

JAN / FEB 2006

Volume 8
Number 1

Proclaimer

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

Renewing Your Passion for

TRUTH

The SBCV is a fellowship of Southern Baptist Convention churches cooperating to assist local congregations in their task of fulfilling the Great Commission as commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ.

*24 On Lamb: also in verse 28
*23 Greek text: also in verse 37
*38 On presence: Therefore do what you have heard from the Father, said Jesus, then

*23 Greek text: also in verse 37

*38 On presence: Therefore do what you have heard from the Father, said Jesus, then

*39 Some early manuscripts: "If you are Abraham's children,"

EDITOR'S NOTE

Proclaimer

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2006
Volume 8
Number 1

EDITOR

Dr. Geoff Hammond
GRAPHIC DESIGN & LAYOUT
Patti Spencer

The Proclaimer is a collaborative effort of the State Missions and Support Teams.

The Proclaimer is a ministry of the SBCV's Cooperative Program and is published six times annually. It is sent free of charge to interested parties and friends of the SBCV upon request.

SBCV STAFF & MINISTRY AREAS

For information about ministry areas and SBCV staff, visit our web site at www.sbcv.org. SBCV staff persons may be reached via email using their first initial and last name along with the suffix: @sbcv.org.

PASSION FOR TRUTH

At our Annual Meeting, we launched the theme and challenge for our churches in 2006 — "Renewing Your Passion." In this issue of the *Proclaimer*, we are developing one of the sub-themes that flow out of our personal spiritual renewal: "Renewing your Passion for Truth." In a day when the concept of absolute truth, revealed by our Creator God, is under fire from all directions, it takes courage and passion to stand on **TRUTH**, build your life on **TRUTH**, and share the **TRUTH**. The stories in this magazine are inspiring because they tell of the churches and individuals who are passionate about God's truth and how they are taking a stand in many different ways. Our hope is that your passion for truth will be stirred as you turn the pages ahead.

As we start the New Year, I would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful team that puts the Proclaimer together each month. It is a collaborative effort of the state missionaries and the Missions Support Team, and to each one we are grateful.

May God bless you richly in this New Year,

Geoff Hammond



GEOFF HAMMOND
Senior Associate
Director



Renewing
your *Passion*
for **TRUTH**

THOUSANDS...NOT BILLIONS

THE INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH PRESENTS

Creation Conference

Saturday, May 20, 2006

■ 9 a.m. — 5 p.m. ■



First Baptist Church Roanoke



Renewing
your
Passion

Dates to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR

For more information, please contact us at
sbcv@sbcv.org or call 888-234-7716

2006

JAN	14	DISASTER RELIEF "Train the Trainer" (Statewide)— Glen Allen Office
	15	SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY
	20–21	VBS LOCAL CHURCH TRAINING — Ridgecrest Conference Center
	26	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	27–28	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING — Fellowship Community Church, Salem
FEB	3–4	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING Intro/Unit (SE) — Liberty Baptist, Hampton
	17–18	SWAT WEEKEND CONNECTION (Eastern) — Holiday Inn Patriot, Williamsburg
	17–18	SUNDAY SCHOOL GROWTH TRAINING — Hyland Heights Baptist, Lynchburg
	18	VBS PREVIEW — VA LifeWay Stores
	23	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
	24–25	SWAT WEEKEND CONNECTION (Western) — Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke
MAR	4	VBS PREVIEW DAY — VA LifeWay Stores
	5–12	WEEK OF PRAYER for North American Missions
	10–11	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING Intro/Unit (CE)
	12	FRIEND DAY — SBCV Churches
	13	EVANGELISM CONFERENCE (East) — Liberty Baptist, Hampton
	13	EVANGELISM CONFERENCE (West) — Salem Baptist, Salem
	24–25	STUDENT PASTORS/DIRECTORS RETREAT (Statewide) — Great Wolf Lodge, Williamsburg
	24–25	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING Intro/Unit (CE) — Ebenezer Baptist, Gloucester
	30	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
APR	31–Apr 1	VBS CLINICS (South Hampton Roads, Danville, Alexandria)
	2	SOUTHERN CROSS BIBLE PROJECT COLLECTION
	3–5	FAITH CLINIC — Emmanuel Baptist, Manassas
	7–8	VBS CLINICS (Peninsula, Fries, Lynchburg)
	21–22	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING Intro/Unit (SW)
	22	CHURCH TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE (N) — Woodlawn Baptist, Alexandria
	27	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
MAY	28–29	VBS CLINICS (Eastern Shore, Roanoke, Charlottesville)
	5–6	VBS CLINICS (Richmond, Abingdon, Fredericksburg)
	12–13	DISASTER RELIEF Round Table — Glen Allen
	19–20	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING Intro/Unit (SE) — London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach
	20	BIBLE DRILL
	20	CREATION CONFERENCE — First Baptist, Roanoke
	25	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)

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Proclaimer

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Fair Havens Church has a unique history. It is a church whose story is one of faith and obedience to the truth — one step at a time.



