

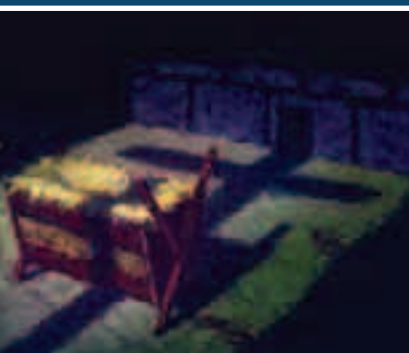


Proclaimer

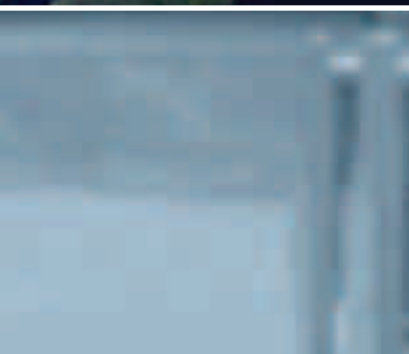
The Official News magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

MAR/APR 2006

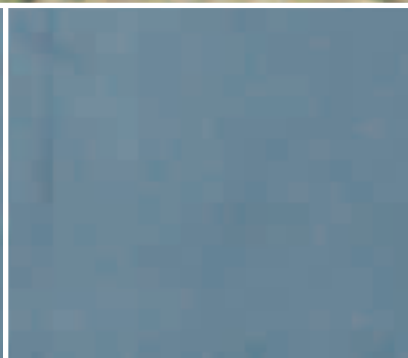
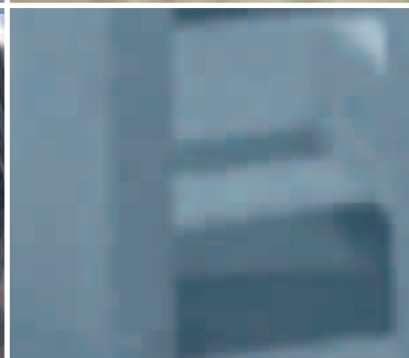
Volume 8
Number 2



Risking to Renew Passion for Your **First Love** and the **Local Church**



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.





EDITOR'S NOTE

Proclaimer

MARCH-APRIL 2006
Volume 8
Number 2

EDITOR
Dr. Geoff Hammond
DESIGNER
Patti Spencer

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

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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.



AS I WRITE, THE WINTER OLYMPICS are going on in Torino, Italy. We are watching athletes strain every muscle and nerve in their bodies as they strive to have their best performance. Every athlete dreams of standing on the podium and receiving a medal. There is something fascinating about these games, especially for a Christian. Some of Olympic history takes us back to New Testament times and the traditions inspire our imaginations. The Olympics remind us of the Christian life, which is like a race. We also must strain and strive with every fiber in our being to run the race of life well. Many times in the New Testament, athletic images are used for Christian life.

The Apostle Paul wrote: Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:12-14)

His life was disciplined and focused towards the goal and the prize — Jesus Christ. In this issue of the *Proclaimer*, we focus on one of our themes for this year, *Renewing your Passion for your First Love*, our Lord Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that you will be inspired and renewed as you read. A passion for our First Love will also be expressed in renewed passion for the Local Church, the Bride of Christ.

Geoff Hammond

Week of Prayer for NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

MARCH 5-12, 2006

Answer His Call... Tell His Story... Change Your World

North American Goal:
\$56 Million

SBCV Goal:
\$875,000

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Dates to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR

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

2006

MAR	4	VBS PREVIEW DAY — VA LifeWay Stores
	5-12	WEEK OF PRAYER for North American Missions
	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
APR	30	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	31	VBS CLINIC — (SE) Kempsville Baptist, Virginia Beach; (CW) The Tabernacle, Danville
	31-4/1	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (CW) (hosted by Thomas Road Baptist) — Liberty University, Lynchburg
	1	VBS CLINIC — (N) Del Ray Baptist, Alexandria
	2	SOUTHERN CROSS BIBLE PROJECT COLLECTION
	3-6	FAITH CLINIC — (N) Emmanuel Baptist, Manassas
	8	VBS CLINICS — Forest Baptist, Forest; Grafton Baptist, Yorktown; Grace Baptist, Fries
MAY	21-22	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (SW) — Rosedale Baptist, Abingdon
	22	CHURCH TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE (N) — Woodlawn Baptist, Alexandria
	26	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
	29	VBS CLINICS — (SE) Union Baptist, Chincoteague; (MW) West Salem Baptist, Salem; (CW) Calvary Baptist, Charlottesville
	5	VBS CLINIC — (N) Traveler's Rest, Spotsylvania
	6	VBS CLINICS — (CE) Mt. Pleasant, Colonial Heights; (SW) Rosedale Baptist, Abingdon
	9	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING — Hyland Heights Baptist, Lynchburg
JUNE	12-13	DISASTER RELIEF Round Table — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond
	19-20	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (SE) — London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach
	20	BIBLE DRILL
	20	"THOUSANDS...NOT BILLIONS" A CONFERENCE — First Baptist, Roanoke
	25	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	2-3	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (CE) — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond
	9-10	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (N) — TBA
JULY	11-14	PASTORS' CONFERENCE, Southern Baptist Convention — Greensboro, NC
	29	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
	6-8	COLLEGE BEACH & BOARDWALK OUTREACH
	10-14	STUDENTZ CAMP
	22-29	STUDENTZ POWER PLANT

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Humble, Hungry, and Focused

Dr. Doyle Chauncey describes success and tells us that if we are to move past mediocrity, it will require that we return to our first love, continually renewing our passion for Christ and for lost souls.

