

Clergy Ministry



Fall & Winter/2024
Ministry Training for ALL Church Leaders & EVERY Position

God's Strength for Your Ministry Journey!

^{4b} He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die.

⁷ The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." ⁸ So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

1 Kings 19:4b, 6-8 (NIV)





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Reverend Dabble Garner:
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Chaplain

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August is Clergy Ministry Sabbatical Month

Clergy Conversations & MTT will not be held in August. Please visit <https://www.bgcva.org/virtual-library.html> to view recordings of Clergy Ministry Training Sessions, email whwhitaker2@bgcva.org to schedule ministry assistance for your church, or call (804) 228-2421 for further assistance.

During the month of August, the Clergy Ministry takes a sabbatical from its writing regiment and training schedule of Clergy Conversations and Ministry Training Track Sessions. During this respite period, we would like to encourage all Pastors, clergy, and ministry leaders to remember the importance of including a regular schedule of “Me Time” with Christ, family and self.

Our August sabbatical is also a time of reflection over the first half of 2024. In our reflection, we would like to thank our convention’s Presidents ...former President, Reverend Palmer Bunting and our new President, Dr. James Coleman, our Vice-Presidents, Dr. Grisela Bayton, Dr. Ricardo Brown, and Reverend Joseph Fleming, and our Executive Minister, Dr. Leo Whitaker for their unwavering support, help, and guidance in making the Clergy Ministry what it is today.

We would also like to say “Thank You” to our former and current Clergy Ministry officers who have worked tirelessly to strengthen the witness and ministries of our churches within the religious community.

Finally, we praise God for you, the members, churches, and leaders of our BGC churches supporting the growth of the Clergy Ministry within our convention. As our Executive Minister often says, “We thank you for being the better part of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia!”



Dr. Bill Whitaker
Director of Clergy Ministry
& Leadership Development

Lord bless you!

Reverend Michael Shannon
President
BGCVA Clergy Ministry






Chaplain Position Update

The Clergy Ministry would like to thank all who have expressed interest in the Chaplain's position. Our goal is to present the proposed name for approval during the November 2, 2024 Fall Session. In preparation for this date, the following steps are being taken with the prayer of filling this position within the Clergy Ministry by the end of 2024.

1. **Communicate** with the Executive Leadership of BGCVA to ensure that the Clergy Ministry is following proper protocol in our Chaplain selection.
2. **Contact** all persons who have expressed interest in the Chaplain's position to provide pertinent information regarding the position and timeline.
3. **Interview** the ministers who best meet the Chaplain position requirements. This may include more than one round of interviews.
4. **Inform** the Executive Leadership of BGCVA regarding the discerned minister to fill the Chaplain position and seek their guidance on how to proceed with presenting the perspective new Chaplain for approval during the 2024 Fall Session.

Please feel free to email Dr. Bill Whitaker at whwhitaker2@bgcva.org or call the BGCVA office at (804) 228-2421 with any questions you may have.



The BGCVA Virtual Library
Study. Learn. Grow.
When & where it's most convenient for you.



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Visit the BGC Virtual Library by Clicking Here:
<https://www.bgcva.org/virtual-library.html>.

**New training files and ministry resources are uploaded to the BGC Virtual Library each month.*

Leadership Development

High Impact: Leadership According to the Word of God (Pt. 1) – The Moses Leadership Model, Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, April 22, 2024 (12n);
Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

High Impact: Leadership According to the Word of God (Pt. 2) – The Aaron Leadership Model, Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, April 22, 2024 (12n);
Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

High Impact: Leadership According to the Word of God (Pt. 3) - The Joshua Leadership Model, Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, April 22, 2024 (12n);
Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

High Impact: Leadership According to the Word of God (Pt. 4) - The Phoebe Leadership Model, Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, April 22, 2024 (6p);
Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

I See You: Seeing Women as Leaders; Clergy Conversation, June 1, 2023;
Dr. Tracey Holley