7 Truth Can Not Be Hidden

Having placed their trust in God's truth, that He is in control of all things, Megan and Joe Tanner have been blessed with a healing miracle. As a result their unborn child is already glorifying God and witnessing to His loving truth!



6 SBCV Annual Homecoming: Challenged to Renew

"Renewing Your Passion" was the challenge given at the annual homecoming of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia. For two days over 1,200 messengers and guests were stirred by preaching, testimony, and worship.

10 A Boy and a Chinese Bible

With a hunger in his heart and a void in his spirit, Mr. Wong has his life changed because of a Bible he received from a 10-year-old boy.



14 Battle for the Capitol

There is a war in our nation's Capitol that can not be fought with conventional warfare. It is a spiritual war being fought for the heart and soul of every person. The stakes are high and we can not surrender.

15 Food Boxes Delivered

A Pastor, a truck driver, and a trucking company donate their time and equipment to deliver food boxes to the Gulf Coast. After going to nine pick-up points across Virginia, they traveled over 700 miles to deliver the boxes which helped feed families distressed by Hurricane Katrina.



CHILDREN NEED THE TRUTH

How important is evangelism in your church?

How important is it to reach children with the Gospel?

These are the questions that must be asked

by Pastor Dan Carawan
West Salem Baptist Church

if we are to focus our energies on child evangelism in a big way. Children are not only the future of the church...they are the present. Probably, the most convincing argument for evangelism in children's ministry can be found in the book by George Barna, "Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions."

Research by George Barna and the Barna Institute of over 1,000 adults in May 2001 puts the probability of salvation at:

*32% for children between 5 and 13 years old,
4% for children between 14 and 18, and
6% for people 19 years and older.*

In other words, attracting younger children to church to learn about the love of God will have 5 to 8 times the impact of attracting the same number of older children or adults. Barna's research on faith development and discipleship also found that the moral development of children is complete by age 9. In

our local churches, we do a great and mighty work with Vacation Bible School. We should continue to develop and champion this ministry — but we must not stop there. We must make winning children to Christ a priority in the church all year long. Children are important! Let's focus on winning children to Christ!



**FEBRUARY
IS
TRUE LOVE WAITS
MONTH**

True Love Waits is a great strategy for your youth group, your child, or your community, for taking them through a purity emphasis, "Take the Town." This new community-based strategy is designed to equip teenagers with facts that will lead them to choose sexual abstinence until marriage. This project is a challenge to each segment of a community's leadership to work together to raise the standard for sexual abstinence until marriage for students.



www.lifeway.com/tlw

MOVING TEENS TO PURITY

A Journey of Truth

A PEOPLE & PASTOR
WHO HAVE A **PASSION**
FOR THE **TRUTH!**

Where did the "Fair Havens Church, Southern Baptist (SBCV)" come from anyway? This is the official new name of this unique church in Chesterfield County. A church whose story is one of faith and obedience to the truth, one step at a time.



Dr. Bob McEachern

In December 1981, Fair Havens chose to leave the United Methodist Church because of liberal teachings, practices, and programs and become an Independent Methodist Church, following only God's Word for faith and practice. They purchased land, built a building (including a baptistry), and began worship. Things went well while the original pastor remained. But where does an Independent Methodist Church find a new pastor?

Church leadership began to study denominations to see which were conservative and determined that the Southern Baptist Convention was very close to Fair Havens in Biblical interpretation, faith, and practice. They then called Bob McEachern, a former SBC missionary who works at the IMB, as Interim Pastor. McEachern led a "Task Force to Seek Denominational Affiliation" and the church realized that they uniquely fit with the SBCV.

There was still one big hurdle though...what about those who had not been baptized by immersion? Praise the Lord... what could have been an obstacle, became a milestone. For two Sundays, the theme of the worship services was about baptism. An 89-year-old grandmother came first for baptism by immersion, then a young mother on the Task Force, next the Chairman of the Board. Fourteen other adults decided the same thing, along with 12 members of the youth group. And on one Sunday afternoon in October, 19 believers were baptized in the James River in Powhatan County. What a glorious celebration! There are 13 others who are also awaiting baptism.



This people and pastor have a passion for their church, its future, and the Truth!

Truth Can Not Be Hidden

By Joe Tanner, West End Baptist Church

TRUTH IS easy to talk about but not always easy to live. But we've found that there are many opportunities to share God's truth in ways we did not expect.

This summer, we learned of an unexpected blessing, our third child. We had already had two easy pregnancies and two beautiful, healthy children. But when we went to our first ultra-sound, the doctor told us there could be problems. At our second ultrasound, the specialist told us that our baby was "deformed" and "defected." Our baby boy was diagnosed with a bilateral cleft lip and cleft pallet, which could be associated with more than 300 syndromes. The worst is T13, which results in death. Because of that, we were offered a test... the ultimate purpose, of course, being an excuse for abortion.

