



# The Network News

January 2018

## BE FRUITFUL IN THE NEW YEAR!

Our PBA theme for this year is “Be Fruitful”. This is a challenge to congregations, and to individuals as well. Throughout scriptures, God commands us to be fruitful, be productive, make a difference. How will you make a difference in the new year? Here are several opportunities in the coming weeks to plug into this network of churches in meaningful ways.

### Pastor’s Dialogue on Race, Violence and Poverty

These monthly gatherings offer a chance for pastors and others to enter into a larger conversation with each other, as well as with law enforcement officers, city officials, and people connected with agencies working for the good of our communities. How is this fruitful? A movement is growing out of these gatherings which has birthed many opportunities to share the gospel to the people who need to hear it. Churches are benefiting from partnerships with other churches and agencies to bring real change. We meet the second Wednesday of each month from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. The location changes each month. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at HarborPointe Community Church**. For more information, or to get on the email list, contact Charles at [cecheek2004@yahoo.com](mailto:cecheek2004@yahoo.com).

### MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVING

In the past couple of years, we have joined with people across the nation to make MLK Day “A Day On, Not a Day Off”. We have identified several projects in Newport News (last year we were in Hampton). People with any level of skill - or lack thereof - are invited to join us in blessing the community while sharing the love of Jesus. Look for details in this newsletter.

### PASTOR’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

We invite pastors and anyone else in ministry to gather several times a year for good food, great fellowship, and helpful information. Our next meeting will be **January 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 AM at the PBA Resource Center**. This is a great time to meet other pastors and find out more ways to network together. Some of the most fruitful efforts come from pastors and churches networking together to reach out into the community. To R.S.V.P., contact Linda at [pba@peninsulabaptist.org](mailto:pba@peninsulabaptist.org).

### PBA TOUR

The staff’s effort to gather, connect, and communicate with each of our geographical areas continues on January 21st at Walnut Hills Baptist Church (1014 Jamestown Rd. Williamsburg, VA 23185) from 6:30-8pm. If you attend a church in the Williamsburg area or are located in the Williamsburg area and attend a PBA church, please join us. We’re looking forward to talking through how we are a network of churches, equipping churches for kingdom ministry and to receive feedback. Hope to see you there.

## GET EQUIPPED, BE FRUITFUL

February 25th we will provide an opportunity for all people to come and get equipped in order to help encourage our theme for the year to "be fruitful". There will be a variety of subjects (discipleship in the work place, Fresh Expressions of church, missions, leadership, a specialty one for pastors, etc.) covered at this event. There will be time enough for each person to attend two breakout sessions. It will be at Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple (3100 Butternut Dr. Hampton, VA 23666) from 3 PM-5:30 PM. There is a \$10 cost. Keep your eye out for the exclusive on the breakout session details and schedule. Please contact us, if you have any questions.

## MLK A DAY ON NOT A DAY OFF

Once again, in 2018 we want to invite people to join with us in making Martin Luther King Day a day of serving the community. Last year over 80 people came out to refurbish a community center in Phoebus. It was covered by the local TV news. This kind of serving enhances the reputation of our churches in the community, and offers a tangible way to share the gospel.

So, on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> we will be gathering in the Southeast Community of Newport News to engage in several projects to bless that community. Anyone may participate. This is an excellent opportunity for youth groups, Sunday School classes, or small groups from churches to do some hands-on ministry.

The projects will range from (1) providing labor to assist a veterans organization at the Marshall Early Learning Center in building a reading loft in the library, building a sandbox with lid, shelving for outdoor learning center, etc.; (2) stabilizing a falling front porch roof for an elderly couple; (3) helping to improve a resource center - painting, caulking, light carpentry and assembling shelves, Operation Breakingthrough, that serves the needs of low income residents of the southeast area; and, (4) conducting community surveys of residents in the area. This day of service will bring together individuals of all walks of life ...veterans, neighborhood residents, college students and houses of worships of all faiths and denominations. Everyone is asked to meet by 9:00am to receive assignments and to be dispatched to sites...the meeting place will be at Zion Baptist Church, located at 633 20th Street, Newport News, Va...we will meet in the fellowship hall. For additional information contact 757-602-9196 (cell) or email [cecheek2004@gmail.com](mailto:cecheek2004@gmail.com).

To sign-up or register go to following link.. <https://www.allforgood.org/projects/78eYpn8p>

### CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

This is to keep you informed of changes going on within our network of churches. Please let us know if you have any changes. [pba@peninsulabaptist.org](mailto:pba@peninsulabaptist.org)

Emmaus Baptist

Orcutt Baptist

Peninsula Chinese Baptist

Yorktown Baptist

Hampton Roads Baptist

Memorial Baptist

Warwick Baptist

**FAITH AND COMMUNITY BASED YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING  
AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WEBINAR  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM to 3:30 PM**

Charles Cheek will be presenting on “Faith and Community-Based Employment Initiatives and Enterprise Development” during this national webinar being presented by the United States Department of Justice. (This is kind of a big deal!)

