

NOMINATIONS TO THE VIRGINIA BAPTIST MISSION COUNCIL



CAPITAL

Jonathan Balmer (Minister)

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024



Jonathan Balmer was born in Richmond, Virginia, and grew up outside Cincinnati, Ohio. He studied English and history at George College in Kentucky. He was an English teacher for two years: one in Kentucky and one year teaching English as a second language in South Korea.

Jonathan has served in interim positions in children and youth ministry in South Carolina, college ministry in Kentucky, and as a minister of youth in Texas. He attended George W. Truett Theological seminary at Baylor University, graduating with his Master of Divinity in 2020.

Jonathan is married to Kendall Ellis and has served as Pastor of Mount Hermon Baptist Church in Moseley, VA, since March 2021.

Brenda L. Evans (Layperson)

New Bethesda Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024



Brenda has been a member of New Bethesda for about 35 years and has served in many positions throughout the years. She has taught Sunday School, served as SS Director, and led a Woman's Circle for about 30 years. She also serves as a volunteer Regional Area Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child, where she has volunteered since 1996. At NBBC she also volunteers at Moments of Hope, an organization that helps with homeless people in local areas.

Denise Harcum (Layperson)

Sandston Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024



Missions has been a part of Denise's life since she was a Sunbeam. Being a member of Sandston Baptist Church for 44 years has given her the opportunity to serve as a Sunday School teacher, Mission Friends and Girls in Action leader, facilitator of a missions group, and WMU director. Denise has also been involved with CARITAS, Operation Inasmuch, Housing Families First, Ronald McDonald House, and other homeless ministries. Currently she serves as the project leader at Sandston for Operation Christmas Child, where she has been a volunteer since 2003.

Kelly Lindquist (Minister)

Bon Air Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024



Kelly is currently serving as the Interim Missions Pastor overseeing local, domestic, and international missions at Bon Air Baptist Church. Since July 2018, she has been the Missions Associate and primarily focused on local mission initiatives until assuming the interim role. Prior to entering ministry, she served in the YMCA, human services organizations, and other non-profits, always with a passion for furthering local mission work and meeting needs of local communities. Her family attends both Bon Air Baptist Church and Gayton Baptist Church, as her husband, Jeff, is also in ministry there.

Tom Williams (Minister)

Adams Grove Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024



Tom was born in Richmond, VA, and was raised in Mechanicsville, VA. Prior to answering God's call to the ministry, he worked in the real estate industry.

In 2014, Tom enrolled in seminary classes at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. While pursuing the Master of Divinity, the school closed, and he completed his studies at McAfee School of Theology.

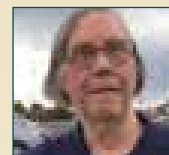
In 2016, Adams Grove Baptist Church in Emporia, VA, called Tom as their pastor. He is still serving this wonderful congregation.

CENTRAL/VALLEY

Pam Chambers (Layperson)

First Baptist Church of Martinsburg, WV

2nd Term, term to expire 2024



Pamela is a retired schoolteacher. She has taught a total of 43 years. The past 25 of those years have been in West Virginia as an LD teacher at Shepherdstown Elementary. She is active in WMU, serving as the Missions Director and Kids on Mission leader. In the association, she is serving as the WMU Director, working with children and adult mission education, and serving on the Mission and Evangelism Ministry Team.

Margarete R. Gillette (Minister)

Broadus Memorial Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

Margarete and her husband, Tom, have lived in Albemarle County for 29 years and became members at Broadus Memorial Baptist Church soon after moving there. Margarete earned a BA in History from Furman University and an MRE with a major in Church Social Work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She has held various staff positions at Broadus but has served as Associate Pastor for the past 12 years or so. For most of the time Margarete has been on staff at Broadus she has also worked for Jefferson-Madison Regional Library but retired from that position at the end of June. Her interests are reading, walking/hiking, and travel.

**Kristin Whitesides (Minister)**

First Baptist Church of Winchester
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

Kristin was raised as the daughter of a Baptist pastor in Martinsville, VA. She attended the University of Richmond and graduated with a bachelor's degree in religion and English. While at UR she was very involved in the Baptist Student Union. She was a Lilly Fellow at Duke Divinity School, where she earned her M.Div. She was ordained by her home church, Starling Avenue Baptist Church, in June 2005 and began serving as the Associate Pastor and Minister to Youth at First Baptist Church, Winchester, that same month. She served in that capacity for 12 years and then became the acting senior pastor when the senior pastor retired. On May 1, 2017, she was called as the new senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Winchester.