It has always been interesting to me that an unwanted child in the womb is called a fetus, and a wanted child in the womb is called a baby. We trust in God's truth that He is in control of all things and that He fearfully and wonderfully created the child Megan carried. We declined the test and began to pray and seek the Lord with three simple requests:

1. *That God would be glorified in this situation, either in this child's life or death.*
2. *That God would heal this child as He sees fit.*
3. *That we would have the opportunity to witness to others about Jesus through this child and pregnancy.*

To God's glory, we have seen God answer all three of these prayers in different ways.

The specialist guaranteed that our baby would absolutely be born with a bilateral



• • • Taking a Stand for Truth

A STAND FOR TRUTH

an interview with **Lamarr Mooneyham**

Lamarr Mooneyham, Senior Pastor of The Tabernacle in

Danville, is no stranger

to taking a stand for Biblical

truth. As a matter of fact, he did so

when it was not very popular. As a national field director for the Moral Majority, he stood in debate among liberal media personalities and even editors of pornographic publications. He fondly remembers, "The Moral Majority was the organization that stepped up to do what the church was not willing to do — and that was stand for truth." Pastor Mooneyham says "America is enslaved for the lack of knowledge. We need to be like the sons of Issachar," and he quotes I Chronicles 12:32, "...the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do..."

"Americans don't have an understanding of the times and have no clue what to do and, unfortunately, many are professing Christians." He goes on to say, "We are only as free as the truth we know. Since we do not have an understanding of the times or know what we ought to be doing — we are not very free at all — even though we are living in what others perceive as the land of the free."

In his theme interpretation at the SBCV Annual Meeting, entitled "Renewing Your Passion for Truth," he stated four things that have been impacted by the lack of truth: culture, classroom, courts/Congress, and our national convention. Mooneyham says that the world is screaming for truth, but the church is stuttering. "We have put up a wall of separation between church and state, between spiritual and secular. When many people leave the church property, they enter into the secular world, rather than as Christians entering into a mission field that is ripe for harvest."

What can we do to stand up for Truth today? Pastor Mooneyham suggests: 1. Study God's Word; "be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." 2. Speak the Truth in love; "not in a judgmental attitude or manner," and 3. Select the right candidates and laws; "exercise your right and responsibility by voting."

cleft lip and pallet. But the fourth ultrasound showed, to the doctor's amazement, that our son now only had a unilateral cleft lip and pallet (God heals!).

God is being glorified! He has healed half our son's face and we have been able to share this awesome truth with

many people: that God's Word and truth are constant and infallible, even in life's trials and triumphs. Our baby will be born in January of this year, and his life is already glorifying God and witnessing of His loving truth.

Joe Tanner and his wife, Megan, are church planters at West End Baptist Church in Richmond, VA.

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY
January 20





SBCV CHALLENGED TO RENEW

Download messages and videos from the 2005 Annual Meeting free of charge at www.sbcv.org.

The 2005 SBCV ANNUAL HOMECOMING messengers and guests were challenged to renew their passion for their first love, for prayer, for truth, and for the local church. On November 14-15, more than 1,200 attended the SBC of Virginia Annual Homecoming Convention, held at Grove Avenue Baptist in Richmond, where they were stirred with the theme "Renewing your Passion." In addition to SBCV pastors who interpreted the theme, it was driven home by the preaching of NAMB president, Dr. Bob Reccord, and the testimony of Carrie McDonnell, former IMB missionary, whose husband was killed in Iraq.

The Convention welcomed 31 new churches, which brings the number of SBCV churches to 470, and represents one of the largest numbers of churches requesting affiliation in our nine-year history. An \$8.2 million budget was adopted, representing an increase of 5.8% over the previous year and includes more than \$2.0 million for church planting.

and experienced the best months ever in Cooperative Program giving.

A highlight of the Annual Meeting were the video stories of the State Missions Team reports which highlighted the ministry of local churches statewide. "SBCV has no story to tell, except the story of what God is doing in our churches", said Dr. Geoff Hammond, Senior Associate Director and leader of the State Missions Team.

Executive Director, Dr. Doyle Chauncey, challenged those with misplaced passions to walk away from choices that are not compelling and find fulfillment in what God calls us to do. President Carl Weiser urged the messengers and guests to have a passion for God, which

"SBCV has no story to tell, except the story of what God is doing in our churches"



Marvin Matthews



SBCV welcomes new churches.

*The
2006
SBCV
Annual
Homecoming
will be
November
13 & 14*

Twenty-five Eagle Awards were given to churches that sponsored a church plant. Messengers also passed resolutions about homosexuality in education, judicial nominations, disaster relief, intelligent design and appreciation for the President and the Troops.

