

MARCH

2025

# The Voice of Virginia Baptist



#Keeping the Main Thing The Main Thing  
*Matthew 8:19-20 (KJV)*

Register Now

## Blessings to Virginia Baptists,

As we journey through the challenges and triumphs of our faith, we are strengthened by our unwavering trust in God's presence and guidance. Following our uplifting mountain-top experience at the Mid-Year session at Vance Street Baptist Church in Danville, we remain invigorated and committed to *"keeping the main thing the main thing."*

On January 13-15, 2025, we experienced yet another mountaintop moment at the National Baptist Convention Mid-Year Session. This gathering provided a valuable opportunity for the VBSC to collaborate and fellowship with faith leaders nationwide while gaining insight into the vision of our new President, Dr. Boise Kimber, as he shared his plans for the future. With faith and clarity of purpose, the Virginia Baptist State Convention (VBSC) stands ready to fulfill our sacred calling in every season.

This past year has truly tested our resilience. From the devastating fire at Forest Level Baptist Church in Forest, VA last December to our rapid response to Hurricane Helene in October — an event that left communities across the Southeast grappling with destruction, power outages, and despair — our VBSC churches stepped up in extraordinary ways. Through these trials, we witnessed powerful demonstrations of God's unwavering love. I extend a heartfelt invitation to all dedicated laborers in Christ to join us for another transformative mountain-top experience. Mark your calendars for our 158th Annual Session, May 12-15, 2025, at the DoubleTree Koger Center in Richmond, VA.



**158th  
Annual  
Session  
of the  
VBSC**

**May 12—15,  
2025**

**Host Hotel**

**DoubleTree Koger  
Center  
102 Koger Center Blvd.  
Richmond, VA**

The Executive Team convened on February 18th at the host venue, the DoubleTree Center to ensure a seamless and welcoming experience, where we will be renewed by the Holy Spirit. They worked diligently and made prayerful plans to provide powerful teachings and preaching that will uplift the spirit and strengthen our mission.

Let us continue in faith and unity as we experience our mountain-tops and valley-lows on this life-changing journey together. Safe travels as you come to Richmond to participate in this transformative Session.

May God's Face Continue to Shine on You and the 158th Annual Session of the Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc.

**Yours in Christ,**

**Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.**  
President

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**Opening Night**

**Rev. Reginald Sharpe**  
*Fellowship  
Missionary Baptist  
Church  
Chicago, Ill*



**Late Night**

**Rev. Dr. F. Bernard Mitchell**  
*Zion Hill Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Mendenhall, MS*



**President's Banquet**

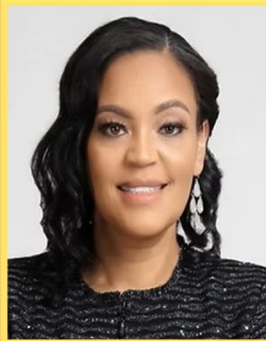
**Rev. Dr. John R. Adolph**  
*Antioch Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Beaumont, TX*



**Rev. Dr. Boise Kimber**  
*President National  
Baptist Convention,  
USA, INC.*



**Rev. Dr. Quintrell Burrell**  
*Music and Worship  
Arts Staff  
National Baptist  
Convention, USA, INC.*



**Rev. Dr. Danielle Brown**  
*Shiloh Baptist  
Church  
Plainsfield, NC*



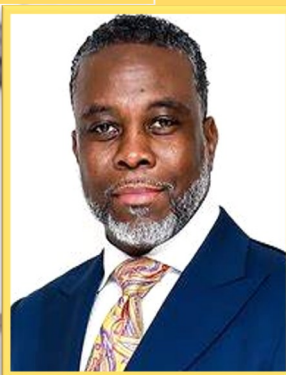
**Rev. Wanda Wallace-Tucker**  
*Little Mount  
Baptist Church  
Blackstone, VA*



**Rev. Jocelyn Blount**  
*Good Hopewell  
Baptist Church  
Richmond, VA*



**Rev. Dr. Charity Fisher**  
*Greater Revival  
Church  
Virginia Beach, VA*



**Rev. Dr. Charles Whitfield**  
*First Baptist Church  
East Martinsville  
Martinsville, VA*



**Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.**  
*President VBSC,  
INC.*

# BOOK YOUR ROOM



*Virginia Baptist State Convention  
158th Annual Session  
Host Hotel Information*

