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411

THE NEWS JOURNAL OF THE BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2010

## ✧ BRBA 2010 Annual Meeting is Coming ✧

The Blue Ridge Baptist Association will be having its 2010 Annual Meeting on Monday November 1, at 7:00 PM at New Life Community Church in Inwood, WV.

This will be New Life's first time to host our annual meeting. They will be providing the space, and in partnership with New Hope Community Church, (also in Inwood) refreshments will be provided.

This is a great time for representatives from all of our churches to come together for a time of worship and fellowship.

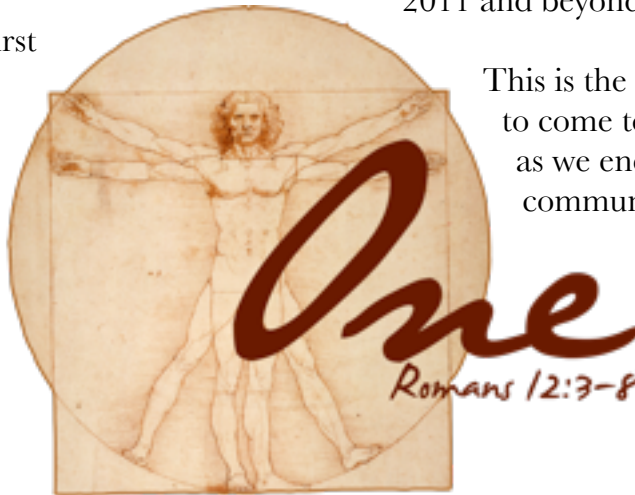
At our Annual Meeting, we get reports on the ministry and missions of our Association. We also vote on the annual budget and elect officers to fill the various positions for the coming year.

The theme for this years meeting is "One". In his yearly address, Director of Missions, Rev. Bruce Conley will present his vision for 2011 and beyond.

This is the time for all our churches to come together in cooperation as we endeavor to reach our communities for the Kingdom.

It is also a great opportunity for your church to learn about what the Association has to offer to help you achieve your goals.

As we work together, our churches become stronger. As we become one body, we can reach more, do more, and be more for the Glory of God.



**MUSIC - WORSHIP - FUN - FELLOWSHIP - FOOD**  
**CHURCHES PARTNERING TOGETHER**



## BCM/D Annual Meeting November 14 - 16

*The Baptist Convention of Maryland Delaware will hold its Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Towson in Towson, Maryland on November 14 - 16. The speakers for this year's meeting will encourage and challenge you. Make plans to be in each session to hear from them.*

*Speakers will include David Uth, Andy Ehlers, Donald Whitney, Wanda Lee, Byron Day, David Lee, and Al B. Sutton, Jr.*

*Special Guest Appearance by Denver and the Mile High Orchestra*

*For more information and a full list of sessions and brunches and activities, visit [www.am.bcnd.org](http://www.am.bcnd.org)*



## **INService Training Night a Success!**

It happened at Paramount Baptist Church on Monday, September 13, 2010. People came from all over the tri-state area to participate in a very exciting array of workshops during the InService training event. Though there is only so much you can do in an hour and a half some great information was imparted.

Dr. Lee from BCMD gave excellent insights into the primary duties of deacons.

FBI Special Agent Jim Rice kept students on the edges of their seats as he shared his knowledge about church security and threat assessment in the age in which we live.

Lori Ferguson offered very helpful information about doing children's ministry; Matt Gregory gave a fresh perspective to managing all aspects of youth ministry.

Chris Walls instructed people in how to prepare for all varieties of mission trips.

EMT (and pastor's wife) Pam Eubanks gave a hands-on seminar on emergency procedures complete with the

test dummies and portable ECG machine.

Director of Missions Joel Rainey from Mid-Maryland provided information about assisting church plants with their mission opportunities.

And our own staff at BRBA even got into the act. DOM Bruce Conley shared proven strategies for saving money in hard economic times, and Phil Graves supplied media tips for enhancing church outreach using technology.



We count this training event as a success and look forward to offering more training opportunities to BRBA churches in 2011!