**Brenda Sue Wilkinson (Layperson)**

Bridgewater Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

Brenda grew up in Lunenburg County in Southside VA, where she made a profession of faith at the age of nine and joined Dundas Baptist Church. In the mid-1980s she moved to Bridgewater and joined Bridgewater Baptist Church, where she has been the choir director and pianist (or organist) for approximately 30 years. She is a 26-year employee in the math department at James Madison University, managing enrollment into math classes. She works extensively with students, advisors, and faculty.

**NORTHERN****Steve Hagan (Layperson)**

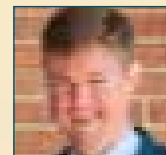
Chancellor Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2022
(Filling an unexpired term)



Steve is a retired US Army Officer with over 26 years of service. Following retirement from the Army, he worked for 20 years as an executive in an information technology professional service firm, then five years as an independent management consultant working primarily with Service-Disabled Veteran-owned small businesses. Steve accepted Christ as a 30-year-old in 1976. He was ordained as a deacon in 1980 when serving in a European Baptist Convention Church in Germany. He served as a member of the EBC Convention Committee in 1980-81. Steve has also served as a deacon and chairman of deacons in three different Baptist churches and served six years on the NorthStar Church Network Church Staff Health Group—four as chairman.

Chris Davis (Minister)

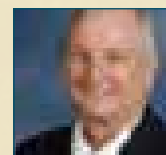
Groveton Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024



Chris Davis was raised in a suburb of Atlanta, GA, by faithful Christian parents. After studying music and mathematics at Samford University, he was ordained to the Gospel ministry by his home church (Harp's Crossing Baptist Church, Fayetteville, GA) and served as the Associate Pastor of a church plant in the coalfields of southern West Virginia. Following those two years of ministry, he began his formal training, earning an M.Div. from Bethlehem College and Seminary and Phoenix Seminary. He served as the Pastor of Whitton Avenue Bible Church in Phoenix for 11 years and in August 2016 became the Senior Pastor of Groveton Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA. Chris is married to Rachael, and they have four children.

Jim George (Minister)

Fairview Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024



Jim began his ministry at Fairview Baptist Church in 2015. He is a graduate of Mars Hill College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and he received his Doctor of Ministry from the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. Jim's 35 years of ministry experience include serving as the Disaster Relief Coordinator for BGAV and serving as pastor in several Virginia churches.

John Huelskoetter (Minister)

Beth Car Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

John grew up in Illinois. He has a degree in sociology from Eastern Illinois University and an M.Div. and Ph.D. from New Orleans Seminary. He was a religion professor at Judson College in Alabama for seven years, pastored Yorktown Baptist for six years, and he's been the pastor of Beth Car Baptist in Madison since 2012. John is married to Teresa, and they have four grown children.

**Hector Velasquez (Minister)**

Parkwood Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

Hector has worked as the staff liaison to Hispanic churches at NorthStar Church Network since 2015. He received his Diploma in Theology in 2002 from the John Leland Center for Theological Studies and was ordained to the Ministry in 2009. He recently received his M.Div. from The John Leland Center and is a certified substance abuse counselor in the state of Virginia, with a background in substance abuse and mental health counseling.



TBD

SOUTHSIDE**Cindy Phillips (Layperson)**

West Lynchburg Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2022
(Filling an unexpired term)

Cindy grew up in Roanoke, was baptized at age seven, and married at age 21. After falling away from her faith during her early married life, she returned to church and there gained a better understanding of Jesus' atoning death and redeeming grace. She decided to be baptized again at age 31 as a true believer. Cindy has an A.A. in Secretarial Science and worked about seven years as a secretary before having children. Since then, she has been a full-time homemaker and has worked part-time as a church secretary occasionally, as well as being involved in a variety of volunteer positions at church and in the community. Being a volunteer counselor at Crisis Pregnancy Centers has been her most fulfilling and consistent position. She and John have been married 49 years.

**Josh Crews (Minister)**

New Prospect Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2024

Josh currently serves as the Associate Pastor of Family Life at New Prospect Baptist church, where he has been on staff for almost five years. His formal education includes a bachelor's degree in Christian Studies and an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice. Josh has a great passion for youth and music. He devoted three years after college to touring the country with an interdenominational Christian ministry sharing the gospel through the performing arts. Before being called into full-time ministry, he enjoyed a career in criminal justice serving the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court and the prosecuting attorney.