Disaster Relief workers were recognized and awarded a special pin in honor of their service. Messengers learned that in ten weeks, SBCV churches gave \$636,127 to Disaster Relief, saw 459 individuals trained, half a million hot meals served, 1,652 showers, 33 professions of faith

Colonial Heights Baptist Church Choir



YOUR PASSION

leads to compassion for people.

The SBCV "home-coming" culminated with a message from Dr. Al Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Seminary. He cautioned that many churches in the present day are marked by a lack of passion due to their lack of commitment to the truth of the Gospel. He concluded, "We are to be ambassadors of a passionate Lord, who through His passion gave us a reason to be passionate about the mission."

More than 1,200 messengers and guests gathered at the SBCV Annual Homecoming at Grove Avenue Baptist in Richmond.



Attendees responding to the message.

The theme of this year's SBCV Annual Meeting was "Renewing Your Passion."

We were challenged to renew our passion for our first love, for prayer, for truth, and for the local church.

Consider the following:

Renewing your passion for your FIRST LOVE

Revelation 2:3-4—"And you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have lost your first love."

DR. DAVID JOHNSON, PASTOR OF RILEYVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

"I wonder...have you lost your desire? You're still going through the motions, but you've lost your desire. I thought of the words of Jesus to Peter when he recommissioned him: 'Do you agape me?...Do you love me?'" What is your answer?

Renewing your passion for PRAYER

Acts 4:31—"And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness."

DR. BILLY ROSS, PASTOR OF CENTREVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

"How many of you believe that prayer is important?..."

(many hands raised)...That is the problem in most of our churches, because prayer is not important...prayer is essential! Proper exercise is important...breathing is essential. You cannot read through the Book of Acts and fail to find the priority and power of corporate prayer."



Attendees enjoy Fellowship Luncheon.



John Griffin and the Praise Team from First Baptist Church, Norfolk

Renewing your passion for the LOCAL CHURCH

Ephesians 5:25b-26—"Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her by the washing of water with the Word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless."

DR. DOYLE CHAUNCEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SBCV

"Purpose without passion is wasted energy...Passion ought to be a characteristic of every born-again Child of God...When passion fades, we're running on empty."

Renewing your passion for TRUTH

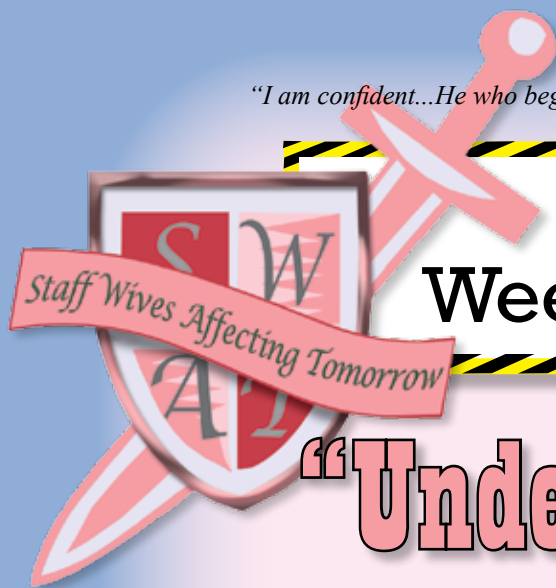
2 Corinthians 4:2b—"By open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to every one's conscience in the sight of God."

John 8:32—"You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

LAMARR MOONEYHAM, PASTOR OF THE TABERNACLE IN DANVILLE

"We talk about renewing our passion for truth. Jesus says 'and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.' You are only as free as the truth you know."

"I am confident...He who began a good work in you will be able to complete it..." Philippians 1:6



SWAT Weekend Connection

"Under Construction"

Two Weekend Connections!

Feb. 17-18, 2006

**Holiday Inn Patriot
Williamsburg**

Feb. 24 -25, 2006

Hotel Roanoke

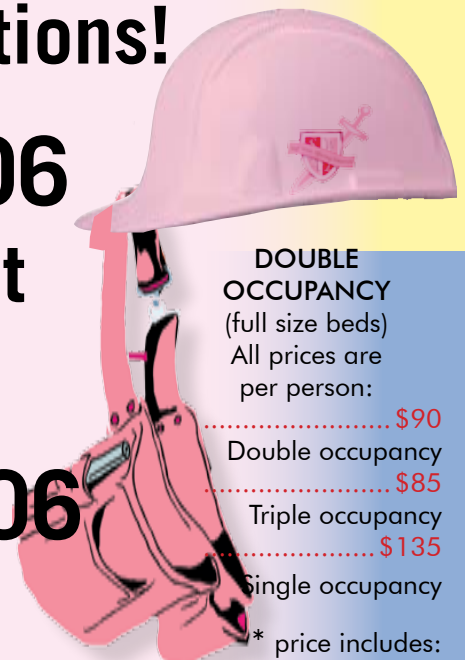


A WEEKEND FILLED WITH
LOADS OF FUN, fellowship,
prizes and a life-changing
Bible study with...

