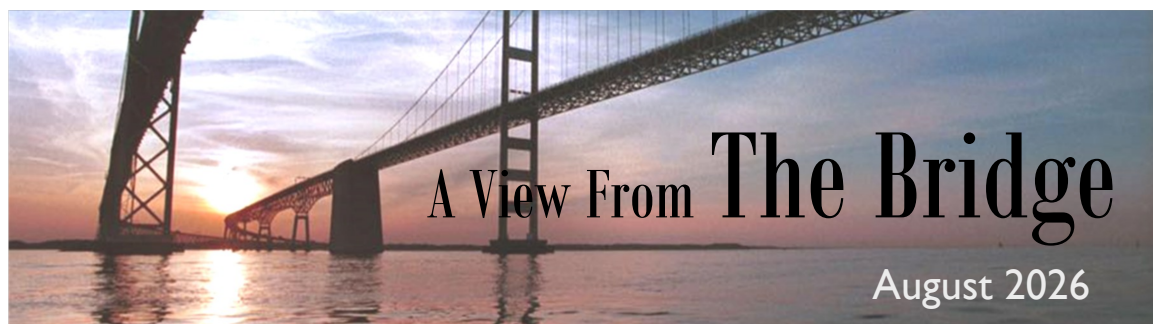




A Lost Screw

Dr. Lynn Hardaway

Last week I decided to examine the blower unit on our HVAC system. The air coming out of the vents was no longer cold and the system was not removing the humidity out of the air. I knew the float valve could be the culprit from past experiences and, sure enough, it was covered with a gummy white substance which was causing it to malfunction. But I noticed no water was in the drain tube, so decided to remove the cover of the unit to check the drain pan; it, too, was completely dry.

Resetting the float valve, I replaced the cover and felt good about my work until one screw got away and fell to the floor. One screw is not a big deal, but it aggravated me, so a resulting hour-long search found no trace of the lost screw. I spared no effort: moving everything near the unit, getting on hands and knees with a flashlight, employing a tool magnet – all to no avail. I even asked eagle-eyed Maureen for assistance. She found another screw matching the one I lost. But still, I have that lost one on my mind. Where could it possibly have gone?



The Greek word the writer of Hebrews uses to describe both my dilemma and search is **ekzeteo**; a compound word which gets its intensity from how it is built. **Ek** is a prefix meaning “out of” or “from.” When attached to a verb, it acts as an intensifier, meaning to do something “fully,” “exhaustively” or “to the end.” **Zeteo** means “to seek,” “to look for,” or “to investigate.” Combined, it describes a person who pursues

something—or someone—with total concentration and earnest desire until they find it. **It implies leaving no stone unturned.**

The phrase, employed in Hebrews 11:6, is “**diligently seek**,” and it is applied to how we are to remain completely engaged and driven in our faith relationship with God. Casual, careless, uncommitted prayer is insufficient if we hope for God to be “a rewarder” of our requests. Only a daily heart attitude of placing everything else on hold while we seek His Presence will suffice.



God’s favor is incomparable to a lost screw or wallet or set of keys, yet how often do we approach Him with less enthusiasm and determination than we do these far less important things?

INCOMPARABLE



Staff and Spouse Birthdays

1 Tom Ligon	Burrows Memorial
3 Lidia Vazquez	Mappsville
8 Mark Layne	Parksley
15 Cheryl Vincent	Discover
15 Kristin Scott	Coastal
18 Anthony Hart	Greenbrier
19 Gale Hall	Faithway
19 Sallie Peterson	Cheriton
20 Bonnie Goodrich	Cape Charles
25 Richard Inman	Black Creek
25 Vonajeane Miller	Hollies
28 Kim Laxton	Exmore

BABY BOUTIQUE

It's hard to believe summer is almost over! Baby Boutique hopes everyone had a fun and safe summer and is ready for cooler weather! We are preparing for cool weather at the boutique. We are currently well stocked with warmer clothes in size newborn thru size 2. We have various other items for that age also, but our inventory varies according to our donations.

We are currently in need of crib sheets, crib sized blankets, gloves or mittens and winter hats for children up to age 2. We accept new or gently used items. Thank you to all who so generously donate and keep us going! If you have questions about what else we accept or don't accept, contact me for more info!