# Does Your Church Know The Difference Between Mission and Ministry?

*from your Director of Missions - Bruce Conley*

It has occurred to me recently that there are some churches out there that don't define or consciously practice putting individual emphasis on MISSION and MINISTRY. In fact, some churches think that MISSION and MINISTRY are synonymous – that they mean exactly the same thing. When any church outreach starts to meld the two, without asking "How effective are we being with BOTH tasks of the church?", then I believe confusion and ineffectiveness on one side or the other are inevitable.

For example .... my home church does a outreach to the homeless in Washington DC monthly. We fix a hot meal, give away clothes, offer help to find employment ... and meeting all of those physical needs is wonderful, but in the process, if we never present Christ, and teach about redemption and salvation, then we have only done MINISTRY... and the MISSION has suffered.

The Blue Ridge Baptist Association is considering the possibility of sending a Mission Team to Nicaragua in 2011, and it would be wonderful to see many of our churches send people to that impoverished nation, but if all we do is go there and teach from the scriptures, and not minister to the needs of the people with medical missions, helping the local church and school there ... then MISSION will not have the same effectiveness - because MINISTERING to people's specific needs didn't pave the way for redemption and transformation to have a chance.

Mind you, I am not negating the work of God's Holy Spirit in ANY way, but Dr. John Maxwell said it best, when he said "*People don't care what you know, until they know that you care!*" It is for this reason that we must ensure that every Christian in our churches in Blue Ridge Baptist Association understand the difference between MISSION and MINISTRY.

**Mission** is defined in John 17:15-18, and Matthew 28:18-20

## **Jesus defined the Mission for His Church.**

- Mission is why we're here
- Mission is Jesus' purpose for His Church on earth
- Mission is the reason salvation and rapture aren't simultaneous
- Mission is Corporate, not individual
- Our Mission is to Redeem the lost
- Our Mission is to Restore the broken
- Our Mission is to build transformational churches

**Ministry** is defined in Acts 26:13-18, Luke 4:16-21, and John 14:11-12

- Ministry carries the Mission into fruition. When Ministry is esteemed over Mission, we're in trouble!
- Ministry is something you do
- Ministry opens the door for Mission in many cases
- Ministry is your relationship with God, on public display

It is my prayer – that as your church prepares for ministry in 2011 and beyond, you re-evaluate the individual importance of both mission and ministry, as you boldly move forward to connect people to God, and make disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Bruce M. Conley*

# Your Church Needs a Facebook Fan Page

*from your Media Minister - Phil Graves*

If you've spent any amount of time on Facebook you've probably heard of these things called Fan Pages. Maybe you've even created one yourself.

As I've perused the Pages devoted to a certain celebrity, or that company or this ministry, one thing has stood out to me: The Facebook Fan is one of the most underutilized connection points available today, and this is especially true for ministries.

There are many great examples of the Fan Page, or Page, being used to it's fullest potential, it's just that most of these examples lie outside The Church.

I'd like to change that here, are you ready?

## **Part 1: The Reason to Have a Facebook Page, The Basics**

Now, you might be asking this question:

I already have a Profile or Group, why do I need a Page? That's a good question. Let's look at each individually to compare.

Profile:

One line intro: The face of Facebook.

Pros: Post photo and video content, use Facebook applications, get "friends", etc.

Cons: 5,000 friend limit, customization very limited (e.g.- a profile name must be a first and last name, something most organization don't have)

Group:

One line intro: Group = Club in "real life".

Pros: Gather people with common interests, intimate-great for conversation

Cons: Sending blast emails/messages limited to groups with less than 5,000 members (If you want to limit your connection ability you would be ok with this, but I don't know why anyone would want to do that.), limited customization



Page:

One line intro: Community connection without limits.

Pros: Unlimited fans (aka-friends/members), customizable, etc.

Cons: Somewhat more involved than Profiles and Groups

The Page is the right choice for you if your desire is to create a connection on Facebook between your organization and your people already utilizing it or that are going to. Your page is ultimately going to be: A free online community that extends your existing website, providing a reflection of you or your organization.

If you already have a Profile or Group set up for your organization, don't delete it or take it down- just simply link to it from your existing Facebook properties.

