



# John V. Upton, Jr.

**Executive Director, Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV)**

## **Executive Director, BGAV**

John V. Upton, Jr. was elected Executive Director of the Baptist General Association of Virginia during the annual meeting of the General Association in November 2001.

John had been group leader of the Mission Mobilization Group since 1995. Earlier he was pastor of Urbanna Baptist Church in Urbanna and he and his wife, Deborah, served as missionaries in Taiwan through the Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board (now International Mission Board). In July 2015 he completed a five-year term as President of the Baptist World Alliance that began July 31, 2010.

John, a Norfolk-born Virginia native, is a graduate of Averett College (now University) in Danville, VA, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. The Uptons have two sons, Christopher and Richard; a daughter, Emily; and seven grandchildren.

## **Education**

- Averett College (now University), BA
- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, MDiv
- Taiwan Language Institute
- International Baptist Theological Seminary, India, DDiv

## **Missions**

- Foreign Mission Board Missionary to Taiwan, 1986-1991 (Mandarin-Speaking Missions)
- Group Leader of Mission Mobilization Group, 1995-2002

## **Pastorates**

- Lake Shore Baptist Church, Waco, TX
- Colts Neck Baptist Church, Colts Neck, NJ
- Urbanna Baptist Church, Urbanna, VA, 1984-1986

## **Family**

### **Spouse**

Deborah Wyatt Upton  
*Associate Pastor for Spiritual Development*  
*Bon Air Baptist Church, Richmond, VA*

### **Children**

Christopher Upton  
Spouse: Jenn  
Children: Juliet Catherine  
Miriam Clare

Richard Upton  
Spouse: Michelle  
Children: Virginia Grace  
Lila Rose  
Sophia Jane

Emily Bauer  
Spouse: Clayton  
Children: Desmond Alexander  
Columbia Leigh