

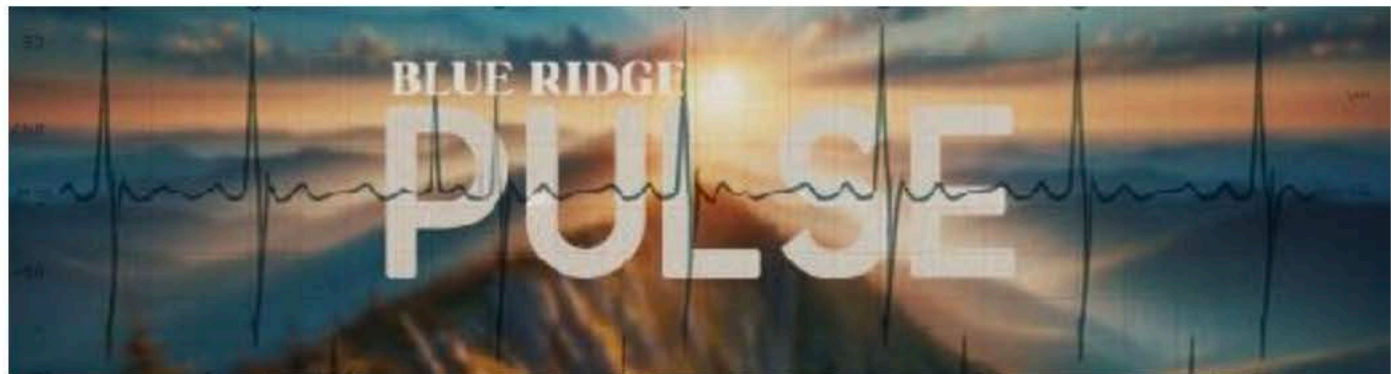
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September 2025 Fall Newsletter



BLUE RIDGE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Partnering together to reach our Communities for Christ



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Annual Meeting

October 13, 2025 | North Valley Church

Registration starts at 6:30 PM | Meeting begins at 7 PM



CHURCHES — IN — ASSOCIATION

ENDURANCE, ENCOURAGEMENT, *and* HARMONY



Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Tom Stolle,
Executive Director of the
Baptist Convention of Maryland / Delaware

Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement
grant you harmony with one another in Christ Jesus,
so that with one mind and one voice you may
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
-Romans 15: 5-6

NORTH VALLEY CHURCH -
76 Deerwoods Pl, Myersville, MD 21773

Door prizes, great worship, Disaster Relief updates, mission trip and training reports, food fellowship following...

Come and find out what's going on in **YOUR** Association!!!

DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING !

Clayton Clark, pastor of [Pleasant Valley Baptist Church](#) (and chainsaw expert), will be running an advanced chainsaw training at Skycroft on 10/11 (Rain date 10/18). In addition to chainsaw usage the training will include rope knowledge, and the benefit of using ropes to reduce manpower. [Please register here.](#)



Groups are welcome but you must register as individuals.

The event will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Skycroft is located at 9621 Frostown Rd Middletown, Maryland 21769.



A few years back, the Blue Ridge Baptist Association partnered with a small evangelical church on the campus of a mobile home vacation community in Falling Waters, WV. Some were concerned that they weren't necessarily Southern Baptist (since it is a melting pot of vacationers - people from many faiths and backgrounds attend) but the church needed help - so we stepped in. At that time their pastor had passed away, and some elders were stepping in the gap. We sent many of our pulpit supply pastors to preach and our DOM met regularly with their elders.

This year - the church called a new pastor. Derek Marshall (shown right of the baptism candidate in the photo) has kicked the church into overdrive in reaching out to the community! They have done more than a dozen community events - concerts, cookouts, breakfasts - all in which the gospel is presented ... and the results have been amazing! Attendance in this tiny church has increased over 100% this year, with about 80 people attending weekly. They have baptized 15 people to date and hope for more before the park closes at the end of October. Since the chapel cannot be used after the park closes ... they are trying to find space for the church to continue to meet from November

through April when the park reopens.

We rejoice with RIVERBEND CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP and Pastor Derek Marshall on the mighty movement of God in that small community of vacationers. We pray that the actions of God's Holy Spirit will continue to spread in that park, and beyond - for many years to come!!

BRBA CALENDAR:

September 20 - **Next Gen Conference** at Mountain City Church (Frostburg, MD) 9 AM – 2 PM

(Children+ Youth Ministry Training) www.wbamd.com/nextgen-conference

September 20 - **CPR training** at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

October 11 - **Advanced Shain Saw Training** at Skycroft *(rain date is 10/18)* www.bcemd.org

October 13 - **BRBA Annual Meeting** (North Valley Church) 7 PM

November 10-11 - **BCM/D Annual Meeting** "The Gathering" in Ocean City, MD

November 17-24 **Operation Christmas Child** Collection Week

December 4 - **BCM/D [Pastors' Conference at The Church at Severn Run](#)**, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

December 1-30 - **LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING** for international missions



THE GATHERING

BCMD BAPTIST
CONFERENCE
OF THE
MID-ATLANTIC
DIocese

BCM/D'S 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

ONE. One body.
One heart.
One mission.