Solo Servant Leadership: Single & In Ministry – A Clergy Conversation, Thursday, May 2, 2024 (12n); Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

Ministry Development

Black Churches Hit Hardest By Pandemic: High Impact Models of Ministry that Reverse Congregational Decline; Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, May 13, 2024 (12n); Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

Church Internal Controls & Operational Standards; Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, September 18, 2023 (12n), Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

The “Get It Factor” (Pt. 1): Ministry Relevance that Promotes Congregational Growth, A Clergy Conversation, Thursday, February 8, 2024, President Milton P. Bunting

The “Get It Factor” (Pt. 2): Ministry Relevance that Promotes Congregational Growth; A Clergy Conversation - April 4, 2024; Pastor Michael Shannon

BGCVA VIRTUAL LIBRARY Ministry Development (cont'd.)

God is in the Details – Ministry Best Practices & Church Standards of Operation (Pt. 1); Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, August 21, 2023 (12n), Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

God is in the Details – Ministry Best Practices & Church Standards of Operation (Pt. 2); Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, August 21, 2023 (6p), Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

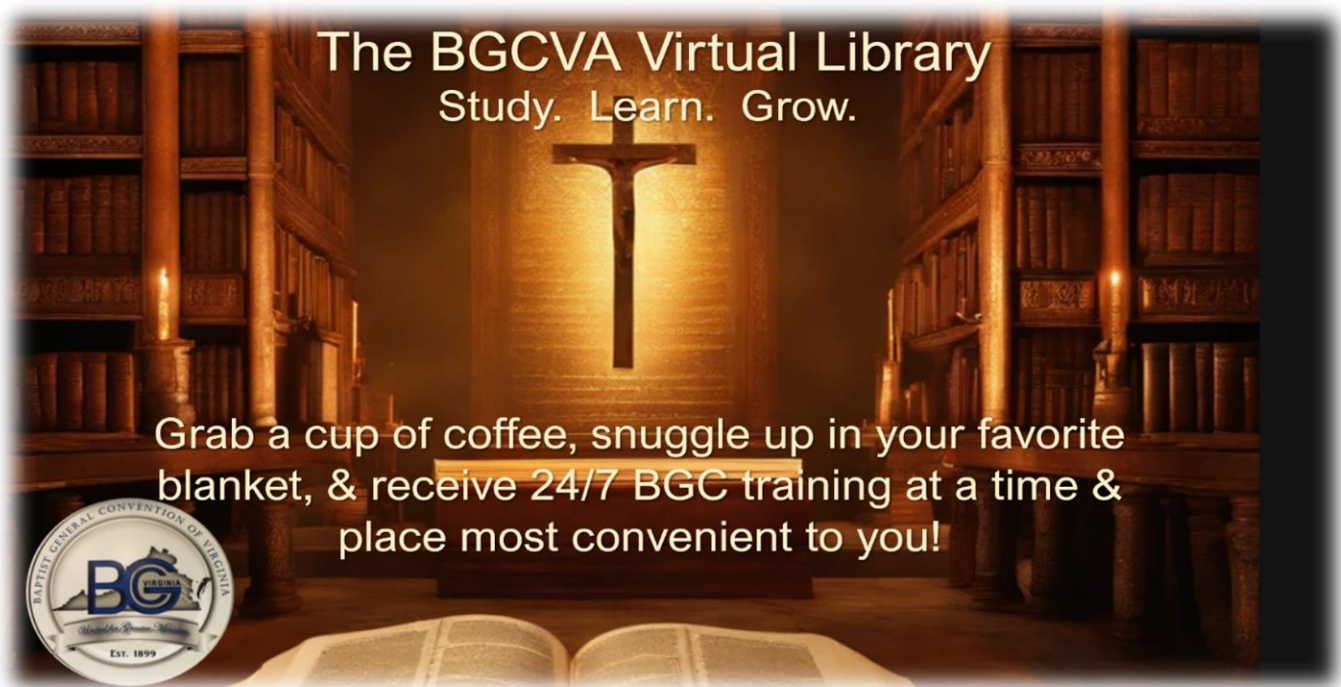
Succession Planning: Itinerant, Interim, & Transitional Pastoring; Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, May 13, 2024 (6p); Rev. Karen Downing-Facilitator, President Milton P. Bunting – “Shared Pastor” Presenter, Rev. Curtis Ballard – “Succession Planning” Presenter

