

THE BRIDGE  
Network of Churches

My command  
is this:

**LOVE**

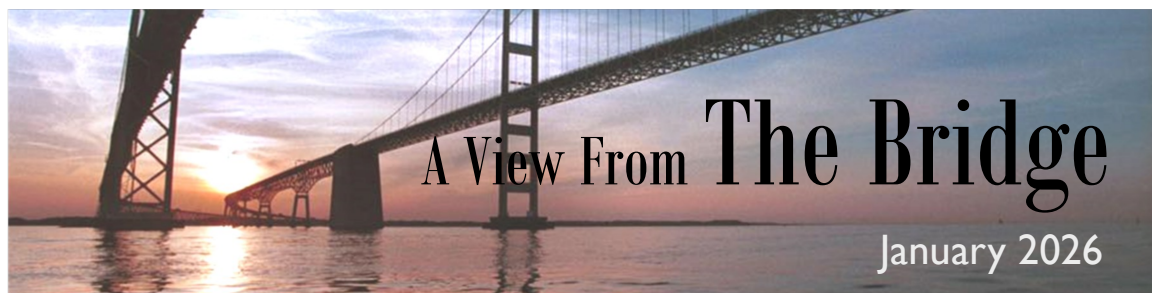
Each other

As I Have

**LOVED**

*you.*

John 15:12



# A View From The Bridge

January 2026

## ReFueled BY JOY

THE BRIDGE  
Network of Churches



**FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

THALIA LYNN BAPTIST CHURCH  
4392 VIRGINIA BEACH BLVD.  
VIRGINIA BEACH, 23462

**CONFERENCE 9-12PM**

**DOORS OPEN AT 8AM**

**AFTERGLOW 12:30**

\*SEPERATE REGISTRATION FOR AGTERGLOW

**\$30 JAN. 29TH -FEB. 20TH**

**\$35 FEB. 21ST—DOOR**

Mary Margaret  
**WEST**

TEACHER-SPEAKER-WRITER  
WOMEN & TEEN GIRLS



SCAN ME

[www.thebridgenet.org/2026-ignite-hope](http://www.thebridgenet.org/2026-ignite-hope)



# Celebrating FEBRUARY Birthdays

## Staff and Spouse Birthdays

4	Yvonne Wells	Rivercrest
7	Pam Robertson	Red Bank
8	Margaret McLewin	Ingleside
8	Vivian Ramsey	Modest Town
11	Jenny Layne	Parksley
13	Amy Tucker	Catalyst
15	Bert Kirk	Indian River
16	Brent Hobbs	New Song
17	Karen Daniels	Indian River
22	Elizabeth Brinson	London Bridge
24	Johnny Houston	Point Harbor
24	Angie Chivers	New Heights
24	JoAnn Moses	Woodland Heights
28	Brian Barnes	Azalea

## Baby Boutique

Baby Boutique would **LOVE** to share what we have available for babies age newborn through about age 2! We offer a one time visit for families to get free items for their little ones age 2 and under. We have clothing up to a size 2 and other various items suitable for infants and toddlers. We **LOVE** being able to help these little ones and their families! Our available items vary depending on our donations. We've received several donations lately and are so grateful for every single item! We feel the **LOVE** from all of those willing to donate and keep us afloat.

If you know of someone who would benefit from a one time visit to Baby Boutique, please have them go to [www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org), under Resources and find the Baby Boutique application at the bottom of our drop down menu. Fill it out and submit it and we will be in touch to set up an appointment.

We are always glad to receive baby items! There are a things we do not accept, so if you feel led to make a donation and have questions about what we need or what we accept, please call me directly and I'll be happy to answer your questions! We cherish each and every one of you!

Bonnie Cuthriell, Director  
(757)681-7056



## Choosing Joy Dr. Lynn Hardaway



One of the most difficult choices to make can be **choosing joy** when life becomes unstable and unpredictable. Yet, the believer whose faith has endured decades of disappointments and setbacks has learned to guard his or her

mind from the dark recesses of despair when things get really tough.