**Laura French (Layperson)**

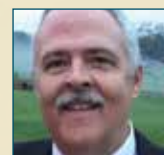
Heritage Baptist Church, Farmville
1st Term, term to expire 2024

Laura grew up attending a small church in Elizabethtown, KY, where she first learned the gift of loving and caring for others. Laura has been married to her husband, Mark, for 36 years, and they have three grown children. She joined Heritage Baptist in Farmville shortly after moving to Virginia in 1985. She has been called to serve in many capacities including children's ministry, music, Vacation Bible School, women's ministry, pastor search committees, and missions.

**Lynn Marstin (Minister)**

Midway Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2024

Lynn graduated from Averett University in 1986, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1989, and Bethany Theological Seminary in 1993. Churches he has served include Chestnut Level Baptist Church (1986-1989), Midway Baptist Church (1989 - 2001), Dan River Baptist Church (2001 - 2002), and Midway Baptist Church (2002 - Present).

**Jerry Stanfield (Minister)**

Childrey Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2024

Jerry is the pastor of Childrey Baptist Church. He graduated with an M.Div. Degree from Southwestern Theological Seminary. He has been a full-time pastor since 1984.



NOMINATIONS TO THE VIRGINIA BAPTIST MISSION COUNCIL, CONTINUED

Catherine White (Minister)

Madison Heights Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2024



Catherine grew up in Bedford County, VA. She was active in school, church, and 4-H. She received her BA in Music from Lynchburg College (now University of Lynchburg) and a MM in Organ Performance from University of Tennessee. Catherine taught music in private schools for a year, then served as pianist and organist for several churches over the next few years. In 1991 she was called to Madison heights Baptist Church as Director of Music Ministries/Organist and currently is entering her 30th year of ministry there. She is married to Michael White and they have a daughter.

SOUTHWEST

TBD

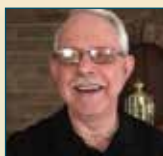
1st Term, term to expire 2023
(Filling an unexpired term)

TBD

1st Term, term to expire 2023
(Filling an unexpired term)

Danny Wayne Collins (Minister)

North Fork Baptist Church
1st Term, term to expire 2024



Danny W. Collins is retired Pastor of The Fairlawn Baptist Church, located in Fairlawn, Virginia. He has served this congregation for a total of 27 years through two tenures. He is a native of the New River Valley, born in Christiansburg. He married Patricia Keatley of Pulaski. She too is an ordained minister and served the Fairlawn Baptist Church as Minister of Christian Education.

Mr. Collins was educated at Bluefield College, (1967) and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree at Carson Newman University (1972) in East Tennessee. He earned his master's degree at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (1975), in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Danny is currently active in the affairs of Pulaski County, serving on the County Library Board of Trustees, a writer for the local newspapers, and the "Celebrating Fairlawn" recognition for community identity. He currently is on the Board of Trustees for Oak Hill Academy in Mouth of Wilson, Virginia.

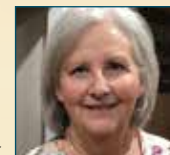
Pastor Danny has preached all over the world, including Peru, Korea, Haiti, and for the last eight years, leading teams to

Honduras. He is a Veteran of the United States Army (1967-1970), having served in both Germany and Vietnam.

He retired from Fairlawn Baptist Church on August 31, 2014. He served as Interim Pastor of Wytheville Baptist for fourteen months and is now the part-time Pastor of North Fork Baptist Church in Blacksburg.

Patricia (Pat) Craft (Layperson)

First Baptist Church of Nickelsville
1st Term, term to expire 2024



Pat as born in Rutherford, NC, and graduated from RS Central High School. She has been married to Wilbur (Chub) Craft since 1973. She is retired from St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville, FL. Pat and Wilbur have two children but lost their daughter in 1994. Pat attends church at First Baptist Church of Nickelsville where she serves as teacher in the nursery. In addition, she is enrolled in the Appalachian School of Theology and involved in Disaster Relief through the BGAV by serving in feeding, recovery, and Crisis Care Chaplaincy.

Melissa Kessler (Minister)

Grandin Court Baptist Church
2nd Term, term to expire 2024



Melissa Kessler, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, joined Grandin Court in 2014 after earning her Master of Divinity from Wake Forest University School of Divinity and being ordained by First Baptist Church of Kernersville, NC. Born in central New York and raised in North Carolina, Pastor Melissa has always loved people and exploring new places. During her undergraduate career at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, she studied Maori music at the New Zealand School of Music before obtaining her Bachelor of Music in Music Education. She then moved to Southern India to work at an international Christian school and partnered with organizations throughout the country during her tenure. She strives to help the church engage their immediate and distant communities through conversation, learning, and action, bridging differences and finding common ground.

