



The Voice of Virginia Baptist

*"Advancing the Kingdom of God
Through Preaching"*

**REGISTER
NOW**

Mid-Year Session

NOVEMBER 14 & 15, 2011

Inside This Issue

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Message from the President | 1 |
| Mid-Year Session | 1 |
| Virginia State Usher's Fellowship | 2 |
| Mid-Year Registration Form | Insert |
| Women in Ministry Retreat | 3 |
| 2012 Annual Session | 3 |
| Parent Body Officers | 4 |
| Staff Directory | 4 |

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings!

We are quickly approaching our Mid-Year Session. Last year's session was a tremendous success and we are looking forward to another inspiring and inspirational experience. Tabernacle Baptist Church, Dr. Robert A. Diggs, Sr., Pastor, will serve as our host church. We have an exciting two days of events planned to include workshops, preaching and a Monday night worship service. There will also be time allotted for officers and auxiliary leaders to meet with their various departments and auxiliaries. Information is being added so check the website for updates and important information. Our time together promises to be fulfilling so **register today!**

Petersburg is our place of purpose. See you there!

Leonard N. Smith, D.Min.
President



ACCOMMODATIONS:

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
5679 BOYDTON PLANK ROAD
PETERSBURG, VA 23803
804.518.1515

RATE:

\$95.95 (PLUS TAXES)

CUTOFF DATE FOR THIS RATE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011

LOCATION:

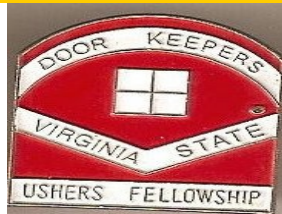
TABERNALE BAPTIST CHURCH
418 HALIFAX STREET
PETERSBURG, VA 23803
804.733.6541



**Mid-Year Pre-Registration is Available Through
November 4th at WWW.TheVBSC.Org.**

**All Pre-Registration Forms must be received by
October 31st.**

VIRGINIA STATE USHER'S FELLOWSHIP 28TH ANNUAL SESSION



Virginia State Usher's Fellowship
Auxiliary to the Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc.

"Advancing the Kingdom through the Ministry of Ushering"



To God Be the Glory for the Great Things He Has Done!

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus the Christ! I can hardly believe the time has come again for our annual session. The Officers and Executive Board members have met numerous times throughout the year to discuss ways to make this fellowship a more enjoyable one. I am even more excited that the session will be hosted by my home church.

The 28th Annual Session of the Virginia State Usher's Fellowship will convene **November 3 - 5, 2011**, at the Moral Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 50 Moral Hill Drive, Axton, Virginia, Dr. Thurman O. Echols, Jr., Pastor, and Second Vice President, The Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc.

The theme for our convention this year is *"Advancing the Kingdom through the Ministry of Ushering."* In our world today, there are so many things we as believers have to endure, things that compel us to pause, reflect on the endeavors of the past and create ideas that will allow us to persevere in being a shining light in this dark world.

The Convention Hotel is the Quality Inn Dutch Inn, located at 2360 Virginia Avenue, Collinsville, Virginia. Registration fees are as follows: Church \$50.00, Individual \$20.00, and Youth \$10.00. Dr. Victor L. Davis, Sr., Pastor, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia will serve as our trainer. Dr. Leonard N. Smith, President, The Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc., and Senior Minister, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Arlington, Virginia will be the banquet preacher on Friday, November 4, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. The banquet will be held at the Quality Inn Dutch Inn Hotel. For additional information on registration and events please visit WWW.TheVBSC.org /or contact Mervin Brown at (276)-632-6058/mbcbmb@comcast.net. I encourage each of you to invite your church family and friends to be a part of this 28th Annual Session!

I would like to thank all of the churches for your past support during my tenure and I look forward to your continued dedication towards our upcoming officers. I pray that this will be another successful fellowship. I look forward to seeing you in Martinsville!

**Q: IS YOUR CHURCH OR
ASSOCIATION IN NEED OF A WEB
PRESENCE?**

A: YES!!!