Profiles are viral in the sense that when Joe becomes friends with Brooke, the interaction appears in both of their News Feeds and on their Walls, letting their other friends know that Joe and Brooke are now friends.

If Joe and Brooke become fans on the Local Community Church Page, it appears in these places as well. The same is true if Joe and Brooke join the Local Community Church Group, however there is one feature not available to groups: the suggestion.

*(continued on the next page)*

The suggestion appears on every Facebook user's home page, as well as on the Find Friends page, allowing you to "Add people you know as friends and become a fan of public profiles you like."

### **Create Your Page:**

There are two ways of doing this:

Logout of Facebook and go to [facebook.com/create.php](https://facebook.com/create.php) Going this route will create a separate login for the Page (so the Page is NOT linked to your personal account). If you only want to remember one login for Facebook, don't create the Page this way. Instead use option B. If you do want to use this option, skip option B all together. I should note here as well, that utilizing this option (A) does not allow you to link your Page to Twitter.

Login to Facebook. Go to [www.facebook.com/pages/create.php](https://www.facebook.com/pages/create.php). Once you've arrived, regardless of which option you've gone with, you're only a few clicks away from the creation of your Page.

On the Create New Facebook Page, select the category and sub-categories that your Page will fit into. Don't just jump at the first one that seems to fit. I would encourage you to look through all the sub-categories and find the one that **BEST DESCRIBES** the Page you are about to create.

Name your Page. Choose your name wisely because it's permanent. In considering the name for your Page, think about character length. For example: "This is a fan page for everyone that likes fan pages" may be effective, but it's not as catchy as "Fan Page of Fan Pages".

After this, there's an option to make the Page publicly visible right away. I usually elect not to make the Page public, or publish it, at this moment. This allows me to get everything the way I want it before anyone sees the final product- an unveiling of sorts.

If you've elected to create your Page as a "separate entity" apart from your personal Profile, you will now need to "signup" for Facebook. Fill out the information, and you'll be well on your way.

### **Page Setup: The Basics**

Now that you've created your Page, you'll want to get it ready for your fans.

1. Change Picture. This could be your organization's logo, or it could be a picture of what your Page is about. Either way, be certain that it is highly visible (not overly dark or light) as well as clear and crisp (not pixelated or grainy).

2. Edit Page. This is where you will go to make the majority of the changes to your Page- this is the drivers seat.

Don't worry if it's not perfect. (See, aren't you glad we didn't publish it yet?)

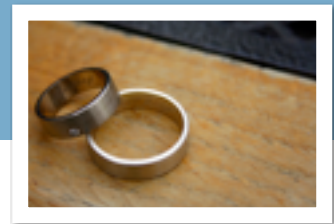
Does your church have a Facebook Fan page already? We'd love to look at it. Please send an email to [phil@blueridgebaptist.org](mailto:phil@blueridgebaptist.org) and share the link!

## **Marriage Seminar**

West End Baptist Chapel announces they will have a marriage enrichment seminar on Saturday October 16th. The conference will begin at 8:30 am.

Churches in Missions leaders, John and Melissa Miller, will lead the seminar. They have traveled all over the world teaching Biblical principles of marriage! This seminar will challenge couples to apply God's word in helping them to achieve a God honoring marriage.

The cost is \$10 per couple and will include breakfast and lunch! You may register by calling the church office at 301-797-6670.



# Minister of Education Project

## Reaching Through a Sunday School Partnership

This is a Network Partnership ministry with:  
LifeWay Christian Resources  
Baptist Convention MD/DE  
Blue Ridge Baptist Association

You can have your own Minister of Education as a consultant for one year.

- Your consultant will come to your church on two weekends.
- Make contact with you once per month.
- Give your leadership a growth plan that you help to develop.
- Give free training to your leaders.

## What's Involved?

Training: We have set the dates for next year

March 18 - 21 and

September 9 - 11, 2011

- You will have your own ME for a weekend of training and evaluation.
- Consultation to inspire your people about reaching, teaching, and how to train people.

