

YOUR

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019  
BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

IMPORTANT  
REMINDER

**Edition**

See inside for a story about Hagerstown Church and how "**Side by Side**" they and other churches "**partnered in ministry**" to grow their church and the mission of the other churches ...

## "SIDE BY SIDE"

*Partnering in Ministry*  
Locally and Internationally

Blue Ridge Baptist Association

## Annual Meeting

October 14, 2019

6:00-9:00pm

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church  
3346 Gapland Road  
Rohrersville, MD

Acts 1:8 "... you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem... and to the ends of the earth"

## ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION:

6:00pm Pre-registration and Ministry Resource Tables Open

- This is a wonderful opportunity to visit those organizations that provide resources to churches and other Christian organizations.
- Do you know of a ministry that would like to participate? Please send information to Joi Hilton at [joi@blueridgebaptist.org](mailto:joi@blueridgebaptist.org)
- **Resource Table times will be integral this year!**
- We want to show these organizations our support by meeting and greeting them, all the while, gaining resource information.
- Food Tables also available at this time.
- **In order to be eligible for drawings, you will need to visit the resource table displays.**

7:00pm Music and Business Meeting to start

## BRBA MEETING COMMITTEES:

All committees need to meet between now and October 4 to complete your duties for the Annual Meeting and have the meeting notes submitted to Joi by October 7. Bruce Conley should be present at committee meetings so it is requested that committee chairpersons make a meeting date to accommodate committee members as well as Bruce. His email is [bruce@blueridgebaptist.org](mailto:bruce@blueridgebaptist.org) or [xcopbruce@aol.com](mailto:xcopbruce@aol.com)

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## IN OUR CHURCHES

**Hagerstown Church** has been blessed to have faithful church partners who have come along side us to see the gospel proclaimed in our city. Without the monthly support of other churches, we would not be able to do what needs to be done, and so we are thankful for each one of our supporters. This month saw a few of these partnerships in action as two churches from West Virginia, Cross Lanes Baptist and Winfield Baptist, sent mission teams to partner with us in our summer outreach.

Cross Lanes sent a team up in early July to help us spread the word about Hagerstown Church and to facilitate opportunities to preach the gospel. With their help, we were able to hand out over 500 water bottles with our church information on them to patrons at the city wide firework event on July 4th. As a new church, it is vitally important that people know we are here, and this was a great opportunity to spread the word. Through the giving of water bottles, we were also able to have several gospel conversations with those in attendance. Pray that the gospel would penetrate the hearts of Hagerstown.

With the help of Cross Lanes Baptist, we were also able to push into a major apartment complex right next to the school we worship in. We held a block party on the school's campus and were able to make connections with some of the residents living there. Some have even started attending on Sunday morning! We are thankful for the seeds that were planted by Cross Lanes and are waiting with eager expectation for the growth that God will give.

Winfield Baptist from Winfield, WV also sent a team up in the middle of July. In a continuation of our summer outreach strategy, Winfield helped us to put on a basketball camp at Pangborn Elementary, again where we meet on Sunday mornings. Winfield's youth group did a great job of running the camp. There were kids who came to the camp who needed to hear the life-altering realities of the gospel, and the camp was a great avenue through which to hear the gospel. We are thankful for our fledgling relationship with Winfield Baptist. It was great to get to know their team and start to build relationships with them. We are excited to see how God will use our two churches in the future to build his kingdom.

*One of the unique things about the Christian faith is the unity that it breeds between groups of people that have no prior connection.* We saw this unity in action this month. It is an encouragement to us to see churches willing to come to Hagerstown to partner with us in the mission that God has given us. As a church that is not even half a year old, these trips are so vital for our growth as a church. We are truly blessed as a church body to have churches like Cross Lanes and Winfield not only partner with us from a far, but to partner with us on the front lines, in the trenches, and to help us bring redemption to the city of Hagerstown.

Big shoutout to the youth group at **Covenant Church** in Shepherdstown, WV for labeling all our water bottles. This was a huge help to us! Without your help, our fireworks outreach would not have been as successful as it was. Thank you Covenant Church!



*Thank you to **Greenbrier Baptist Church** for hosting the missionaries as they helped Hagerstown Church*



**HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO  
BERKELEY BAPTIST CHURCH,  
BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV**



## IN OUR CHURCHES CONT.

The Ride of Our Lives  
June 19-23, 2019

by Mae Argilan, **Smithsburg Valley Church**

Gran Fondo means 'big, long ride' in Italian. Some bike rides are about speed or distance. Those are races. We were urged to remember that this was not a race.

It is a personal competition testing individual endurance. That's why they choose Garrett County, because of the elevation (17,000 ft). Making sure they have a smooth safe ride for everyone requires a ton of volunteers.

