

Baptist Beacon  
Nashville Baptist Association  
420 Main Street  
Nashville TN 37206

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**PAID**  
Nashville, TN  
Permit No. 755

# Baptist Beacon

## Pastor Profile

**Charles Specht**  
Valley View Baptist Church  
[valleyviewnashville.org](http://valleyviewnashville.org)



I was born in 1974 in Joliet, IL but raised in Appleton, WI. I grew up in an unchurched family with a difficult home life, marked by alcoholism. As a rebellious teenager myself, I quickly got caught up in a lifestyle of crime, drugs, and alcohol abuse. However, in His infinite mercy, God saved me while I was a senior in college after a college co-worker shared the gospel with me over the course of several months. Immediately after I graduated college I enrolled in seminary, not necessarily to become a pastor but because I wanted to learn more about my new Savior. I met Kathy (now my wife) soon after enrolling at The Master's Seminary in 1998 and we got married in 1999. While in seminary I started a preaching ministry in various jails and prisons all around California. I was involved in prison ministry for about thirteen years before the Lord called me into pastoral ministry. I have served as an Associate Pastor, a Senior Pastor, an Adult Ministries Pastor for a larger multi-site church, and currently serve as Pastor at Valley View Baptist Church in east Nashville. Kathy and I have five children (Camden, Brady, Amelia, Charlotte, and Luke) and our two youngest are adopted from China. Both Charlotte and Luke have special needs for vision, and Luke is fully blind. Our family moved from California to Tennessee in July 2021 so that Luke could attend the Tennessee School for the Blind, located in Donelson.

morning, an hour-long walk through a park in the late morning, eating dinner at a new restaurant with my family, followed up with dessert and an entertaining movie.

**What Bible verse or passage is particularly meaningful to you right now?**

"As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry" (2 Timothy 4:5). (Although I love pastoral ministry, I'm rarely more joyful than when I'm sharing the gospel with unbelievers.)

**Is there a quote that has stuck with you and influenced the way you have thought or behaved?**

"Unsaved people are more interested in talking about Heaven and Hell than Christians are interested in talking to them about Heaven and Hell." - Unknown

**What is one exciting thing God is doing in your church right now?**

I started pastoring at Valley View Baptist Church in east Nashville on October 16, 2022. This is a revitalization ministry with about forty people. As I look around the neighborhood, the community, and all that's available, I'm convinced the church should be ten times the size that it is. It's time to reach out to the unsaved with the gospel! All I have to do now is get the saints to spread some Seed.



**What is your favorite local Nashville restaurant?**

Although I love Hattie B's Hot Chicken ("Southern Style" is about all the heat this Wisconsin-boy can handle), my favorite restaurant so far is Inchin's Bamboo Garden in Nashville.

**How would you spend a day off with no ministry responsibilities?**

More than my fair share of French-roast coffee in the early

## Openings & Opportunities

To have your resume forwarded to churches seeking a pastor, worship leader, or other ministry personnel, please submit a current resume to [general@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:general@nashvillebaptists.com).

### Current Openings—Local, Non-NBA

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Ashland City, TN  
Worship Leader, Silver Springs Baptist, Mt. Juliet

Job descriptions and more openings can be found on our website at [nashvillebaptists.com/jobs](http://nashvillebaptists.com/jobs).

Nashville Baptist Association has a policy of publishing job openings for ministerial and support positions when a church requests us to do so. In our desire to assist churches to fill vacancies, NBA will continue to offer this service at no charge.

For more information, call 615-259-3034.

## \*\*NOTICE!\*\*

The Baptist Beacon will be fully digital beginning April 2023.

Please make sure your church office is signed up to receive the Beacon via email, or download pdf copies from [nashvillebaptists.com/baptist-beacon](http://nashvillebaptists.com/baptist-beacon).

If your church **cannot** receive digital copies, please call the office and let us know.

## Webinars

### Peer Learning Webinar

Each month, the association will offer a Peer Learning Webinar in which a church leader from our association will share valuable and practical skills and insight relevant to a particular area of ministry.

**Topic:** Doing Ministry in Your Local School

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, February 21 at noon

**Presenters:** Aaron Bryant of The Church at Avenue South

**Registration:** [nashvillebaptists.com/peer-learning](http://nashvillebaptists.com/peer-learning)

Last month's webinar, "Ministering to Individuals and Families with Special Needs," led by Joe Stegall and John Whiteneck from Providence Baptist Church, is also available to view at:

[nashvillebaptists.com/peer-learning](http://nashvillebaptists.com/peer-learning)

### Churches Planting Churches Webinar

Our Church Planting Strategist leads a discussion about how our churches can plant and grow new congregations in Nashville and the surrounding areas.