## Cost:

- The ME's travel to and from your church and honorarium are paid by LifeWay and your ME.
- Your church pays for expenses for your ME on the weekend (March or September) when they come to your church.
- You agree to take care of their housing, meals and travel while they are here working for you FREE! You will also pay \$1 per your church's average Bible Study Attendance to cover additional program costs.

## Important 2010 - 2011

### ME Project Dates:

- October 30, 2010 - Pastor and Sunday School Director Training
- November 20, 2010 - Sunday School Director and Team Training
- January 14 - 15, 2011 - Sunday School Kick Off Training
- March 18 -21, 2011 - ME Weekend 1
- September 9 - 11, 2011 - ME Weekend 2

If you are interested in more information or to sign up, you must contact our Director of Missions, Bruce Conley by October 15, 2010.



## World Hunger Day

Now is the time to start planning promotion for World Hunger Day on Sunday, October 10.



Traditionally, Southern Baptists set aside the second Sunday in October to promote the World Hunger Offering, but many churches choose their own date.

Domestic hunger funds assist churches, associations, and state conventions in distributing food and

the gospel to people in need. By meeting someone's physical needs, opportunities are created to address spiritual needs. Last year more than 2,000 hunger ministries in North America were assisted with domestic hunger funds. Additionally, 5 million meals were provided, and more than 35,000 professions of faith were reported through hunger ministries. Requests for funds for 2011 have already exceeded \$1.4 million; however, our donations are down 20%.

Keep in mind that as your church supports the Cooperative Program, 100% of your money goes to pay for food. There are no administrative costs.

More information and promotional material for World Hunger Day is available at [www.namb.net/hunger](http://www.namb.net/hunger).



## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

### *Birthdays*

#### *October*

*17 Brenda Coblentz*

*20 Allen Youngbar*

*23 Ruth Koontz*

*30 Linda Conley*

#### *November*

*10 Kristie Graves*

*12 Joan Stalls*

*13 Hilary Cooper*

*18 Joan Oyerly*

*22 Clint Guthrie*

*23 Ken Oyerly*

*25 Jill Miller*

*29 Mike Lowrey*

### *Anniversaries*

#### *October 13*

*John and Ruth Koontz*

#### *November*

*06 Bruce and Linda Conley*

*19 Allen and Deb Youngbar*



## Event Calendar

### **Breathless: A Gathering for Women**

Friday, October 8- Saturday October 9

At Faith Baptist Church

7378 E Furnace Branch Road Glen Burnie, MD

For more information visit <http://bcmd.org/breathless>. For questions contact Gail Noda @ 800-466-5290 x218 or [gnoda@bcmd.org](mailto:gnoda@bcmd.org)

### **Instrumental Festival**

Saturday, October 16

Friendship Baptist Church 1391 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD

Cost is \$10 per person or \$100 for a group of 10 or more. and includes lunch. For more info and to register, visit <http://bcmd.org/instrumental>. Open to all band and orchestra players (high school and adult)

### **2010 Purpose Driven Small Group Conference**

October 15-15

Grace Community Church

Fulton, MD

Go to: <http://www.saddleback.com/conferences/smallgroups/2010>. For details, email [amillwood@bcmd.org](mailto:amillwood@bcmd.org).

### **It's A New Day for Financial Freedom**

The BCM/D is partnering with Faith Baptist Church in Glen Burnie to present a workshop on Financial freedom.

Join them on October 29th from 8:30 A.M – 3:30 P.M. There is a \$20 registration fee which includes resources and lunch. Spouses are encouraged to attend at no additional cost. Register now at [www.sbc.net/newday](http://www.sbc.net/newday)

### **Ministers Family Getaway**

Friday, October 22- Sunday 24

at DoubleTree Resort at Willow Valley

2400 Willow Street Pike Lancaster, PA 17602

The Minister's Family Getaway is a unique opportunity for BCM/D ministry families to renew, refresh, and reconnect in a relaxed resort setting at a much reduced cost.