The prophet Jeremiah acknowledged the depths of his sorrow as he witnessed the sacking of Jerusalem, his beloved city. **He did not pretend he was not grieving** – “My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is.” (Lam 3:17 ESV) But he knew the answer to his depression was in YAHWEH and **pushed his thoughts to respond**: “This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness!” (vs. 21-23 ESV) In verse 24 **he tells himself**: “YAHWEH is my inheritance, therefore, I will hope in Him!” (NLT)



When faced with circumstances or people who disappoint you, take charge of your thoughts and direct them to the Lord, Who rules over every part of His creation.



Max Lucado, in his book, *Tame Your Thoughts* (Thomas Nelson, 2025), tells of author Thomas Carlyle, a well-known Scottish writer who lived in the eighteenth century. When he loaned the only copy of the manuscript to his now-famous book *The French Revolution* to a friend, the friend's maid used the pages of the manuscript to start a fire in the fireplace.

News of the mishap sent Carlyle into a mental and emotional spiral, leaving his moods swinging between rage and sorrow. He was looking out his window one day, watching a group of bricklayers at work, and relates, “It came to me, that, as they lay brick on brick so I could still lay word on word, sentence on sentence.” He began again – and the result is the book we have today.





(continued from pg. 2)

The joy of the Lord may take time to find; it may be difficult to discover, but it is always, in every situation, an option available to us!



Mark  
your  
Calendar!

### **2026 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING**

**OV CHURCH**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD, 7 P.M.**

Pastors/Messengers/Guests/Visitors, please RSVP by Thursday, April 16th so a packet, name badge, and a meal (with paid reservation) may be prepared for you.

Our Guest Speaker will be  
Pastor Jake Scott, Coastal

Call 757-938-9793,  
or email  
[admin@thebridgenet.org](mailto:admin@thebridgenet.org),  
to register.



### **2026/2027 SCHOLARSHIP**



The 2026/2027 educational scholarship application is available February 2nd on our website under the Resource tab:

<https://www.thebridgenet.org/scholarship>.

Student must be a member of a Network church. The deadline is April 7th at 3pm.

 **SBCVirginia**



**A FREE EVENT**

**KIDS  
MINISTRY  
CONFERENCE**

**MARCH 28 • 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**  
Great Bridge Baptist Church,  
Chesapeake

Details at [sbcv.org/kmc](http://sbcv.org/kmc)

### **SBCV Kids Ministry Conference**

**Open to all Churches Leaders**

**Saturday, March 28, 2026**

**Great Bridge Baptist Church**

**9 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**

**Conference is FREE including lunch, resources, giveaways, and over 60+ door prizes.**

#### **A free event for:**

- VBS Teams (any curriculum)
- Pastors and Staff
- Family and Children Directors
- Preschool and Children's Sunday School Teachers
- Middle and High School Students Training to Lead

#### **KMC provides:**

- Worship including a Kids Praise Team
- 60+ door prizes for Children's Ministry and VBS
- Lunch is free with early registration
- Networking with ministry leaders
- Free ministry resources and literature

#### **Including breakouts in subjects such as:**

- Spiritual Habits for Kids
- How to Build a Ministry Team
- Leading a Child to Christ
- Administration Tips in Kids Ministry

**To register, go to [www.sbcv.org/kids-ministry-conference-2026/](http://www.sbcv.org/kids-ministry-conference-2026/)**



1407 Stephanie Way  
Suite F  
Chesapeake, VA 23320



### Kid's Ministry

- Nothing Less: Engaging Kids in a Lifetime of Faith
- Teaching Preschoolers: First Steps Towards Faith
- What About Kids Ministry
- Every Age, Every Stage
- Kids Ministry That Nourishes
- Faithful Promises-Preschool Curriculum
- Preschool Quick Start Kit

### Students

- Follower: Beginning Your Walk with Jesus

## New Library Resources

Call the office if you would like to check out any resource.



### New Believers

- My New Life

### Coming Soon

### Women

- When You Pray
- From Beginning to Forever
- Body & Soul
- He's Where the Joy Is
- Isaiah-Melissa Spoelstra



Office Phone: 757-938-9793

Network Missionary  
Leadership & Ministry Strategist  
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Office Secretary

### Staff Connections

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