



# A View From The Bridge

September 2025

## LEADING on MISSION

## Eastern Shore LEADERSHIP TRAINING 2025

### Break-Out Sessions

#### TUESDAY

SEPT. 23rd, 5:30pm  
Dinner \$8

Exmore Baptist Church  
11624 Occohannock Rd.  
Exmore, VA 23350

- Love Inc. - Pastor Chris Cartwright - 2nd Session
- How to Attract Young Couples - Dr. Lynn Hardaway - 1st Session
- How to Resolve Conflict - Dr. Kim Jessie - 2nd Session
- Preschool/Children's Ministry/Lifeway Update - Mrs. Karen Burton - 2nd Session
- How to Start a Safety Team - Mr. Joe Andrews & Mr. Eric Sweigard - 1st & 2nd Session
- Family Discipleship - Pastor Clarence Bailey - 1st & 2nd Session

[exmorebaptistchurch.com/fallleadership](http://exmorebaptistchurch.com/fallleadership) or CALL 757-442-9491

Deadline to Register is September 17th

## 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](http://www.thebridgenet.org), call 757-938-9793 or email [admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org)



## Staff and Spouse Birthdays

|    |                  |                  |
|----|------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Bobby Parks      | First New Church |
| 2  | Melannie Rhoad   | ICC              |
| 5  | Deborah Scott    | Temple           |
| 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               |
| 21 | Phil Dauernheim  | Grassfield       |
| 22 | Kim Chafee       | King's Grant     |

### BABY BOUTIQUE

Baby Boutique is excited and getting ready for cooler weather! We offer a one-time visit to help those with needs for their little ones. We have gently used and new clothing for newborns through size 2. We also offer other items suitable for that age group depending on our donations. We do NOT offer cribs or car seats. If you know of anyone in your church or community who could use our help, have them go to [www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org), under Resource tab, click on Baby Boutique to fill out an application and submit it. We will contact them to set up an appointment.

We depend on donations to keep us up and running and we thank everyone who has donated! We currently need blankets, crib sheets, baby towels, size 1 disposable diapers and toiletries (no baby powder). We also accept gently used or new pack-n-plays, highchairs, strollers and bouncy seats. NO cribs or car seats. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions about what can be donated or when and where to drop off donations!

Thank you,  
Bonnie Cuthriell, Director  
(757)681-7056



## Never Alone Dr. Lynn Hardaway

Max Lucado, in his book, *Grace: More Than We Deserve*, tells the true story of two sisters who were taken captive by Indian warriors in colonial Pennsylvania in 1755. The two girls did all they could to stay together and keep each other encouraged by often singing a song their mother had sung to them. It began, "Alone, yet not alone am I... I feel my Savior always nigh." The Indians chose to disperse and separated the sisters, taking them in opposite directions. They became slaves to the tribes and were not allowed to speak English or German.



Barbara escaped three years later and sought help from the soldiers at Fort Pitt but was told it would be an impossibility to find, much less rescue, her sister, Regina. Barbara was reunited with her mother and brother, would marry and begin raising her own family.



Six more years had passed when she received word that over 200 captives had been recovered from the Iroquois. She and her mother traveled to Fort Carlisle in hope of locating Regina. The captives were so thin and emaciated and confused, none answered their calls of her name.

The colonel asked if maybe a song from childhood would be recalled by the girl, so they walked slowly up and down the rows singing, "Alone, yet not alone am I..." No one responded at first, but then Barbara heard a loud cry. A tall, slender girl rushed out of the crowd and began to sing the verse learned so many years ago. Regina had forgotten how to speak English and German, but she remembered the song that had been placed in her heart as a young girl.



Sometimes the trials of life can cause the song of God's grace to ebb low in our hearts. But if we listen carefully, He will come and sing the sweet song learned years ago and refresh our passion for His service!

► HAPPY LABOR DAY ◀

Give to Texas Flood Victims  
[www.thebridgenet.org/give](http://www.thebridgenet.org/give)



## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday, September 25, 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](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org) or call 757-938-9793 to reserve your place.

## **Texas Flood Update**



I've been working non stop with so many volunteers and agencies connecting on the ground here in Kerrville.

Presently, 136 lives confirmed lost state wide related to floods.

108 deaths in Kerr County; 71 adults and 37 children. 27 of these were connected to Camp Mystic.

Over 2,200 people were involved in search and rescue, and there are many still working to find the final two (adult male and little girl).

10 various local Volunteer Fire Dept.'s were affected/serving across the region.

Texans on Mission, TEXSAR, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Team Rubicon, World Central Kitchen, Samaritan's Purse, Operation Blessings, United Way, United Cajun Navy, HEB trucks (food/supplies) were part of the 60,000+ volunteers who flooded the area with help.

Over 120 billion gallons of water hit Kerr County on July 4th during a 6-8 hour period. It's estimated that 62 billion gallons flows over Niagara Falls daily.

Now, 1.5 million cubic yards of debris is being sifted and transferred. They said equivalent to entire coastal Cat 5 hurricane damage.

They have labeled this as an "Inland Tsunami."

We are working with local churches to meet the ongoing needs of families and communities which will take time in recovery. Already assisting some families being overlooked or not labeled as urgent. Ministering with churches trying to piece their communities together on a slow journey.

We are appreciative of any blessings you send our way, but most importantly the prayers to step forward as best we can. This will be a long walk with many families both local, and many who were visiting during the July 4th anticipations.

*Dr. Robert Wheat*

*Director of Hill Country Baptist Association, Kerrville, TX*



## **Church News**

Discovery Church is looking for a part-time Media Assistant/Secretary to work Monday—Thursday; 9am-3pm (with some flexibility as-needed). If you have bookkeeping experience (ACS/REALM), this could become more of an office manager position.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Jay McCoy at 757-497-6541 or email [pastor4881@gmail.com](mailto:pastor4881@gmail.com)

## **Leadership Lab**



Starting this September, we're launching the 2025/26 Leadership Lab — a Christian leadership training experience designed for both ministry and marketplace leaders.

- 10 Monthly Training Sessions (Thursday; 6-8pm)
- Up to 10 Personal Coaching Sessions
- Tools for Personal Growth & Influence

Whether you're leading a team, at church, work, or home — you can learn to lead with purpose and faith.

For more info, contact Kim Jessie at [kjessie@thebridgenet.org](mailto:kjessie@thebridgenet.org).





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