Succession Planning & the Associate Minister: The Role of the Associate Minister During a Pastoral Interim; A Clergy Conversation, July 11, 2024 (12n); Dr. William H. Whitaker, II *(To be added during August/2024.)*

Succession Planning: The Five Developmental Tasks of Interim Ministry; Ministry Training Track (MTT), Monday, July 29, 2024 (12n); Dr. J. Elisha Burke *(To be added during August/2024.)*

Ministry Resources

- Budgeting & Money Voucher/Requisitioning Process
- The “Give Mitely” Generosity Chart for Churches (Downloadable in PowerPoint Formatting)





From the Altar to the Courthouse:
Spiritual & Legal Responsibilities
of the Church Trustee

In most congregations and denominations, the Pastor is undoubtedly the most visible position of influence and authority.

Being successful as the spiritual leader of any Body of Christ requires strong leadership skills and an unwavering ability to seek, discern, and follow the Will of God. However, successful ministry is not solitarily accomplished by the Pastor. Success in ministry is supported by the Trustee “ministry”, a group of spiritual leaders called to work in concert with the Pastor in fulfilling God’s vision and mission for the church.

The month of September/2024 is dedicated towards the training of those who work behind the scenes as Church Trustees. It is by no accident that the root word of *Trustee* is “trust”. Trustees are men and women who have been entrusted by the congregation to handle the church’s legalities and often times, the business, finances, and facilities. With consistent changes taking place within the religious community, it is essential that today’s Trustees stay abreast and well-informed of business-related matters impacting today’s churches.

All Trustees and those who work with Trustees (i.e. Pastors, ministry leaders, and diaconate members are encouraged to register for the Clergy Ministry’s September series on spiritual and legal responsibilities of the Church Trustee!

Training & registration details are on the following pages.

Clergy

Conversations

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*"The Spirit Led vs. Budget-Driven Vision":
"We walk by faith and not by sight"*

(2 Corinthians 5:7)

...or "We walk by sight and not by faith".

Thursday, September 5, 2024

12:00noon

Facilitator: *Dr. William "Bill" Whitaker, II*
BGCVA Director of Clergy Ministry &
Leadership Development



Zoom ID: 876 5365 4568

Zoom Password: 790104

Conference Call#: 301.715.8592

To Register: <https://www.bgcva.org/training.html> (starting Aug. 12, 2024)

To Attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5NmItbDNNU1IWMWFGTKVJOVAwQT09>

MTT
Ministry Training Track

Entrusted: From the Altar to the Courthouse
Roles & Responsibilities of the Church Trustee



Monday, September 16, 2024

12:00Noon

Zoom ID: 876 5365 4568

Zoom Password: 790104

Conference Call#: 301.715.8592

**Politics & the Church:
Election Season “Do’s & Don’ts” for the 501(c)3 Ministry**

Facilitator: *Dr. William “Bill” Whitaker, II*
BGCVA Director of Clergy Ministry & Leadership Development

**Trustee Training Registration begins
Monday, August 12, 2024 at <https://www.bgcva.org/training.html>.**

To attend Church Trustee training sessions, please join using the following Zoom access credentials at the date and time designated for each training session.

Clergy Ministry Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5NmITbDNNU1IWMWF⁺GTKVJOVAwQT09>

Clergy Ministry Zoom ID:

876 5365 4568

Clergy Ministry Zoom Password

790104

Clergy Ministry Conference Call

301.715.8592

Contact Dr. Bill Whitaker at whwhitaker2@bgcva.org or call the BGCVA office at (804) 228-2421 with your Church Trustee-related questions and inquiries.



