.

October 14, 2025; 10am Woodland Heights Baptist Church 529 Providence Rd, Chesapeake VA

Lunch is included. Our guest speakers are Carlos and Lily Llambes, missionaries who were highlighted in the July 2025 Mission Mosaic.

For more information, please contact, Connie Inman, cinman84@hotmail.com or call the office.



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.





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