

# Program Committee

## Official Report

The Program Committee is responsible for preparing the order of business for the annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia and assuring that worship is emphasized during the meeting.

Inspired by the title of our speaker, Alan Hirsch's book, *ReJesus*, we offer the call to all Virginia Baptists to gather in Richmond this year to **ReJoyce. ReClaim. ReJesus**. We will **ReJoyce** through congregational song, contemplative prayer and even a celebration dance. We will **ReClaim** the proud heritage that is ours as Virginia Baptists. And our featured speaker, Alan Hirsch, will share from his book, *ReJesus*, about the role that Jesus played in defining missional movements. Our prayer is that you will leave our annual meeting informed, inspired and encouraged as you leave to live out the gospel "as you are going."

This year we are introducing two new elements to our worship times together. Our Virginia Baptists Celebration Dance has been written about across the United States over the last few months. Our dance was inspired by the original Resurrection Dance by Faith Church in Budapest, Hungary. On April 4, 2010, over 1,300 young people, all of them members of Faith Church celebrated Resurrection Sunday in Budapest, Hungary, with a similar "flash mob" dance as a missional outreach to their city. Through the power of the internet, their outreach that Easter Sunday has become a global phenomenon. As we introduce our own Virginia Baptist version of this dance (using the original music track) we are connecting with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world in proclaiming our joy, heritage and faith in Jesus Christ here in Richmond and beyond. For many months Virginia Baptists have been filming segments of this dance. You will see clips from these segments throughout our meeting. These Celebration Dances have already united other believers in Virginia and beyond in a powerful witness to what Christ is doing in the world AND among Virginia Baptists. Truly the work of Christ among us is worth celebrating! Whether your body joins in with us or not, we pray that your heart will be quickened to a renewed joy and faith in Jesus Christ during our worship times together.

Secondly, we are also asking you to enter into specific times of silent worship and prayer during our times of business and worship. At various times we will be asking you to stand (if you are able) and in unison recite a very ancient and beautiful prayer to prepare our hearts to encounter the living Christ. This prayer, based on a prayer by John Chrysostom, dates back to the 4th century, AD. As we pray this prayer together we are connected with our brothers and sisters of faith from the early church and are reminded that the God we serve is the same "yesterday, today and forever." We encourage you to quietly and prayerfully meditate on the words of this prayer as we prepare ourselves to do the business of and worship as Virginia Baptists.

We are blessed to have Alan Hirsch with us this year. Alan is a highly-acclaimed author and speaker. Many of our Virginia Baptists are already engaged with his thoughts and writings. Our prayer is that his passion to missionally live out the gospel will challenge each of us personally and corporately to better reflect the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Program Committee covets your prayers during our time together and humbly asks for your feedback on the meeting through the supplied Evaluation Form. Although we are never able to accommodate all requests, we prayerfully consider your thoughts each year as we shape this event.

The Program Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That the program, as printed, be adopted as the agenda of the 2011 meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia.
2. That times on the program are indicated merely as guidance.
3. That, in order to expedite discussion, debate on all matters will be limited to three minutes per speaker, and that speakers, pro and con, be alternated.
4. That future sites for the Annual Meeting be adopted as:
  - 2012: November 13–14 (Tuesday and Wednesday), Roanoke Area
  - 2013: November 12–13 (Tuesday and Wednesday), Northern Virginia Area

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Dale Tadlock, Chair  
 Thomas Gaskins  
 Paul Honaker  
 Yulanda Humphreys  
 Alan Jessee  
 Jean Kelpin  
 Roger McGee  
 Bette Schwall