### **BRBA Annual Meeting**

November 1, 7:00 PM

New Life Community Church

4102 Tabler Station Rd

Inwood, WV

### **BCM/D Annual Meeting**

November 14-16

Sheraton Towson

903 Dulaney Valley Road

Towson, MD 21204

### **Week of Prayer for International Missions**

November 28 - December 5



## *Church News*

### **First Brunswick**

October 10 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday (Guest speaker Bill Turney)

October 17 - Homecoming with a dinner to follow in the newly renovated Social Room

### **Faith Baptist Church**

Don Piper is coming on October 24th for both the 8:15 and 10:50 services. Child care provided for up to 2nd grade. Free ticket is required for admission. Call 301-834-7755.

### **Fellowship, Middletown**

This summer we set three goals.

First was the outdoor worship service and river baptism in June. It was a wonderful day when we had several baptized identifying themselves as believers in Christ to the world.

Second was a free children's carnival in July. We had about 230 people visit. It was around 95 degrees that day. I have to give a word of appreciation to those in the congregation and those who came from Covenant Baptist to help us out. We had 20 from our congregation and 14 from Covenant participate in making it a great day. We received an email from one of the parents thanking us for the free carnival and for how friendly we were to everybody.

Third, we were hoping to rent a building where we could hold our services, but due to county requirements we couldn't get an occupancy permit. The landlord was able to work with the permit office and cut through some of the red tape. The county has now given us conditional approval. Fortunately the landlords offered to do the plumbing at their own cost. Our goal is to hold our first service at 116 North Church Street in Middletown, September 26th. Everything might not be exactly in place, but we will be in the home God has given to us.

### **South End Baptist Church**

October 23 marks the 50th anniversary of South End Baptist Church. We are having a catered dinner at Crestwood Village Activities Building at 6:00 PM for all of our members, former members. This is by reservation only so that we can properly prepare. The next day, October 24th, we are having a Homecoming/Anniversary Celebration at 10:30 AM followed by a 'Dinner on the Grounds'. We look forward to a grand time of celebration, praise, worship and fellowship together.

On Saturday, September 11th, SEBC offered a free public showing of the movie, "To Save A Life". We had between 400-500 people came out. This project was in memory of one our teenagers, Zach Wilcom who took his own life last July. We had many different professional counselors on hand and we pray that many lives were touched.

## Prayer Lights

### *Praise...*

#### **Blue Ridge Church, Front Royal VA**

The Powells have a contract on their West Virginia house, Jennifer is teaching Math and Chemistry, and they have 2 candidates interviewing for worship leader. They have also submitted an application to the Credential Committee for membership in BRBA.

#### **Smithsburg Valley Church**

Volunteers from Smithsburg Baptist Church participated in the Convoy of Hope on September 25 at the Hagerstown Fairgrounds. Over 4,000 people were served, a lot of free stuff was distributed, and it was reported that more than 1,000 people visited the prayer tent, where over 100 of them accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

### *Petition...*

#### **Myersville Baptist Church**

Still seeking God's direction in filling senior pastor position. David Burt is serving as temporary interim, and helping shepherd them through the pastor search process.

#### **Greenbrier Baptist Church**

Seeking God's direction in filling bi-vocational senior pastor position.

#### **South End Baptist Church**

Please remember the family of Zachary Wilcom. Also, remember our search for someone to lead our worship ministry on a permanent basis. We request on-going prayer for Jason and Beth Lang and their family as they continue to prepare for missionary service in Nicaragua next year.

#### **Fellowship Baptist Church**

Continue to pray for us moving into the building, we will also have tables at two festivals letting people know where we are and we will be starting a marriage workshop for seven weeks called *Men are like waffles and women are like spaghetti*. Pray also for our finances: it cost us over \$6000 to do what the county wanted us to do and that didn't even include the plumbing which the landlord paid for. Pray for our energy as this fall is looking like it will be a busy one. Finally pray that God will be glorified and revealed to those in our community who need a Savior. Thank you for being a partner in prayer for this ministry.

#### **Lakeview Community Church**

Please be in prayer for our new church plant, Lakeview Community Church, and their pastor Roger Rich. This outreach to the New Market area began meeting about a month ago on Saturday evenings at 6:30 at Monocacy Valley Church.





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