



## Minutes

Spring Business Meeting of Middle District Baptist Association

3:00 p.m., May 19, 2024, James River Community Church

John Sawyer welcomed everyone to the meeting and Pastor Michael Hester, Chesterfield Community Church, gave the opening prayer.

Chris Patch, Worship Leader at James River led everyone in a song.

Call to Order - Moderator, Bob Beasley, made sure everyone had registered then welcomed Carl Peyton, Leadership Committee President, up to present a motion from that Committee:

**Motion:** *The Leadership Committee moves that James River Community Church be granted full membership in the Middle District Baptist Association.*

The motion was approved with no questions. With no other business, John Sawyer conducted the rest of the meeting with updates and a feedback session. Everyone introduced themselves and what church they were a member of.

John clarified that we now have 37 churches in the Middle District. After the recent Leadership Committee retreat, things started to evolve in how MDBA might look back in 5 years and celebrate milestones. Middle District has helped numerous churches in many ways over the years including the recent Peer groups. Nate Travis, Chester Baptist, shared how important the pastor's group is to him. It is hoped that more pastors and staff members will be interested in starting new groups in the coming months.

Groups gathered around large post-it notes to write their thoughts on the 5-year celebration and what that might look like, as well as current plus and minuses in the association life, and shared their ideas.

Bridging RVA is one of our ministry partners in the missions offering and they shared a teacher appreciation video that included Bethel and May Memorial as participants.

In closing, John shared that a group will be coming together from MDBA to build a ramp at Chesterfield Community Church and invited others to help. Also, The Vessel Church has its annual American Heritage Event coming up on October 19. John Sawyer closed the meeting with a prayer.

*In absentia of the clerk, these minutes are humbly submitted by acting clerk, Brenda Green.*