November 10th - 11th
Ashore Resort & Beach Club
10100 Coastal Hwy
Ocean City, MD 21842

Equipped for Every Good Work

The BCM/D Pastors' Conference

December 4th, 2025 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM



TEACHING TOPICS:

Leading with Legacy in Mind: Rev. Bucas Sterling III, Senior Pastor – Kettering Baptist Church Legacy Center

- The Wounded Healer: Rev. Andy Ehlers, Senior Pastor – Hide Tide Church
- Leading from the Second Chair: Rev. Jeremy Dickson – BCM/D
- The Heart, Head, and Hands of Mobilization: Rev. Jamie Caldwell – Send Network
- Rooted and Renewed - Spiritual Practices that Sustain: Pastoral Life

Dr. Ron Blankenship – DOM, Montgomery Baptist Association

Rev. Victor Kirk - Senior Pastor, Sharon Bible Fellowship Church

Dr. Joel Rainey – Senior Pastor, Covenant Church

DISASTER RELIEF FOCUS IN BRBA CHURCHES OCTOBER 2025



BRBA is asking all of our churches to pick a Sunday in October, and do an emphasis

on our Disaster Relief Ministry in the Association.



Earlier this year we had volunteers on the ground in Allegeny County - Western Maryland following the floods that devastated that region. They served that community for weeks doing vital clean up / fix up for towns that were devastated by disaster.



Thus far in 2025, Disaster Relief volunteers nationwide have served over 185,000 meals to disaster relief victims, made over 30,000 contacts, made 14,000 gospel presentations, and seen almost 1300 people profess Christ as Savior.

The **BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION'S DISASTER RELIEF MINISTRY** is primarily a locally funded ministry in Cooperation with the Baptist Convention of Maryland/ Delaware. While the association budgets to support this group of servants – we rely on a yearly special “love offering” from our churches to buy needed equipment and replace aging service tools. Would your church be willing take up a love offering for our volunteers to continue to do what they do in the name of Jesus Christ? We appreciate anything that your church can do to help.



REMEMBERING CHARLIE KIRK

Many Americans are in a state of shock and deep sorrow at the news of Charlie Kirk's death. Personally, I was struck by his courage, clarity, and conviction. I admired him greatly—not just for his public influence, but for the integrity and faith he lived out in his life.



Tragically, Charlie did not get to live a long life—he was just 31 years old, but he did live an impactful one. As Corrie ten Boom said, “The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation.” Charlie certainly made a great donation with his life.

He began Turning Point USA at the age of 18 and made a difference on so many college campuses. He talked with students, gave speeches, and powerfully communicated through logic, clarity, courage, and peace. He was a patriot and American who loved his country. He was an evangelist of sorts to many young people in our land.

But first and foremost, Charlie Kirk was a Christian, devoted husband, and loving father. He was a bold voice for Jesus Christ. His faith is what motivated him in life and why I believe he accomplished so much in a relatively short life. Perhaps the greatest tribute we can pay to Charlie – is to share Christ with others around us, and

speaking unashamedly on cultural issues – especially those that attack our Christian faith.

Charlie is now in Heaven. The moment he took his last breath here on earth, he was in the presence of our Lord. He is in total peace, total bliss. He is now safe in the arms of Jesus.

Missionary Jim Elliot - who was martyred for his faith, wrote in his journal, “I seek not a long life, but a full one, like you, Lord Jesus.”

Charlie made a huge difference with it. His legacy will continue on. We thank God for him and we thank God for the influence he’s had. Others will carry on with Charlie’s legacy – because ultimately it wasn’t Charlie’s mission, but God’s.



Pray for Charlie’s wife, Erika, and their two young children who won’t understand why

their dad isn't coming home. May the God of all comfort surround them with peace and strength in the days and years ahead.

Bruce Conley, Director of Missions



Please note this is from the [SBC](#) website.

Stand With Us

"In every generation, Southern Baptists have sought to stand on the truth of God's Word and speak clearly into the culture around us. Today, that call is no less urgent.

The SBC has released a [new statement on justice](#), affirming our biblical convictions and calling us to live out the gospel with clarity and courage. This statement is an opportunity for Southern Baptists everywhere to stand together, rooted in Scripture and committed to Christ's Lordship, as we seek the good of our neighbors and the glory of God.

I invite you to read the statement and add your name alongside other pastors, leaders, and church members who are uniting around this call.

Thank you for your faithful leadership in your church and community. Let's continue to show the world the hope of Jesus Christ through both our words and our actions.