Cheryl Reccord

FOR INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:

Visit our website at www.sbcv.org
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room, program
materials,
3 meals, all
snacks, and tips

CONSTRUCTION AREA — CAUTION — CONSTRUCTION

**Student
Pastor/Director
RETREAT 2006
march 24-25**

Great Wolf Lodge
549 E. Rochambeau Dr.
Williamsburg
Register online at www.sbcv.org/studentz

10-14 JULY 06

LIBERTY
UNIVERSITY

DNA

WHAT ARE YOU MADE OF?

For more
information:
www.sbcv.org



youth camp 2006

Colossians 3:8-10

Registration Deadlines/ Cost

FEB 1	\$199
MAY 1	\$209
JUNE 19 (final deadline)	\$219

GUEST SPEAKER: Jay Haizlip www.sanctuaryhb.com

- ×× professional skateboarder and dynamic pastor in California
- ×× speaker at 2005 DC Fest, Livin' it Tour and YECs in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE: Untitled Skateboards

WORSHIP LEADERS: The Swift www.the-swift.com

- ×× toured with Mercy Me
- ×× led worship for Planet Wisdom and Life 2004: The Journey – nightly crowds of 10,000 students
- ×× Top 10 Songs: "Under the Sun" and "More Than Gold"
- ×× New release album "Today"

DRAMA: Mad Dogs & Englishmen www.maddogsenglishmen.com

SPEAKER

Jay Haizlip



THE SWIFT



WORSHIP

Mad Dogs
& Englishmen

DRAMA



untitled
SKATEBOARDS



SPECIAL GUESTS

BUILDING 429

CONCERT



CONCERT: Building 429

www.building429.com

- ×× 2005 Dove Award New Artist of the Year
- ×× #1 hit "Glory Defined"
- ×× On tour with Casting Crowns

a boy and a Chinese Bible



Last December, just days before the Tsunami struck Thailand, Pastor Danny Campbell and members of Wayne Hills Baptist Church returned from their Southern Cross mission trip. This is the place in Southeast Asia that Han Chinese come for their family vacations, and Wayne Hills had handed out Bibles and religious materials to those

vacationing families. Most Chinese have only heard of the Bible and have never seen one. But mission teams, while there, can meet vacationers at hotels, restaurants, and in various recreational areas and offer a warm smile and a Bible.

Mr. Wong from Kun Ming, China, was one of those recipients. While leaving the hotel, he was greeted

In 2005 SBCV churches exceeded our goal of \$50,000. Please join us in reaching our \$50,000 goal in 2006.

Southern Cross Bible Project

Collection Date:
April 2, 2006

Goal \$50,000

Collection materials will be sent to all SBCV churches in January. For more information, please contact your area missionary.

"Man cannot live by bread alone but on every Word that comes from the mouth of God"
Matthew 4:4 (NIV)

The label says...
"Free Gift to You... No Cost"

Individuals interested in the Southern Cross Missions Project should contact their area missionary or call 888-234-7716.

by Will Campbell, the 10-year-old son of Pastor Danny. Will offered Mr. Wong a Bible, which he enthusiastically received. Later during the day, Danny and Will were at the hotel pool when Danny noticed an older Chinese man trying to talk to Will. Because Will could not speak Mandarin Chinese and the gentleman could not speak English, they had a hard time communicating. After an interpreter arrived, it was discovered that Mr. Wong just wanted to tell Will what God had done in his life.

Mr. Wong had a hunger in his heart and a void in his spirit since seeing his two sons killed during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. He wanted to thank Will for giving him a Bible. Most Chinese read more than three hours a day and he had already read most of the Bible that Will had given him. "For some time now I have wanted a Bible. What you are doing is the most important thing in the world," said Mr. Wong. It was obvious Mr. Wong had given his heart to the Lord. Mr. Wong's life was changed because a 10-year-old boy gave him a Bible. The city of Kun Ming where Mr. Wong is from is a major population center in mainline China. Who knows what influence he will have on his family and culture?

**Renewing
your
Passion**

Letter from Armenia

Dear American Friends,

My name is Babayan Gor. I'm fifteen and I'm in the ninth form. My favourite subject is Drawing. But I do my best to study all my subjects well. I learn at an Art College. I'd like to be a painter. My family is not large, I live with my mother and grandmother.

Thank you for all that you've done for us. Thanks for everything. I like my backpack, the spiral notebooks, pencils, color markers and colored construction papers. They are so useful for us. I'm going to send you one of my paintings. I paint it using the pencils, color markers that you've sent. I'll be glad if you like it.

