

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

Hello Pastors and Staff,

I am truly excited about what is coming in 2025 for MMBA. We would like to officially welcome Chad Grisham, Elders Baptist Church, and Andy Bell, Hampstead Baptist Church, to the One Mission Council. They are great assets to the team.

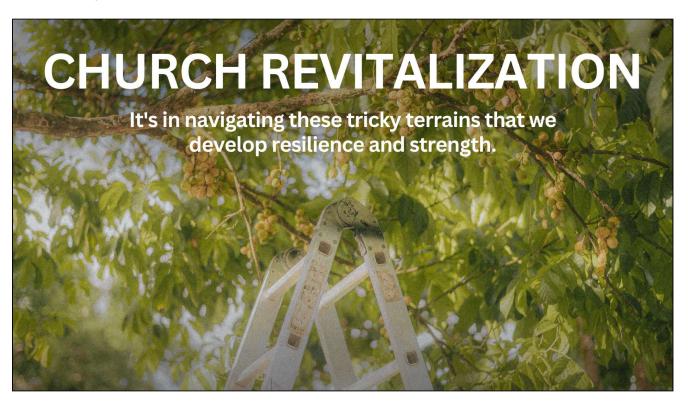
I would like to give thanks to God and to our faithful churches for their generous giving this past year. In the 2024 budget, we intentionally budgeted to take a loss and to use some of MMBA's reserves, for ministry and within MMBA churches. By God's grace, MMBA was able to give more money back to our churches through Strengthening Church Grants, Mission Trip Grants, Educational Scholarships, Church Planting, and to our partnering organizations totaling over \$79,000. Without pulling from reserves, MMBA showed a profit of over \$8000 for the year. MMBA is grateful for the generous giving of our churches, and we will continue to work hard to get resources and assistance where it is needed.

Churches, MMBA wants you to remember you are not alone, and your Association is working to help as needs come to our attention. We have heard from many, and we are planning several events as a result. We are in planning mode for a Marriage Conference this fall to help build marriages and resource our churches to build strong marriages in their congregations. We have training coming up for pastors and staff regarding the use of Al and church revitalization. And don't forget the opportunities for pastors to gather each month for prayer, encouragement, brainstorming, and food! Please feel free to reach out if there is a topic at these gatherings you would like to see addressed.

There are many other opportunities for us to work together in bringing the Good News to those who need it. Look for opportunities below from MMBA and our BCMD.

"And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 28:2, ESV)

Pastor John Mackall, DOM



Have you contemplated church revitalization or ideas for leading or growing your congregation. NAMB Replant in partnership with MMBA, is hosting a revitalize & replant exposure call with Colin Pugh, Clinton Baptist, on **February 5th, at noon**.

This **Zoom** will focus on dying / declining churches, replanting, and revitalization strategies to include identifying the characteristics of a declining church, factors contributing to the decline, and defining replanting and revitalization.



CrossLife Community Church invites MMBA churches to join them on mission in North Carolina for disaster relief March 30th through April 4th. The trip is coordinated with the North Carolina Baptist State Convention for ongoing disaster relief from Hurricane Florence that hit North Carolina prior to Hurricane Helene and has ongoing relief efforts.

There is a charge of \$20 per person per day, which helps cover your meals (3 meals per day), lodging, and insurance. If interested, please contact Pastor John Mackall at john@crosslifeonline.com.

Promotional materials to share with your congregation will be available soon.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40 ESV)



ONE HOPE, an MMBA partner, has an incredible opportunity to revitalize Southwest Baptist Church in Baltimore in one of the most spiritually neglected communities.

While the church building itself requires extensive repairs, the greater need lies inbuilding a healthy church in Baltimore City and bringing the gospel to a community that is desperate for hope. That is where your mission team could walk alongside them.

if there are members in your congregation with experience in construction or ministry, we would love to discuss the possibility of your church sending a team to Baltimore for a short-term mission trip to assist with the repairs.

To explore this opportunity further, contact Aikin at 240-564-0452.

EVERYONE BELONGS

You will not want to miss the opportunity to bless families with teens and young adults affected by disability. In fact, you will be the one blessed at this life changing overnight camp.

Everyone Belongs Camp 2025 July 18th - 20th

Through this camp, MMBA wants to share the opportunity to partner with BCMD and families to invite all people with disabilities to the eternal banquet by fostering community and connections with the local church.



Artificial Intelligence is here to stay! It is critical as a pastor and a church body to understand how it is used and the impact it can have on a church in a positive and negative manner.

MMBA is in the process of scheduling a training for pastors in February or March. I highly recommend reading <u>AI and the Church: A Clear Guide</u> <u>for the Curious and Courageous</u>

Be looking for the March date and be sure to mark your calendars.



Upcoming

- February 5th Revitalization & Replant Exposure, **Zoom**, Noon
- May 30th Pastor and Spouse Family Picnic
- October 6th MMBA Annual Meeting

Monthly Ongoing

- 2nd Tuesdays of the Month North Area Pastors' Group meets at various restaurants at 11:30 a.m. Contact Pastor Andy Bell at aabell98@gmail.com for more information.
- 2nd Wednesday of the Month Glenwood Pastors' Group meets at Burntwoods Church, 14135 Burntwoods Road; Glenwood, MD 21738, at 1 p.m. Contact Pastor TJ Johnson at pastortj@tcbclive.org for more information.

2025 Events in Process

March - Artificial Intelligence Conference

• September - MMBA Marriage Conference



- **FBC En Espanol** is a Hispanic church plant out of Friendship Baptist Church in Sykesville. Join MMBA in praying for Pastor Martin Nieto, his family, and **Friendship Baptist** as they seek to reach the community in their backyard.
- **Elkridge Baptist Church** is in full planning mode for their Montana mission trip and May outreach. Pray for hearts to be open to hear the gospel.
- CrossLife Community Church is partnering with the North
 Carolina Baptist Association for hurricane relief. Pray for volunteers
 and churches to collaborate for this ongoing need in North
 Carolina.

We want to hear what God is doing at MMBA churches.

- Mission trip photos
- Prayer requests
- Community outreach events
- VBS photos
- Decisions for Jesus
- Paid or volunteer positions at your church
- Classified donation items
- Staff changes for the directory
- Ideas to share on MMBA Facebook page

Email Michelle at adminasst@midmaryland.org.



MMBA has a host of resources for use by MMBA churches. Visit the <u>website</u> for more information. We are better together and are thankful for opportunities to collaborate and support MMBA churches.

- Education Scholarship
- Mission Opportunities
- Block Party Trailer
- <u>Mission Trip Scholarships</u>
- Strengthening Church Grants
- Video Projection System
- Pulpit Supply List
- Websites



BCMD is here to serve you. Several opportunities are coming up. See the BCMD calendar.

- February 8th George Liele Missionary Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.
- February 15th and 22nd VBS Training
- February 18-22 Send BCMD Prayer Gathering
- February 28th ACP Deadline
- March 7th and 8th "Revive" Women's Conference 2025

- March 18th NAMB Evangelism Conference
- July 18th 20th Everyone Belongs Camp



Be sure to share news on MMBA churches, the Association, and BCMD events. Be sure to like the page today and share ideas!

View email in browser

Mid-Maryland Baptist Association c/o CrossLife Community Church, 6625 Selnick Drive, Ste. B; Elkridge, MD 21075 www.midmarylandba.org

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