Clint Pressley

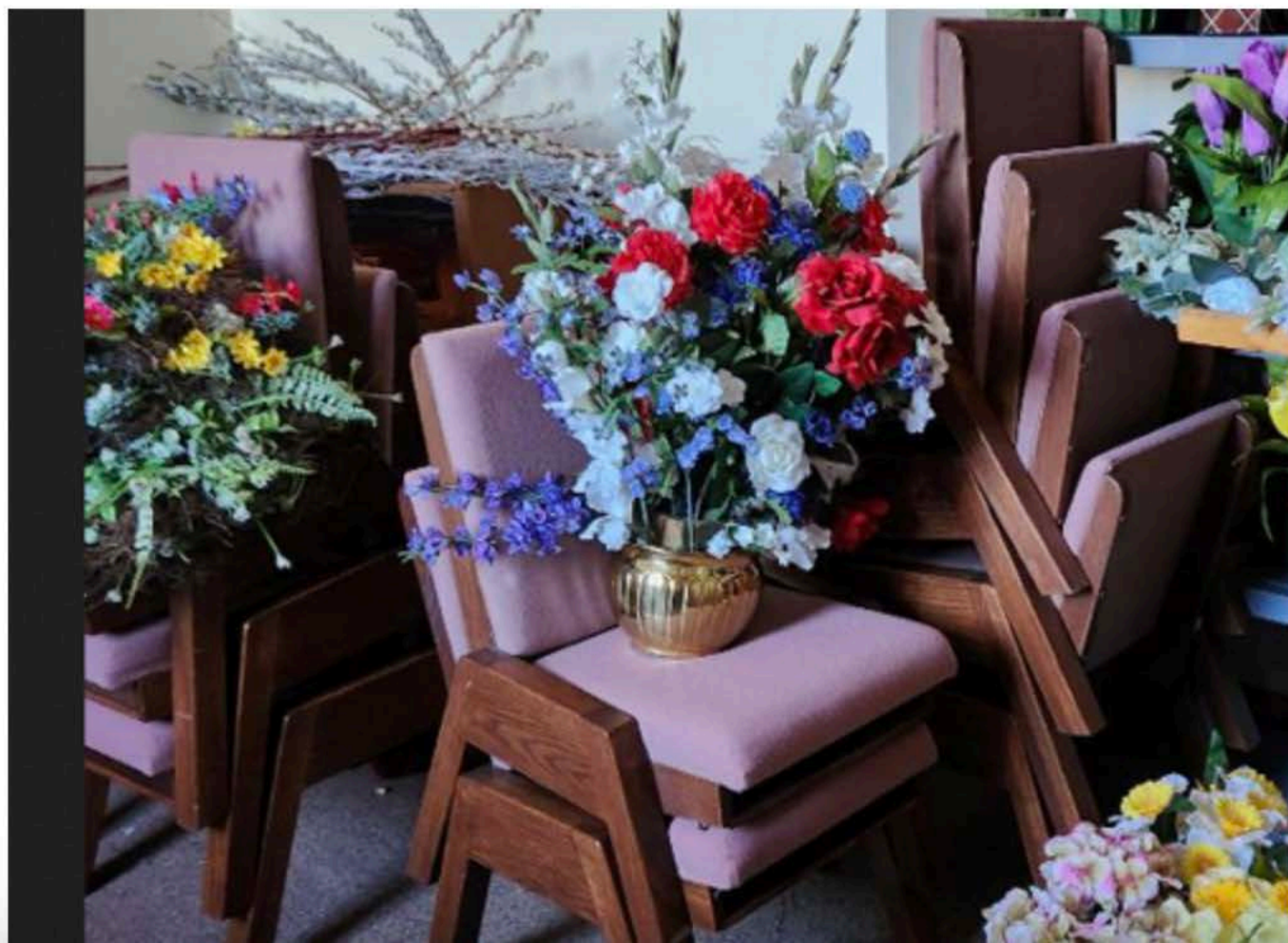
SBC President

Pastor, Hickory Grove Baptist Church"

[Read & Sign the Statement](#)

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South End Baptist Church has 20 chairs that they would like to donate to a sister church. Contact Joe Daly at daly74@verizon.net if you are interested!



NEW EQUIPMENT ADDITIONS AVAILABLE TO LOAN TO OUR CHURCHES

SNAG GOLF EQUIPMENT !!

BRBA has added 2 sets of SNAG kid's golf equipment to our block party trailers! What is SNAG? SNAG is an innovative, beginner-friendly golfing system designed for all ages, simplifying learning about golf with safe, specialized equipment. It provides accessibility, safety, and engagement in learning golf, while making it enjoyable and easy for families, schools, churches, and Parks/Recreation departments to adopt and enjoy the game together at a elementary level. Feel free to borrow this equipment for your community outreach or kid's celebration at your church!





FENDER PASSPORT PORTABLE SOUND SYSTEM !!

The Association now has a FENDER PASSPORT portable sound system for your use.



The Fender Passport portable PA system is a self-contained, suitcase-style portable PA system designed for ease of use and high-quality sound, featuring a built-in mixer, speakers, and all necessary cables in a durable, foldable unit. The Passport offer versatile connectivity for instruments and microphones, along with simple front-panel controls for volume, tone, and reverb - making it ideal for events like musical performances, outdoor events, and community outreach events.

Contact Pastor Dave Hays at dave@blueridgebaptist.org to borrow any of our loaner equipment for your church!

[Click here for our website](#)



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