RATE PER ROOM  
\* SINGLE - \$158.10  
\* DOUBLE - \$158.10

SCAN QR CODE  
TO BOOK



*DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Midlothian-Richmond  
1021 Koger Center Blvd.  
Richmond, VA 23235*



*Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.  
President*

## HOTEL INFORMATION

### LET'S GET THOSE ROOMS BOOKED!!!

We are super excited to share with you the information to reserve your room for our upcoming 158th Annual Session, that will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Richmond-Midlothian, 1021 Koger Blvd., Richmond, Virginia 23235 on May 11th—16th, 2025.

There is a code located on the flyer that can be scanned, that will take you directly to the website to make your reservation and below is the link to make your reservation(s) as well:

[https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/  
ricksdt-90w-60ca2548-4977-4767—  
bd8b-57e1a53e80f1/](https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/ricksdt-90w-60ca2548-4977-4767-bd8b-57e1a53e80f1/)

Secondly, if you choose to go through Hilton.com or the Hilton Honor APP to book your room (s) please use the three-letter group code 90W.

# PEOPLE'S CHOICE NOMINATIONS



## Criteria for Nominating Individuals for People's Awards

<b>MODERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Awarded annually to the Moderator of an active and financially supportive local Association, for outstanding service and embracing the theme and thrust of the Convention.
<b>PASTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Established to recognize the outstanding church leadership or community by pastor or senior pastor.
<b>ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Given annually to an unpaid associate minister of a local church who embodies Servanthood and submission to pastoral authority and leadership.
<b>CHURCH STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Presented annually for outstanding service to a local church as a paid member of its staff. Clergy or laypersons may be nominated for this award.
<b>DIACONATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	The award is given annually to recognize the significant and faithful service of a deacon or deaconess to their local church.
<b>TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Awarded annually to a church trustee for outstanding service to their local church.
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Awarded to a dedicated paid or volunteer Christian educator for outstanding service and/or leadership.
<b>YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	The annual award is for an active and faithful youth member of a local church, up to age 18.
<b>YOUNG ADULT OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	It is given annually to a young adult between the ages of 19-35 for outstanding service to their local church.
<b>MINISTRY LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	This award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates leadership excellence as the president, director or overseer of a church ministry without compensation.
<b>LAYPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	Established to honor the significant contributions of a volunteer who serves faithfully in a local church; often in the shadows of others without fanfare or compensation.
<b>MINISTER OF MUSIC OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>	This award is presented annually to honor excellent service and dedication to the ministry of music in the local church.

### President's Awards (*nominated by president*)

<b>JOHN H. FOSTER POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD</b>	Given to a Christian man or woman that has distinguished him or herself as an elected official in a municipal, state or national office.
<b>CORPORATE/BUSINESS AWARD</b>	Presented annually to a corporation or business which has established a track record of excellence in providing superior service to its clients, innovative programs and initiatives that benefit, empowers or protects its employees; while it maintains the highest ethical and moral standards.
<b>DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD</b>	The award is given annually to recognize the outstanding contributions of an individual to their field of study, area of interest or the VBSC.
<b>LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD</b>	The award is presented annually to an individual who has community leadership of a local pastor/ senior pastor during their lifetime made repeated significant contributions to their field of study, area of interest or the VBSC.
<b>ROBERT J. N. JONES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD</b>	This Award is presented annually to an individual who has made noteworthy contributions to the improvement of the quality of life and welfare of other people.
<b>HERITAGE AWARD</b>	The award is presented annually to honor excellence in the promotion, perpetuation and preservation of African American History.

VIRGINIA BAPTIST  
STATE CONVENTION, INC.