For Your Glory!
Set Apart for the Purpose & Service of God

What does it mean to be an Associate Minister in a Baptist Church and what are the roles and responsibilities the Associate Minister is called to fulfill?

In many churches, the pulpit mannerisms, ministry ethics, and governance protocol makes it painfully obvious that at least one of the Associate Ministers does not know his/her spiritual and biblical responsibilities. Many Associate Ministers feel that their *License to Ministry* is their *License to Get Involved* in areas of the congregation that belong to either the Pastor or another ministry leader. Other Associates view their role as being an *Alternate & Possible Replacement for the Pastor*. In both scenarios, the Associate Minister is out of line with the Word of God.

The Clergy Ministry of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia is dedicating the month of October to the training of the men and women who have been called and “set apart” as Associate Ministers. Three training sessions are being provided to strengthen the Associate Minister’s personal ministry within the church as well as the Associate’s ministry relationship with the Pastor.

A portion of the Associate Ministers’ training will be dedicated toward teaching Pastors and Associate Ministers the biblical model and expectation of Associate Minister leadership. Ministers and ministry leaders will learn the Associates’ (Aarons’) role in building and maintaining a healthy ministry relationship with their Pastor (Moses).

Training & registration details are on the following page.

Clergy Conversations



For Your Glory!

Associate Minister Training

*What Pastors Wish Their Associate Ministers Knew &
What Associate Ministers Wish Their Pastors Understood*

Thursday, October 3, 2024

12:00 Noon

Facilitated by the
Clergy Ministry Officers of the
Baptist General Convention of Virginia

Zoom ID: 876 5365 4568

Zoom Password: 790104

Conference Call#: 301.715.8592

To Register: <https://www.bgcva.org/training.html> (starting Aug. 12, 2024)

To Attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5NmIbDNNU1IWMWFGTKVJOVAwQT09>



The **Ministry Training Track**
Monday, October 21, 2024

Zoom ID: 876 5365 4568

Zoom Password: 790104

Conference Call#: 301.715.8592

Associate Minister Training

12N *The Biblical Model of
Associate Minister Leadership*

6:00PM *Associate Minister
Etiquette & Ministerial Ethics*



Servant Leadership: Knowing How to Lead By Learning How to Follow

The Diaconate (Deacons and Deaconesses) are men and women appointed by the church to serve within the Ministry of Congregational Care. While the roles and responsibilities of today's Diaconates do differ from one Baptist congregation to another, the Bible provides great clarity on the spiritual "common threads" that all Deacons and Deaconesses are to share.

The greatest challenge for today's Deacon and Deaconess is to avoid being distracted by non-biblical responsibilities the diaconate has assumed through church "tradition". Overseeing church finances and budgets, the management of church staff, and the supervision and "controlling" of pastoral leadership are only a few traditional responsibilities that serve as Diaconate distractions from the Ministry of Congregational Care.

During the month of November/2024, the Clergy Ministry of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia will provide training on the Servant Leadership of Diaconate Ministry. This training is for the Deacon and Deaconess, but it is purposed to inform all church leaders (Pastors, Trustees, Associate Ministers, and Ministry Leaders) of the numerous ways a Diaconate can effectively minister to a congregation when it is centered on the teachings of the Word of God and the principles of the Baptist Doctrine.

Novembers' Clergy Conversation will be held as a part of the BGCVA Fall Session on Saturday, November 2, 2024 and not on it regularly 1st Thursday date of Thursday, November, 7, 2024. The specific topic will be provided when the Fall Session details are made available by our BGCVA leadership. Please note this change of date and make plans to attend!

Training & registration details are on the following page.



FALL SESSION 2024

The November/2024
Clergy Conversation will be held as
a part of the Fall Session activities.
Please mark the date and make
plans to attend!