If you know of someone in your church or community who could use our help, have them go to www.thebridgenet.org and fill out a Baby Boutique application. We will contact them for an appointment for a "One Time Only" shopping spree!

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



Back-to-School Ministry Opportunities

By Kim Jessie



As the new school year begins, families experience excitement, anticipation, and stress. New schedules, homework, extracurricular activities, and changing routines may become overwhelming. For the church, this is more than a calendar transition—it is a ministry opportunity.

One of the most effective ways to serve families is by simply being present. Welcome children and parents warmly each Sunday, remembering names and asking about the back-to-school preparations and the first weeks of school. A genuine conversation can remind families that their church is a place of encouragement and support.



Prayer is another powerful ministry. Consider hosting a "Back-to-School Blessing" during a worship service where students, teachers, administrators, and school staff are prayed over. Encourage members to

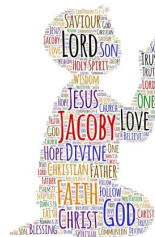
adopt a local school or educator to pray for throughout the year. Small acts of intercession communicate that the church cares deeply about the challenges families face.

Practical support also makes a lasting difference. Organize a school supply drive, provide meals for families adjusting to busy schedules, or offer after-school tutoring and mentoring. Churches can also create opportunities for parents to connect through small groups or fellowship events where they can share experiences, encourage one another, and build lasting relationships.



Most importantly, equip families to make faith a part of everyday life. Encourage parents to pray with their children before school, read a short Scripture together at breakfast, or discuss how God's Word applies to situations they encounter in the classroom. These simple habits help children understand that faith is not limited to Sunday mornings but is

lived out every day. You may want to provide scripture passages for families to use during these discussions to facilitate conversation and prayer times.



(continued pg. 3)

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As the school year unfolds, we should remember that every backpack, classroom, and family schedule represents lives that God loves. By offering compassion, practical assistance, and spiritual encouragement, our churches can become a steady source of hope for families navigating a busy season. Together, we can help students and parents begin the year with confidence, knowing they are supported by both their church family and the faithful presence of God.

And these words that
I command you today
shall be on your heart.
You shall teach them diligently to
your children,
and shall talk of them
when you sit in your house,
and when you walk by the way,
and when you lie down,
and when you rise.
DEUTERONOMY
6:6-7



Legacy
Grandparenting
Summit 2026
SIMULCAST

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

SIGN UP NOW FOR
EARLY BIRD
PRICING

Register at greatbridge.life



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING

Thursday, September 24, 10am

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 spot.



DON'T JUST LIVE FOR YOURSELF...

LIVE ON MISSION YOUTH RALLY

SHARE JESUS. CHANGE LIVES.

AUGUST 22, 2026
5:00 - 9:00 PM
DJ WILL HART

YOUTH FROM:

- ▶ Black Creek Baptist Church
- ▶ Sedley Baptist Church
- ▶ Courtland Baptist Church
- ▶ Holland Baptist Church
- ▶ Ivor Baptist Church
- ▶ Unexpected Grace Ministries
- ▶ Sunbeam Baptist Church

POWERFUL WORSHIP
Led by Courtland Baptist Church Worship Team

CHALLENGING TEACHING
Trey McGrath (from Black Creek Baptist)
Matthew Johnson (from Holland Baptist)

GAMES & FELLOWSHIP
Fun, friends, and faith!

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
Provided

YOUTH GROUPS FROM ALL CHURCHES ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AS WE UNITE TO SHARE JESUS

“GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS...”
MATTHEW 28:19

SCAN TO REGISTER!

Let us know you're coming!

BRING A FRIEND!
BE THE LIGHT.
LIVE ON MISSION.

BLACK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
34163 VICKSVILLE RD, FRANKLIN, VA 23851
FOR MORE INFO: (757) 562-5130 | www.blackcreekbaptist.org

ANNUAL FALL MEETING

Thursday, October 22
Great Neck Baptist Church



Guest Speaker
Dr. Bill Korver

CAROLINA COLLEGE
of BIBLICAL STUDIES



PASTORS' WIVES GATHERING

Eastern Shore: Thursday, August 6th, 12:00 PM, Little Italy, Nassawadox

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





1407 Stephanie Way
Suite F
Chesapeake, VA 23320

LEGIT

DNOW

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

The Truth Is Out There

November 6th & 7th

Newsong Fellowship
865 Woodstock Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Save The Date

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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