Contact FaithConnector through
The Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc. Website
for Information on Easy Site Setup and a Low Monthly Fee
WWW.TheVBSC.org

Mid-Year Session Schedule

2011

WILL BE AVAILABLE
THE WEEK OF
OCTOBER 10, 2011
PLEASE VISIT
WWW.THEVBSC.ORG



Submitted by: Mervin L. Brown, Jr.,
President, Virginia Baptist State Ushers' Fellowship

WOMEN IN MINISTRY RETREAT 2ND ANNUAL RETREAT

“Soul Survivors: Focusing on the Wholeness and Healing of Clergy Women”

The Women in Ministry Department hosted their 2nd Annual Retreat, “Soul Survivors: Focusing on the Wholeness and Healing of Clergy Women.” The retreat was held August 19-21, 2011, at the Founder’s Inn and Spa in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The heart of the retreat was on wholeness and wellness of women in ministry. The retreat speakers centered around emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual fullness. Minister Danielle Bridgeforth, Youth Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia preached the opening night session.



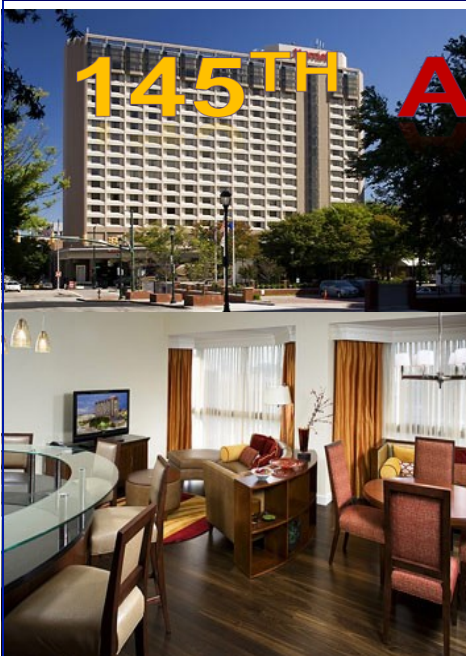
Dr. Faye Gunn, Director, Christian Life Institute, Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia, ministered on the topic, “How Your Baggage Informs Your Ministry.” This workshop focused on the importance of spiritual wellness. Ms. Alice Freeman of Healthy Heart Plus II, Richmond, Virginia shared information about the importance of caring for our temples through healthy eating and exercise.

Dr. Cynthia Turner, Pastor, Dayspring Community Church, Lanham, Maryland, presented a workshop, “Sharpening Your Craft.” Dr. Turner shared the importance of personal study and proper sermon preparation.

Reverend Brenda Brown-Grooms, State Director, focused on the emotional wellness during the “Soul Prosperity” session. The retreat weekend featured periods of reflection, meditation, and fellowship activities.

The retreat concluded on Sunday morning with a Worship Service and lunch. The Women in Ministry Department would like to thank all of the women who attended this year’s retreat and those churches and businesses who supported the retreat through sponsorships. Specifically, we would like to thank our Convention President, Dr. Leonard N. Smith, and the Regent University, School of Divinity.

*Submitted by: Minister Yalonda Blizzard
Assistant Director*



145TH ANNUAL SESSION

MAY 14 -17, 2012

**RICHMOND MARRIOTT
500 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VA 23219**



Save The Date!!!

PARENT BODY OFFICERS

Dr. Leonard N. Smith - President

Dr. Mark A. Croston, Sr. - 1st Vice President

Dr. Thurman O. Echols, Jr. - 2nd Vice President

Dr. Marcellus L. Harris, Jr. - 3rd Vice President

Dr. Charles R. Whitfield - 4th Vice President

Dr. Shelton Murphy - Recording Secretary

Dr. Alvin Edwards - Asst. Recording Secretary

Ms. Jacqueline N. Prather - Treasurer

Dr. Reginald C. Woodhouse - Statistician

Dr. Cedric E. Malone - Auditor



STAFF DIRECTORY

Min. Cassandra D. Tate, Executive Assistant to the President, ctate@thevbsc.org

Chrisaundra L. Smith, Webmaster, csmith@thevbsc.org

Michael A. Boyd, Director of Technology, mboyd@thevbsc.org

Akia T. Garnett, Communications Officer, communication@thevbsc.org

MAILING ADDRESS

Office of the President
The Virginia Baptist State
Convention, Inc.
3500 South 19th Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Toll Free: 1-877-388-VBSC (8272)

The Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc.
c/o Mount Zion Baptist Church
3500 South 19th Street
Arlington, VA 22204-5312