Saturday, November 2, 2024
Fifth Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.
1415 West Cary Street, Richmond, Va. 23220

To Register for Clergy Ministry Sessions: <https://www.bgcva.org/training.html>
(starting Aug. 12, 2024)

To Attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653654568?pwd=c2d5NmItbDNNU1IWMWFGRkVJOVAwQT09>



MTT

Ministry Training Track Monday, November 18, 2024

The New Testament Diaconate Training

12:00N *The Biblical Call of the Diaconate
Deacon & Deaconess*

6:00PM *The Biblical Work & Qualifications of
the Diaconate Deacon & Deaconess*

Zoom ID: 876 5365 4568

Zoom Password: 790104

Conference Call#: 301.715.8592

December/2024

Holiday “Round Table & Open Discussion”:

Join Us On Zoom for the
Annual Clergy Ministry

2024 Reflections & 2025 Planning

To conclude each Clergy Ministry training season, the Clergy Ministry leaders hold an open, “round table” discussion with Clergy Ministry participants on the first Thursday of December. This year (2024), the End-of-Year Open Discussion will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 12:00noon on the Clergy Ministry’s Zoom link.

All persons who have attended/participated in the 2024 Clergy Ministry sessions are asked to participate in this Open Discussion to share...

- What you most enjoyed about the 2024 Clergy Ministry sessions.
- What you wish was different/better about the 2024 Clergy Ministry sessions.
- Ways the Clergy Ministry can grow and reach more Pastors, clergy, and ministry leaders.
- Ways the Clergy Ministry can work with Clergy Ministry Participants to grow the ministry and program of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia.
- Ways the Clergy Ministry participants can increase our financial support (Give Mitely!) to the Baptist General Convention of Virginia.
- Topics and programs you would like to see as a part of the 2025 Clergy Ministry program.

If you have suggestions/thoughts on the above Clergy Ministry areas, you don’t have to wait until the December/2024 Open Discussion. Please email your suggestions and thoughts to Dr. Bill Whitaker at whwhitaker2@bgcva.org or call the BGCVA office at (804) 228-2421.



Give Mitely!

Are you on Track for Your Giving Goals to the Lord in 2024?

With only 5 months (August – December) remaining in 2024, now is the perfect time to evaluate your giving goals and progress.

As we prepare to approach the season of Fall, all churches, pastors, ministry leaders, and associations are asked to evaluate your giving goals for 2024. If this were the end of the 2024 giving year, would you be please (more importantly, would the Lord be pleased) with what you have given? The blessing is that the month of August is NOT the end of the giving year!

There are still five months remaining in 2024. Please consider “Unleashing the Spirit of Generosity” to the Lord, your congregation, and BGCVA. There is so much the Lord can accomplish within us if we each commit to *Giving Mitely!* for the remainder of this year.

Let’s come together and finish the year of 2024 strong!



Unleashing the Spirit of Generosity



...decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."
2 Corinthians 9:7 NLT

Your Annual Giving Goal	Weekly Giving	Monthly Giving	Quarterly Giving
\$ 500.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 125.00
\$ 750.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 63.00	\$ 189.00
\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 83.00	\$ 250.00
\$ 3,000.00	\$ 58.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 750.00
\$ 5,000.00	\$ 96.00	\$ 417.00	\$ 1,250.00
\$ 7,000.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 584.00	\$ 1,750.00
\$ 9,000.00	\$ 173.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 2,250.00
\$ 11,000.00	\$ 212.00	\$ 917.00	\$ 2,750.00
\$ 13,000.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,084.00	\$ 3,250.00
\$ 15,000.00	\$ 289.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 3,750.00
\$ 17,000.00	\$ 327.00	\$ 1,417.00	\$ 4,250.00
\$ 19,000.00	\$ 366.00	\$ 1,584.00	\$ 4,750.00
\$ 21,000.00	\$ 404.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 5,250.00
\$ 23,000.00	\$ 443.00	\$ 1,917.00	\$ 5,750.00
\$ 25,000.00	\$ 481.00	\$ 2,084.00	\$ 6,250.00