Joshua D. Snead (Layperson)

Lebanon Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024

Joshua was born and raised in Southwest Virginia and graduated from Lebanon High School in 2014. He gave his life to Christ when he was 12 years old and joined Lebanon Baptist Church in 2014. Currently he serves as chairman of the mission's team and security team at Lebanon Baptist Church. Joshua has been on the missions committee of the New Lebanon Baptist Association and on the Board of Directors for the Southwest Virginia Partnership. He works at Andis Wood Products where he serves as a laborer, equipment operator, and assistant office manager.



TBD

TIDEWATER**Anne Mitchell (Layperson)**

Parkview Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2022

(Filling an unexpired term)

Missions has been a part of Anne's life since "Sunbeam" years (1945), as she was raised in a Christian family that was very mission minded. She was baptized in Kilmarnock Baptist Church and is presently a member and lay staff at Parkview Baptist in Newport News. Anne graduated from Boyce Bible School and Leland with diplomas in Christian Ministry. God continues to show her opportunities for service in her own church community, in the Peninsula Baptist Association and with the BGAV.

**Faith Powell (Layperson)**

Centerville Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2022

(Filling an unexpired term)

Faith currently serves as chairman of the deacons at Centerville Baptist and leads a women's Sunday School class. She has a heart for missions and loves serving others. Faith has led a team of individuals to the Eastern Shore for 16 years to work with children in the Parks and Rec program during the day, and to work with the migrants in the migrant camps at night. She had the opportunity to go to Nicaragua on a mission trip in 2015 with another church along with her pastor, Kevin Ritter, and his daughter, Kindsey. She also led the Interim Pastor Selection Committee approx. 15 years ago when we asked Brian Williams to serve as interim pastor at Centerville Baptist Church.

Tommy Larson (Minister)

Jackson Memorial Baptist Church

1st Term, term to expire 2024

Tommy has been the Senior Pastor at Jackson Memorial Baptist Church since 2015. Other churches where he served include Fox Hill Road Baptist Church in Hampton as Senior Pastor and Nansemond River Baptist Church as Associate Pastor. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from James Madison University and both an M.Div. and Doctor of Ministry from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. Previous short-term international mission trips include trips to Lesotho, Africa, and Belize. He has also participated in mission trips to the Eastern Shore in Virginia. Tommy is married to Daina, and they have three children.

**Randy McCollum (Minister)**

Fairfields Baptist Church

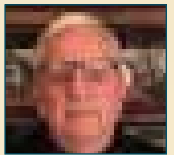
2nd Term, term to expire 2024

John Robertson (Minister)

Red Bank Baptist Church

2nd Term, term to expire 2024

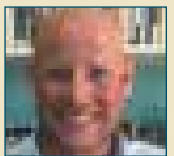
John has served as pastor of Red Bank Baptist Church in Marionville, VA, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia for the past nine years. He previously served as pastor of River Shore Baptist in Portsmouth for over 10 years, and he was the Director of Missions for the Portsmouth Baptist Association for five years. While on the Eastern Shore, he helped transition the Accomac-Northampton Baptist Association and the Norfolk Baptist Association to the Bridge Network of Churches, which now serves 100 churches from the Maryland state line to the North Carolina state line. He and his wife, Pam, have been active in the BGAV for over two decades.

**Stephen Taylor (Minister)**

Nomini Baptist Church

2nd Term, term to expire 2024

Steve Taylor is the Pastor of Nomini Baptist Church, one of the oldest and at one time the largest Baptist Church in Virginia. He experienced God's call to vocational ministry in Arlington, where he served the Church at Clarendon for four years and completed his M.Div. at the John Leland Center. He currently resides in the rural Northern Neck, where he lives with his wife, Susan, and their three children. Pastor Steve especially appreciates the BGAV for the many ways it provides support to local churches, pastors, and congregations—and for its faithfulness to Baptist denominational distinctives.

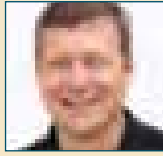


NOMINATIONS TO THE VIRGINIA BAPTIST MISSION COUNCIL, CONTINUED

Wes Taylor (Minister)

Temple Baptist Church

2nd Term, term to expire 2024



Wes Taylor serves as senior pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Newport News, VA. He and his wife, Juliann, have three daughters. He is a graduate of Holmes Bible College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. His passion is teaching and preaching God's Word and seeing people's lives transformed by the Gospel.