This was a learning experience for some of us. But many in our group were experts having returned for multiple years of service – men, women and children. Six-year-old Kirsten's job was flipping the bags over so we could read the numbers on them down the assembly line we had formed. When she wasn't flipping bags she was doing body flips all over the gymnasium. She kept up our spirits. Under Angela's direction we did a pretty efficient job of completing 855 bags for the riders. It only took the 17 of us two days to complete them.

During registration day we went into high gear greeting the riders at the door (Josh and Fred). The participants were pointed to where to get their bags. Each bag-helper had a young 'runner' (the youngens) who would fetch the appropriate numbered bag and bring it to the table. A church from Indian Head MD sent a team of volunteers who joined us at that point and again at the aid station. It was explained to the riders that we had a prayer station (Rick and Mae) and a minister's corner (Clint) if they cared to take advantage of a little extra inner strength. We had 10-12 visitors ask for prayers for safety, and other issues they had on their hearts. It was such a blessing to serve them.

The route was divided into 6 stations – the last one being the finish line where they served pulled meat sandwiches to all of us. Our combined church groups manned aid station #2. It was called the Stockyard, because, well it was located at an actual stockyard. We set up tables and canopies with lots of food for the riders, filled their water bottles, and poured them pickle juice, which I learned helps alleviate cramps when taken internally. The riders came up so sweaty and tired, and some despaired they wouldn't make it to the end. Since we were at the stockyard we had some fun with dress-up. We had a farmer (Scott) and 3 animal costumes: a pig, chicken and a cow. Our cow (Peyton) wore a cowbell that she rang to welcome the riders as they arrived. When they returned to the trail she shouted after them, "Stay strong! Keep moo-ving."

As we were winding down at our station, aid station #4 called up saying they were short of volunteers. So, as tuckered out as we were, we pitched in helping feed, water, 'pickle-juice', and encourage the riders at the Barton station. Along the way we made extensive use of the bus borrowed from BRBA. We couldn't have moved all of our people, food, and supplies all those times without it.



## NEWS:



### Change of logo and address:

Harvest Pointe  
Community Church

Church: P.O. Box 1321  
Charles Town, WV 25414

Campus: 432 W 2nd Ave  
Ranson, WV 25438

Church Phone: (304) 518-4722  
Email: [elders@hpcc.com](mailto:elders@hpcc.com)

## SEEKING

Attention all craftsmen (and women) ... We are starting a new project for the association. We're building a FAIR / CATERING trailer for our churches to use. The trailer should also double as a small mobile feeding unit for local disaster relief incidents.

This trailer will have electric coolers, popcorn, cotton candy, and shaved ice machines as well as health department required hand washing and utensil cleaning station.

The unit will be a great support unit for church block parties, VBS, county fairs, and all types of community outreach events. The vehicle may be ready for fall activities or by spring of 2020.

Right now we need a few talented people that can help with the project. If you can help, please contact Director of Missions Bruce Conley at [bruce@blueridgebaptist.org](mailto:bruce@blueridgebaptist.org), or project coordinator Al Caho at [alan.caho@middletownvfd.org](mailto:alan.caho@middletownvfd.org).

Thanks for your ongoing support of local missions!!

MORE FOR YOU:

**BODY  
BUILDING:**  
**Strengthening Your  
Church's Ministry  
and Mission**



**This Conference Is Designed  
To Equip And Motivate Your  
Church  
For The Ministry And Mission  
That Jesus Intended**

**Monday, September 9**

**Global Mission Church  
13421 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20906**

**5:30 pm to 9:00 pm**  
(Dinner included at no cost)

**Preregistration is required.  
Also include the workshop  
you'll be attending.  
To register call the MBA Office  
at 301-740-7144 or register by  
email to: [sriggs1613@aol.com](mailto:sriggs1613@aol.com).**

**Deadline is August 30, 2019**

**CHURCH NEEDS:**

**Cumberland Valley  
Baptist Church** in  
Hagerstown is in need of  
Adult Sunday School study  
books. Preferred would be a  
couple different studies and  
10 books per study. Contact  
Bruce Conley if you can help.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

Breathless: A  
gathering for  
Women  
September 20, 7:00  
pm through  
September 21, 3:00  
pm  
Westminster Baptist  
Church 354 Crest  
Lane Westminster,  
Maryland 21157



Breathless is a  
gathering for women who desire to serve Christ and His Church. This year,  
the event will take place on September 20-21 at Westminster Baptist Church.  
The purpose of this event is to bring a holistic approach to women's work in  
churches and to assist women in becoming more effective in various  
ministries in their churches.