Yours faithfully, Babayan Gor



Disaster Relief CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Various Locations:

Friday: 6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

DATES & PLACES ON www.sbcv.org

Certification Training: \$25.00

Full training, includes unit training, hat, shirt, lunch and ID badge.

Basic Certification Training: \$15.00

for those who have not had food unit training ~ includes food, unit training and lunch.

Deadline to register is the Wednesday prior to the Friday date of each session.

Each location can accommodate up to 100 people. Please contact disasterrelief@sbcv.org to register or sbcv@sbcv.org for further information. Currently the SBCV Disaster Relief ministry has the following units in its inventory: Shower Unit, Feeding Unit, Mud Out, and Chain Saw Units. We are currently developing a Command and Control (Communications) Unit.

RENEWING MY PASSION for MY FIRST LOVE

DAVID MOORE, pastor of Blue Ridge Chapel Baptist Church and the Southwestern area Disaster Relief Coordinator, says his passion for Disaster Relief comes from a desire for hands-on missions. Disaster Relief provides an opportunity to minister outside the walls of the church...and his comfort zone.

In May 2005, David had attended Disaster Relief Training and committed himself to that ministry. So when Katrina hit, he felt an obligation to help but like many others, David heard the horror stories following Hurricane Katrina. The negative news media caused him to doubt whether he should even travel to the Gulf Coast to help. With

some reservation, he decided to trust God and go ahead. David recalls that as his team approached Prentiss, Mississippi, and he saw the devastation first-hand, his heart was so heavy he had to pause and renew his commitment to his Lord's command to "Go." David said, "It was revival for me and I know that I will never be the same again."

The team set up in the parking lot of First Baptist Church, Prentiss, and soon met Pastor Kenny, who was discouraged and disillusioned. Events in Pastor Kenny's life had caused him to question whether Southern Baptists really cared about him. But when he saw Southern Baptists from around the country roll into the parking lot, with desperately needed assistance, David said, "Kenny's appreciation for the SBC was renewed." Since receiving assistance from Southern Baptists, he realized that the Gulf Coast would recover, thanks to God's grace and hundreds of faithful volunteers.



“God showed Himself in a great way at this conference. It was a great weekend.”

“Jaye’s messages were truly what I needed. I just wanted MORE!”

“Harvest for the Lord” Conference

“I enjoyed Jaye’s messages so much. I was seeking direction from God on being a better witness and this conference was just what I needed.”

For more information, go online at www.sbcv.org/women

These are just a few of the comments from the nearly 240 women who attended the Harvest for the Lord Conference at

Cave Spring Baptist Church, in October 2005. Jaye Martin, Women’s Evangelism Specialist from NAMB, challenged all who attended to share their faith through a daily, relational approach. By the end of the event, many women



Some of the topics were: Reaching Lost Family Members and Friends, Servant

Evangelism, Sharing Christ with People of Other Faiths, Sharing Your Faith in the Workplace, Lifestyle Evangelism, and much more. During these workshops, the ladies learned many practical tools for sharing their faith.

The next SBCV Women’s Conference is set for Oct. 20-21, 2006 at Grove Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond.

For more information, go online at www.sbcv.org/women



were saying, “I can do this. I can share my faith with lost friends and family members, as well as others God brings across my path.”

In addition to the main sessions, the ladies could choose to attend several of the workshops that were led by speakers from the area.



CLINICS

MARCH 31

Kempsville Baptist, Virginia Beach
The Tabernacle, Danville

APRIL 1

Del Ray Baptist, Alexandria

APRIL 8

Grafton Baptist, Yorktown
Grace Baptist, Fries
Forest Baptist, Forest

APRIL 29

Union Baptist, Chincoteague
West Salem Baptist, Salem
Calvary Baptist, Charlottesville

MAY 5

Spotsylvania Baptist, Fredericksburg

MAY 6

Mt. Pleasant Baptist, Colonial Heights
Rosedale Baptist, Abingdon

ARCTIC EDGE:

Where Adventure Meets Courage! Based on Joshua 1:9, Arctic Edge helps kids find the courage required to follow Jesus in the every day challenges of their lives as they learn that God is always with them.

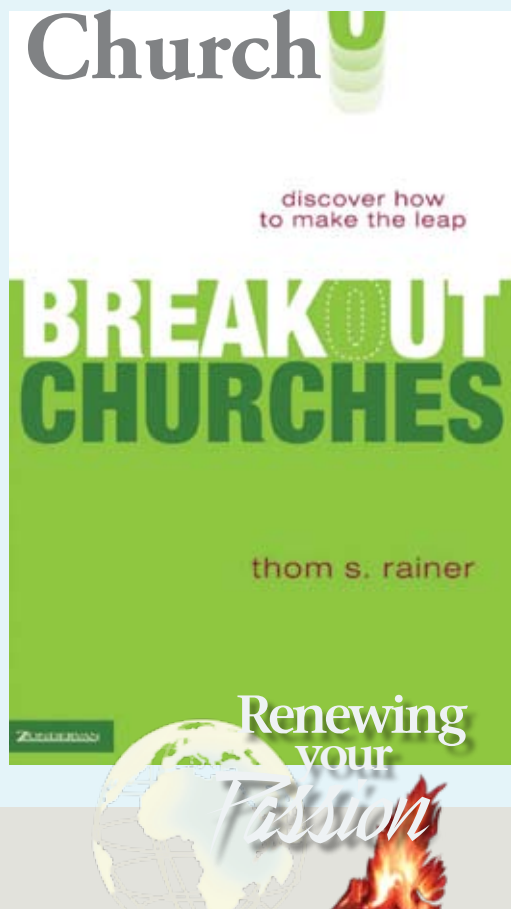
CLUB VBS 2006:

Space Quest is out-of-this-world! Kids will explore biblical truths about Jesus’ mission for them and jet to space stations for crafts, snacks, and recreation. If you’re looking for a high-energy anytime Vacation Bible School, Club VBS is for you!

RENEWING PASSION

for the Local Church

AFTER
READING
a copy of
Dr. Thom
Rainer's



book, "Breakout Churches," Pastor Michael Palmer was convinced that Green Ridge Baptist Church met all the characteristics of a "Breakout Church." Like many Southern Baptist Churches, Green Ridge has a great history of reaching its harvest field. But Palmer was aware the church had plateaued and needed to re-examine its vision and ministry.

In partnership with their SBCV Church Enrichment Missionary, the church committed to a "Comprehensive Church Consultation" process to assist the church in examining every area of the church ministry, such as facility, organization and vision. The church elected a Church Health Task Force to work directly with the staff, church leadership and SBCV to help create a strategic plan for its future. One of the tools available is the "Church Health Survey." This survey is from the Thom Rainer Church Central Group and measures six strategic areas of the church ministry, which include **Worship, Ministry, Evangelism, Discipleship, Fellowship, and Prayer**. Based on the response from the survey, the church lays



out an immediate plan to long-range plan that deals with each area of need, as well as each area of accomplishment. It takes courage and commitment on behalf of a pastor and staff to be able to take a hard look at its present and to dream about its future. A "Breakout Church" is one that has made a commitment to do just that. Michael Palmer and the members of Green Ridge Baptist have already begun to see the effects of looking to the future with a new vision and with a renewed passion to see what God can do.

This type of "Comprehensive Consultation" service is available to all of our SBCV churches because of their faithful giving to the Cooperative Program.

Green Ridge Baptist Church is located in Roanoke, Virginia. Dr. Michael Palmer has been its pastor for 17 years.

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GREENSBORO
NORTH CAROLINA



TRUTH to Downtown Richmond



aletheia

Downtown Richmond represents a vast amount of knowledge due to the universities, government, and businesses that exist there. But it doesn't necessarily bring truth or light!

Nowhere is this more evident than at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and the Fan District. University students, rising young career professionals, businesses and restaurants all interact... but "truth is being suppressed in unrighteousness" (Rom. 1:18). And where there is no truth...there is no light. And where there is no light... there is no fulfillment and a lot of pain. Listen to some of the stories:

Becca is a brilliant 19-year-old VCU student. Her mother died just a few years ago. Her boyfriend recently overdosed on drugs. Her best friend's boyfriend was shot in the face and was then thrown in a dumpster — dead! Becca has essentially lived a life void of truth...a life of distress and pain.

Rodrigo, currently living in the Fan District, has heard God's message of love and forgiveness. He knows about the need for repentance and faith in Jesus Christ to experience eternal life. But Rodrigo is unable to commit to God. He says, "I like, agree and believe the message. But I cannot repent. I am currently sleeping with my girlfriend and I just do not want to change!"

But change will come, because truth is coming, and "he who does the truth comes to the light" (Jn. 3:21). The SBCV is fully committed to sending evangelists and church planters to this neglected area to start a new



David and Shirley Proffitt
and the VCU/Fan Team

church — Aletheia Richmond. (The expression in the Greek New Testament for truth is aletheia). There will be truth, there will be light, and eventually, because of God's intervention and your prayers, there will be change!



Battle for the Capitol

The Nation's Capital is of utmost importance!

When the American troops entered Iraq, they went straight to Baghdad. They did not get bogged down fighting for every village on the way. American military commanders realized that, important as these villages might be, the Capital was the essential goal. The Saddam regime officially fell the day American troops captured the Capital.

That is why the Nation's Capital is guarded so heavily. Having lived in Washington, DC, for a year, I've gotten used to helicopters roaring overhead at any time of day or night. I've also gotten used to the heavy security presence in the District. There is a good reason for that: if the enemy manages to do damage in the

Capital, the entire nation may be at risk.