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, February 28 at 11am

**Presenter:** Dwayne Lewis, NBA Church Planting Strategist

**Topic:** Tools to share with church members to invite their family and friends

**Registration:**

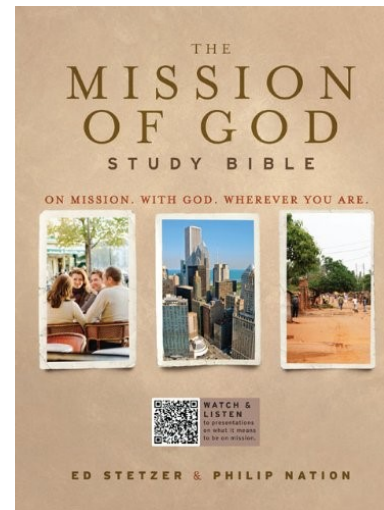
[nashvillebaptists.com/churches-planting-churches](http://nashvillebaptists.com/churches-planting-churches)

## Free Resource

Each month, the association will provide a free resource to the readers of the newsletter. These resources are meant to be practical, helpful, and relatable, just as we are working to be as an association.

This month's free resource is *The Mission of God Study Bible*. The Mission of God Study Bible encourages followers of Jesus Christ to see their everyday life from God's perspective and have His heart for people. In this study Bible, readers will hear through more than 150 additional writings from today's top thinkers, theologians, and leading voices in the church about what it means to live in the mission of God.

We have copies of this resource available to the first 10 people who contact the office to request one. To request a copy, please call (615) 259-3034 or email [general@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:general@nashvillebaptists.com).



## Around the Association

### Nashville Baptist Associational Bible Drill Tulip Grove Baptist Church

The Associational Bible Drill will take place on Sunday, April 16 at Tulip Grove. Please contact Pam Reasonover if your church will be participating in Bible Drill this year, if you need any assistance, or would like more information. Pam can be reached at (615) 260-9661 or [pamr9960@comcast.net](mailto:pamr9960@comcast.net).

### Grace Community Church

On February 18, Grace Community Church in cooperation with Higher Call Ministries will host a one-day conference with the theme of "Advancing His Good Works in the Marketplace." This will be a day of discovery, exploring with men and women in the marketplace, and gaining a clearer vision of God's good works for business leaders and professionals. The Conference will include lunch and last from 8:30-2. Find more info and register at [highercallministries.org/events](http://highercallministries.org/events).

### TBMB Acts 2:17 Listening Sessions Haywood Hills Baptist Church

The Acts 2:17 Initiative will determine the direction for the Tennessee Baptist Convention following the 150th anniversary in 2024. You can join a listening session to help set this direction at Haywood Hills Baptist Church on February 13 at 10 am. Find more information at [www.tnbaptist.org/acts217](http://www.tnbaptist.org/acts217).

### Forest Hills Baptist Church

Forest Hills is hosting a Free Strategic Roundtable for Student Ministry Leaders, hosted by the LifeWay Student Ministry training team. "It's a day chock full of strategy, insight, collaboration, and community. It's the best way to connect with other youth ministry leaders in your area and with the new and important ideas for leading student ministry this season." For registration and more information, visit [studentministry.lifeway.com/studentessentials](http://studentministry.lifeway.com/studentessentials) and select Forest Hills Baptist Church.

### Whitsitt Chapel Baptist Church

Whitsitt Chapel is looking to rent their parsonage to a Christian family. The home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, full laundry room, four car garage, black appliances, a large living room, and a new back deck, directly across from Percy Priest Lake. This is a safe area for families, near exit 219 (Stewart's Ferry) off of I-40, 15 minutes from Downtown.

If any NBA churches have a family looking for a rental home, they can call (615) 889-8798.

To see your church event, need, or accomplishment listed here, please call the NBA office or email Alicia at [adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com).

## Other Opportunities

The **Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee** is looking for an Administrative Assistant to Great Commission Relations and Mobilization Team. This position provides general administrative and clerical support to the Associate VP of African American Relations, the Associate VP of Asian Relations, and the Associate VP of Hispanic Relations and reports to the Administrative Assistant Senior. An ideal candidate would be fluent in both English and Spanish.

For a full job description and information on how to apply, visit [jobs.sbc.net/job/administrative-assistant-to-great-commission-relations-and-mobilization-team](http://jobs.sbc.net/job/administrative-assistant-to-great-commission-relations-and-mobilization-team)

## NBA Staff

**Michael Kelley**, Executive Director  
[mkelley@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:mkelley@nashvillebaptists.com)

**Rusty Sumrall**, Lead Coach/Consultant  
[rsumrall@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:rsumrall@nashvillebaptists.com)

**Alicia Darnell**, Office Manager  
[adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com)

**Dwayne Lewis**, Church Planting Strategist  
[dlewis@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:dlewis@nashvillebaptists.com)

**Brett Boesch**, International Ministry Strategist  
[bboesch@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:bboesch@nashvillebaptists.com)

**John Wright**, Bookkeeper  
[jwright@nashvillebaptists.com](mailto:jwright@nashvillebaptists.com)