A block of rooms has been reserved for ladies attending the conference. The  
details are outlined below:

Breathless Conference Hotel Information: Days Inn by Wyndam Westminster  
25 S Cranberry Rd, Westminster, MD 21157 410-857-0500 Group Rate:

\$144.30 (Includes tax) "Code Word" = Breathless

Cost: \$30 (Early bird, until August 30, 2019) \$40 (Regular, after August 30,  
2019)

Registration Fee Includes: Dessert Bar – Friday evening 9/20 Continental  
Breakfast – Saturday 9/21-AM Lunch – Saturday 9/21-Noon

Contact: Demetra Bennett (800) 466-5290, ext. 218

Speakers:

Gayla Parker

Gayla has been in ministry for over 35 years. She has served as an  
international missionary, pastor's wife, state convention women's consultant,  
and speaker. Gayla has published two books through New Hope publishing as  
well as several published articles and training guides. She currently serves as  
adjunct professor at Ouachita Baptist

University teaching Ministry to Women and Bible Survey/Interpretation,  
hospice chaplain, and women's ministry leader at her church. She loves to go  
running, hang out with friends and family over coffee, and play violin. More  
than anything she loves to open God's word and share the love of Christ with  
others. Gayla has her Master of Divinity degree and is currently working on  
her doctorate degree in systematic theology.

Grace Thornton

Grace Thornton, an award-winning journalist, is an author and blogger  
at [gracefortheroad.com](http://gracefortheroad.com). Grace is the author of Unshakable Pursuit (A 30 Day  
Devotional): Chasing the God Who Chases Us. She shares regularly with  
churches, small groups, and college ministries across the nation about what  
God's pursuit of us and our pursuit of Him looks  
like. Her international mission work provides real  
-life inspiration to help others join in God's  
eternal story. Grace lives in Birmingham,  
Alabama.





## SIDE BY SIDE... CHURCHES HELPING CHURCHES

**Pleasant Valley Baptist Church** gave its helping hand to our brothers and sisters at West End Baptist Chapel. They need help converting an old school building into a worship center. Members of PVBC and friends continue to help as James 2:26 instructs us to in the Bible.

You can join the fun Saturday mornings at 59 Winter Street in Hagerstown, MD. Many hands make light work. If not you, then who?!

Contact Pastor Shane Wilt if you wish to help or need to know where they can use you.



## NEWS:



**Surrender Christian Fellowship** in Hancock, MD celebrated baptisms in Berkeley Springs! We praise God for this re-start work in a much needed region of our association. Pastor Jerry Sealey and his core group are doing a fantastic job! Thank you for listening to God's call for ministry!

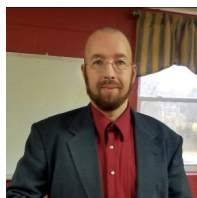
Welcome Pastor David Hughes! Pastor Hughes is joining the BRBA as the new pastor at **Greenbrier Baptist Church** in Boonsboro, MD. Everyone welcome Pastor Hughes!



A special thanks to **Paramount Baptist Church** in Hagerstown for hosting the Expository Preaching Roundtable.... Sponsored by the Baptist Convention of MD/DE.

Two churches in our association have children's Sunday School items available.... Mostly ages babies to pre-kindergarten. Also, we have hymnals and choir robes available for any interested churches. If you are interested in these items, contact the BRBA office at 240-818-8760.

Welcome Pastor Justin Wycoff who has joined **First Baptist Church** in Brunswick, MD. Pastor Wycoff will be the Associate Pastor of Family Ministries.



Welcome Karen Dryden! Karen has joined the Blue Ridge Baptist Association as a part time administrative assistant. Welcome Karen as she serves in missions ministry.

## NEWS:



### Change of Address:

Myersville Baptist Church  
76 Deerwoods Court  
Myersville, MD 21773



Your BRBA Administrative Assistants, Joi and Karen, will be updating our BRBA church contact lists.

Please make this as easy as possible. You can send your contact information to us via email at [joi@blueridgebaptist.org](mailto:joi@blueridgebaptist.org) or call the office phone at 240-818-8760.

Emails will be sent to each church with a form of what information is needed.

Please know that we do not share any of this information without your permission and any personal addresses/ phone numbers/emails are only used for BRBA birthday lists.

Thank You for your help!



You can subscribe to the online version of our newsletter at [www.blueridgebaptist.org](http://www.blueridgebaptist.org)

OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

## KIDS MINISTRY CONFERENCE

### “U Named It”

September 28 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

#### BCMD Office

10255 Old Columbia Road  
Columbia, MD 21046

Lunch is provided

To register online, go to: <https://bcmd.org/event/kids-ministry-seminar-2/>



**BLUE RIDGE**  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Partnering together to reach our Communities for Christ