But there is a war in our Nation's Capital. This war is not fought with conventional and nuclear arms. It is the spiritual war, the battle for the heart and soul of every human being and of the entire nation. The stakes are high. The whirlwinds of a spiritual Katrina keep raging on, sucking in many lives and trying to rattle the spiritual foundations of American society.

The Nation's Capital is important indeed. That is why we cannot surrender it in this spiritual war. If we do, we may lose the entire nation. I am thankful that SBCV is on the frontlines of this war in Washington, D.C, and I am delighted to be a part of it. I hope and pray that we do not abandon and desert our responsibility in Washington.

The One with us is infinitely stronger than the forces against us. The victory will be ours, no matter how discouraging the circumstances may look at the moment. Please pray that our Lord will send workers

into this harvest field to bring the truth of His word to those who are desperately searching.

Andrey Sherrin is a SBCV Church Planting Missionary in Greater D.C. focusing on East Europeans.



Food Boxes Delivered

“Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

Pastor Alan McCullough of First Baptist

Damascus, reminds his congregation regularly that even though Hurricane Katrina hit months ago, this is a long-term recovery and Southern Baptists have to be in it for the long haul, “We’re going to have to look for ways to be a blessing.”

God provided that way for him and for the rest of the SBCV through the Louisiana Food Box Project. In October, SBCV church members from all over the state started buying supplies and packing boxes to send to the hurricane ravaged area. But how would those boxes get down to Louisiana? Well, a more-than willing McCullough, along with a truck driver from his church, 67-year-old Nick Sturgill, volunteered to pick up the boxes at nine strategic points and then drive all the way to Metairie, Louisiana, to drop them off. In fact, Sturgill’s employer, K & D trucking in Glade Spring, provided the truck and trailer.

As McCullough and Sturgill traveled throughout Virginia, they saw that in just one month, SBCV churches had collected almost 20,000 pounds of food...enough to



the truth about TRUTH

A special report in the September 5, 2005 issue of Newsweek entitled, “In Search of the Spiritual,” began with these words, “Americans are looking for personal, ecstatic experiences of God, and they don’t care what the neighbors are doing.” The passion for an immediate, transcendent experience of God is not new, but it is shocking that Americans have amazingly accepted diverse and unorthodox beliefs in an attempt to validate their experiences.

The website *belief.net* sends out more than 8 million daily emails of “spiritual wisdom” in various flavors to more than 5 million subscribers. Generic “inspiration” is most popular (2.4 million) followed by the Bible (1.6 million), but there are 460,000 subscribers to the Buddhist thought of the day, 313,000 Torah devotees, and 268,000 subscribers to Daily Muslim Wisdom. Pagans are divided into groups, including Wicca, Druidism, Pantheism, Animism, Teutonic Paganism and, in case you can’t find one to suit you on that list, Eclectic Paganism.

Whatever is going on here, it’s not an explosion of people going to Bible-believing churches in search of objective biblical truth, but a growing number of “believers” who have decided to follow a version compiled by themselves from a smorgasbord of religious ideas. According to the Newsweek poll,

eight in 10 Americans — including 68% of evangelicals — believe that more than

one faith can be a path to salvation,

which is most likely not what they were taught in Sunday school. To them, truth is a matter of individual preference. And these are not just the neighbors across the street: they are in our own Baptist churches — in our own families.

To counter the faulty thinking about truth—that all moral and spiritual truth is subjective and equal—we must shift the emphasis. The truth about truth is that Truth is a Person—Jesus Christ. It resides in and springs from the Person who loves us and wants a personal relationship with us. Jesus told Thomas, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). We must move beyond just “what to believe” to include “who to believe.” For this reason, the theme of this issue, “Renewing Your Passion for Truth,” is relevant, timely, and inescapably personal.

From the Executive Director



Doyle Chauncey



support almost 300 families for more than a week! That encouraged McCullough, “It was exciting to see the cooperative spirit in action... Baptist churches cooperating

together to do something that they couldn’t do on their own. It should encourage every church to support the Convention in this way and through the Cooperative Program.”

Both McCullough and Sturgill were struck by the desperate need still so visible on the

Gulf Coast, three months after the initial storm.

“Those people down there are still hungry. They had very little food left. There were no rich and poor, everybody was the same and everybody was standing in line to get food. Our load made a big difference,” Sturgill said.

“They were getting very low on canned goods and groceries and were wondering what they were going to do when it ran out. And then the SBCV showed up with pre-packaged food boxes...just in time! There was a great excitement,” said McCullough.

Sturgill related, “That was my third trip to the Gulf. I’d do it again if somebody asked me to take another load; I wouldn’t even hesitate. I know the Lord will bless me in the long run.”

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

MARCH 13

Renewing your *Passion*

2

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2

Breakout
Sessions

GUEST SPEAKERS

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**Frank Cox
Gary Frost
Voddie Baucham**

WESTERN CONFERENCE:

**Chuck Kelly
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Cox



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