PRESIDENT'S

*Annual Gala*



*Banquet Speaker*

*Dr. John Adolph*

*Antioch Missionary Baptist Church*

*Beaumont, TX*

*Tuesday, May 13, 2025*

**Doubletree Koger Center**

*102 Koger Center Blvd.*

*Richmond, VA*

**Tickets \$100.00**

**Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.**  
*President*



# *Love Offering for the President*



## **SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE PRESIDENT**

*Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.,  
has served our convention faithfully this year as President.  
Let us show our love and gratitude on Wednesday evening,  
May 14th, 2025, with a special offering.*

*We are asking:*

*All Churches to give a minimum of \$200.00*

*All Convention and Auxiliary leaders to give a minimum of \$100.00*

*All Pastors, Ministers and Moderators to give a minimum of \$100.00*

*All others to give at least \$50.00*

*Thanks In Advance,*

*Dr. Kevin White*

*Vice President-At-Large*



# The Virginia Baptist State Convention Leadership

## The Elected & Appointed Parent Body Leaders, Auxiliary Leaders & Officers



**Dr. Kevin White**  
*Vice-President-  
At-Large*

**Dr. Matthew L. Brown**  
*1st Vice-President*

**Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.**  
*President*

**Dr. Leroy Mitchell**  
*2nd Vice-President*

**Dr. Cory J. Taylor**  
*3rd Vice-President*

### ELECTED

President	Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.
Vice President-at-Large	Dr. Kevin White
First Vice President	Dr. Matthew L. Brown
Second Vice President	Dr. Leroy M. Mitchell, III
Third Vice President	Dr. Cory J. Taylor
Statistician	Rev. Damion Batts
Recording Secretary	Sis. Brenda Spinner
Assistant Recording Secretary	Sis. Vasthie Douglas
Treasurer	Bro. Mervin L. Brown, Jr.
Assistant Treasurer	Sis. Angie Elcox
Assistant Treasurer	Rev. Chris Coates
Parliamentarian	Dr. Carl Hutcherson
Historian	Rev. Sylvia Tucker



**Bro. Mervin L. Brown**  
*Convention  
Administrator*



**STAFF**  
**Rev. Jessica Berger**  
*Executive Administrator  
Assistant to the President/  
Registration Coordinator*

### AUXILIARY LEADERS

Women's Missionary & Educational Auxiliary	Deaconess Rosylind Fitz
Laymen Auxiliary	Bro. Howard Ingram
Ushers Auxiliary	Bro. Mervin Brown
Deacon & Deaconess Auxiliary	Deacon Marvin Jones
The Baptist Sunday School & BTU Congress of Virginia	Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns

### APPOINTED LEADERS

Chairman, Evangelism	Dr. LeRoy Hill, Jr.	State Director, Prison Family	Min. Samuel Moore
Chairman, Clergy Division	Dr. Melvin Blackwell	State Director, Music Ministry	Dr. Dwight Steele
Chairman, Past President Council	Dr. D. Tyrone Brandon	State Director, Children & Youth	Min. Tesia Heard White
Chairman, Foreign Missions Board	Dr. Howard E. Heard	State Director, Young Adult Ministry	Rev. Nicole Guns
Economic Development Commission	Dr. Frankie Jones	State Director, Young Pastors &	Dr. Tyrone Jackson, Jr.
Chairman, Social Justice Commission	Dr. Calvin Gray	Liaison for Tidewater	Dr. Luther Allen
Chairman, CHVB Commission	Dr. Rodney Waller		
Dean of Christian Education	Dr. Jocelyn Blount		
State Director, Home Mission & Disaster Relief	Dr. Willard Maxwell		
State Director, Moderators	Dr. Charles Whitfield		
State Director, Social-Media	Sis. Alexis Berger		
State Director, Women in Ministry	Rev. Wanda Wallace-Tucker		





# Associations & Moderators

Bethany Baptist Association	Dr. George W. C. Lyons, Jr.
Clinch River Baptist Association	Rev. Leroy Kain
Ebenezer Baptist Association	Rev. Ray A. Smith
Hasadiah Association	Rev. John Braxton
Peaks of Otter Baptist Association	Dr. M. D. Mays
Pigg River Association	Rev. Coleman Wright
Rock Fish Association	Rev. Rodney Sandridge
Sharon Association	Rev. Larry Parker
Smith River Association	Dr. Charles Whitfield
Tidewater Peninsula Association	Dr. Tyrone Jackson, Jr.
Unified Shiloh Association	Rev. Marshall Burchette
Valley Baptist Association	Rev. Dr. Clay Dawson

## STAY CONNECTED



**50 Moral Hill Drive  
Axton, VA 24054**



**[www.thevbsc.org](http://www.thevbsc.org)**