Unemployment among youth in the US stands at 13.7% as of October 2017, compared with 4.1% for the general population in the same period. This fact has little to do with a desire to work. Many youth are either unemployed or working less than they want to be. For youth in poor communities, employment prospects are even bleaker as millions of middle-class workers are pushed into lower-paying jobs, taking the jobs that youth once had (or held).

As a result of this webinar, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the economic trends underlying unemployment and underemployment in youth who live in low-income communities and what that means for the quality and quantity of future employment.
- Articulate how to develop the ‘soft’ or ‘pre-employment’ skills that every employer seeks such as dress and punctuality.
- Describe how to ‘beat the street’ of money from crime where drug dealers make in one day what legitimate employers pay in a week or two of employment.
- Identify the kind of support that can be provided by faith and community-based organizations, leading to employment and job retention by youth and reduction in youth violence in communities.

This Webinar is open to anyone who registers at this site:

<http://ojdpтта.adobeconnect.com/euqjyy1tq4a2/event/registration.html>

**SECURITY & SAFETY FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP  
January 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM to 2 PM**

The Mission: To Educate Leaders & Increase Awareness regarding safety concerns & planning.

The Vision: To Increase Communication, Awareness & Information Sharing.

Where: Location will be provided via email for Registered Participants.

Who: Clergy, Staff Members, Security Team Leaders & Members, Others as Requested

How: RSVP via Email [Newcombne@nnva.gov](mailto:Newcombne@nnva.gov) before January 12, 2018. Please Include the following information:

1. Name & Address of Organization
2. Titles/Role, Individual(s) Name & Contact Number

What: This “Back to Basics” Teaching and Discussion on Safety Considerations for Places of Worship will be Co-Led by Master Police Officer N. Newcomb (NNPD) & Reverend Walter Satchell of First Baptist Church Newport News. This meeting will cover the same material presented in 2014-2016 anyone who wants to attend again for a refresher is more than welcome to register!

-Additional Information-

If you missed previous workshops- this is your chance to get caught up! Register ASAP!

Questions can be directed to Central Precinct (757-591-4978) or the email listed above.

## WINTER PREPARATIONS FROM THE MENNOWOOD

Winter can be a challenging time of year to get out and about. Freezing rain, icy surfaces and piles of hard-packed snow pose a hazard for the innocent pedestrian.

A few simple measures can make it safer to walk outdoors in the winter. Removing snow and ice, putting sand or salt on areas where people walk, and wearing the right footwear all make a big difference.

Some basic precautions of the wintery mix can keep you safe this winter. First choose a good pair of winter boots. Make sure they are waterproof, thick non-slip tread sole made of natural rubber, wide low heels and light weight Ice gripper son footwear can help you walk on hard packed snow and ice. Prevent heat loss by wearing a warm brightly colored hat, scarf and gloves so that you can be seen. Dress in layers, it will keep you warmer. Keeping sidewalks and driveways clear is important, but if you are unable to keep a small bag of grit, sand or non-clumping cat litter in your jacket pocket or handbag to sprinkle when you are confronted with icy sidewalks, steps, bust stops, etc.

When walking on ice take your time. Keeping your body as loose as possible, spread your feet to more than a foot apart to provide a base of support. This will help stabilize you as you walk. Keep your knees loose—let them bend a bit. Take small steps, placing your whole foot down at once, then shift your weight very slowly to this foot and bring your other foot to meet it the same way. Some people prefer to drag their feet or shuffle them. If this feels better to you, then do so, just remember to place your whole foot on the ice at once and keep your base of support approximately one-foot width. Of course it is always better to avoid tricky situations by being prepared and planning a safe route for your walk. If you are uncomfortable crossing an icy surface, ask a passer- by to help you across.

Mennowood is a beautiful community in the winter. It allows our residents not to have to worry about these concerns in the winter. They are able to sit by the fireplaces and drink hot chocolate without worrying about what is happening with the weather. Our residents feel safe and secure in knowing that their needs will be met. The grocery shopping is done for them if needed. Their meals are prepared and ready for them to enjoy. The building is full of activity, directed by Chrissy Bell. You can find always find fun things happening with lots of laughter with Tracie and Sheryl.

### STUDENT MINISTRY NETWORK CORNER

We hope you had a wonderful holiday. We're looking forward to what God has in store for us in this New Year. If we (Paul and Melanie) haven't had an opportunity to sit down with you for coffee, and you work with the students in our churches, please le us know. We would love the opportunity to meet you, talk with you, and/or network with you.

Also, if you are looking for something to engage your students in for MLK day, please see the section on the MLK Day on, not off. We would love to see the students engage in these projects and serve their local community.



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[@penbaptist](https://twitter.com/penbaptist)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpi0kvUHFKA>

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