

Mark  
Your  
Calendar!



## 2026 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

OV CHURCH

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD, 7 P.M.

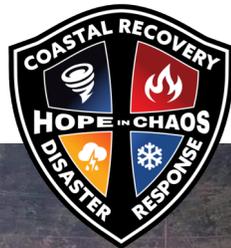
Pastors/Messengers/Guests/Visitors, please RSVP by Thursday, April 16th so a packet, name badge, and a meal (with paid reservation) may be prepared for you.

Our Guest Speaker will be **Pastor Jake Scott, Coastal Community Church.**

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

2026

Spring Mission Project  
Serving Jesus Today



Would it surprise you to learn that some of the people whose homes were affected by Hurricane Helene are still living in tents? They are waiting for their homes to be repaired so they can move back into them.

We have decided, for our Spring Offering, to raise funds to send a Disaster Relief team (Coastal Recovery, LLC) to assist them in the recovery and necessary repairs of their homes.

Todd Woolston and his team(s) are ready to go back to Beacon Village in Swannanoa, NC; they just need the funding to cover the materials costs. They will go down one or two weeks at a time to help get these families back in their homes.

Let's rise up together and give sacrificially to see this project happen. These people need our help!

[www.thebridgenet.org/give](http://www.thebridgenet.org/give)



**Staff and Spouse Birthdays**

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1 Stacey Carpenter   | Exmore           |
| 3 Mai DeLong         | Eastville        |
| 5 Karen Soblotne     | Whiteheads Grove |
| 5 Russell Goodrich   | Cape Charles     |
| 6 Doyle Wells        | Rivercrest       |
| 9 Anitress Chambers  | One Generation   |
| 9 Luann Kirk         | Indian River     |
| 10 Wendy Foreman     | Sedley           |
| 11 Eulogio Vazquez   | Mappsville       |
| 11 Lisa Woolston     | Real Life        |
| 13 Charles Peterson  | Cheriton         |
| 14 Kim Jessie        | BNoC             |
| 15 Maggie Harrington | Temple           |
| 19 Bubba Pugh        | Calvary          |
| 29 Barbara Eby       | Southside        |
| 30 Patrick Edwards   | King's Grant     |



MARCH 20 & 21  
2026

PASTORS'  
WIVES'  
RETREAT

JOY  
*through it*  
ALL



www.thebridgenet.orgpastorswivesretreat2026



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/)

## What If He Had Not Asked....

Dr. Lynn Hardaway

When disaster strikes, human beings help those most vulnerable to despair through a variety of actions. We rush to the scene with offers to help, or give money so needs can be met. Our assistance might be a meal brought to a home or just sitting with someone who has experienced significant loss.



But we must not minimize or forget to do what our critics call “senseless, magical thinking;” we must remember to **pray**, which keeps alive the watchfires of faith on dark and dreary night seasons of life.

Max Lucado, in his book, *For These Tough Times*, highlights an individual we seldom notice; the anonymous person sent by Mary and Martha to tell Jesus that Lazarus was sick (John 11:3). His (or her) identity is not mentioned by John; maybe he did not ask or had simply forgotten the name. No matter: the name was less important than the act of going to Jesus on behalf of a friend.

The request began a movement in Jesus’ ministry and thoughts, directing Him toward the village of Bethany and the home of His close friends. Jesus hears the prayer, stops what He is doing and takes note.

God is able to silence everything else and listen to us; a rare privilege! **Our voice matters in heaven;** God takes us seriously and listens intently and carefully to our words.



Prayer activates God’s power! Because this unnamed individual makes a request, one of the mightiest miracles in history happened. We are left to wonder

if the resurrection of Lazarus would have occurred if the request had not been made.

The next time you question the effectiveness of prayer, remember this: **when you speak, Jesus hears, and when Jesus hears, the world changes!**



## PASTORS’ WIVES GATHERING

**Eastern Shore:** Thursday, March 26, 11:30am, Little Italy, Nassawadox

**Western District:** Wednesday, May 13, 11:30am, Serve, Franklin

**Southside:** Wednesday, May 20, 11:30am, Aloha Hola, Greenbrier

### 2026/2027 SCHOLARSHIP



The 2026/2027 educational scholarship application is available 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.

### Baby Boutique

Baby Boutique is the place to come to! Did you know there’s a place for families in need of free items for their children aged newborn thru around age 2?! Well, there is and Baby Boutique is that place! We offer clothing and other various items suitable for that age group. Our clothing goes up to size 2/24 months and our inventory relies on donations, so our available items vary day by day. We are here to help, so if you know of anyone in your church or community who could use our help, please have them go to [www.thebridgenet.org](http://www.thebridgenet.org) and fill out a Baby Boutique application. The application can be found under Resources. Once we receive it, we will be in touch to set up an appointment. We offer a “One Time Only” visit to get needed items.

Since we depend on donations, we are always happy to receive baby items! We accept gently used or new items. There are a few items that we do not accept such as cribs and car seats. Please contact me directly if you would like to donate and I’ll be happy to answer any questions. As always, thank you for your continued support!

We are also looking for a couple of volunteers to help at Baby Boutique when we have mothers come in. Our usual day of appointments is Tuesday from around 10:00am to 2:00pm. This time period may be shorter depending on the number of appointments scheduled. It’s an easy and fulfilling opportunity! If you are interested, please contact me directly for more info!



Bonnie Cuthriell, Director  
(757) 681-7056



### **Revitalizing a Rural Church**

Over fifty pastors and leaders from the Eastern Shore met at Exmore Baptist Church on Thursday, January 22, to learn about church health and revitalization. Terry Long, the Church Health and Revitalization Strategist with the North Carolina Baptist Convention, led the sessions.

Terry presented methodologies and strategies which have helped churches across North Carolina, fielding questions from the unique setting of the Eastern Shore.

Thanks to Jonathan Carpenter, who made the connections and encouraged the excellent turnout!

Office Phone: 757-938-9793

Network Missionary  
Leadership & Ministry Strategist  
Financial Secretary  
Office Secretary

#### **Staff Connections**

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