Risking to Renew Passion
for Your **First Love**
and the **Local Church**





Spiritual Disciplines to Renew Your

RENEWING YOUR *Passion* *for Your* FIRST LOVE

Surrender

SURRENDER MEANS: to yield, to give up completely, and to give over to something. Surrendering is not a one-time act like salvation. It is a process that we must apply to our lives... moment-by-moment, breath-by-breath, crisis-by-crisis, and decision-by-decision. We must ask ourselves if we are surrendering to His will or ours? This will bring us a life fully yielded to Christ, which in turn, will flow naturally into loving service.

Passion for Prayer

IN HIS CLASSIC BOOK on prayer, E. M. Bounds said, "Prayer is the first thing, the second thing, and the third thing necessary to a minister. Pray, then, my dear brother, pray, pray, pray." (Preacher and Prayer, 1907, p.32). It is interesting that the disciples did not ask the Savior to teach them how to heal the sick or how to raise the dead. They simply asked, "Lord, teach us to pray." (Luke 11:1). Prayer is not just an appointment to be kept, but rather is as necessary to our spiritual life as breathing is to our physical life.

Go Aside To Worship

ABRAHAM WENT aside to a mountain to offer his greatest treasure as an act of sacrifice in true worship. God intervened, saved Isaac and poured out a bountiful blessing on Abraham.

Moses went aside to see a burning bush, encountered God, removed his shoes on Holy Ground, worshipped Him, and a nation was saved.

It is the same today. In order for people to encounter God in personal worship, they must go aside from the normal routines that bind them, to a place where they can be free to worship God in His Holiness.

**Reading The Bible
Through In One Year:
Connecting with Your First Love**

STATISTICS

show that most people professing faith in Christ have never completely read their Bible. Having a plan to read through the Bible in a year is part of a healthy devotional lifestyle that many believers will want to put into practice.

Here are some helpful tips:

- ▶ Find a Bible that is designed to be read through in one year
 - ▶ Read 4 chapters per day
 - ▶ Use a mix of reading techniques (Chronological, Historical, Old and New Testament together, Beginning to End, and Blended)
- You will be better connected with your *First Love*!

Passion for Your First Love

Fasting

FASTING IS A SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE. It's a process of intimate connection with our Holy Father. It is not a matter of "if" we fast, but, according to Matthew 6:16, it is a matter of "when" we fast. Once we have determined the reason for fasting (what we are fasting from, and how long it will last) we should humbly dedicate our fasting to God. Fasting should be a personal issue done in God's will for God's glory.

Meditation and Solitude

GOD'S WILL for the Christian is that we set aside time for meditation so that we can clearly hear His voice. Jesus regularly practiced times of solitude in the midst of intense ministry (Mark 1:35). We need time alone with Him as well.

A good practice is to schedule blocks of time to read and meditate on Scripture and journal what the Lord reveals during this time. Jack Hayford describes this as a time to "regain in quiet what we've lost in the hustle and bustle of our intensely urban, highly industrialized, and technologically complex culture."

Fellowship within the Church Body

"They were all with one accord in one place." We find that beautiful description of biblical fellowship in Acts 2:1. Their hearts and minds were knit together in a common purpose. We have the record of great and mighty things taking place as the result of their prayers and actions... and we may wonder if it could happen again, to us. It can if we meet the criteria, "love God with all your heart, soul and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself."

Witnessing

Even though the **METHODS ARE MANY**, the principle taught by Jesus is clear: we must go and tell others of His saving grace.

Many feel that maintaining a lifestyle of purity and holiness is enough. We really don't need to say anything; people will see our faith in the way we act. While actions can speak louder than words, many times there is no substitute for words. If actions were enough, everyone who came in contact with Jesus would have trusted Him. People were attracted to both the life and words of our Lord. Can the same be said about us?

Scripture Memory

SCRIPTURE MEMORY builds more than knowledge — it can transform your heart. It starts with a love for God's word (Psalm 119:16), but goes much deeper! It allows the spirit to teach and guide you in daily decisions (John 14:26). It helps in witnessing (1 Peter 3:15). It helps resist temptation (Psalm 119:11). A heart without scripture is like a gun without bullets! Try memorizing a verse a week. Write/print them and take them with you... then review them regularly. You will have an arsenal at your fingertips as you navigate through a Spirit-filled day!

RENEWING
YOUR
PASSION
FOR YOUR
FIRST
LOVE

200th Anniversary Focuses on Church's First Love

As First Baptist Church of Norfolk celebrated its

200th Anniversary,

it provided the opportunity for the church to renew its passion for its First Love. Dr. Eric Thomas, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Norfolk said, "We celebrate not a people, not a place, not a building, but our Lord God Almighty and what He has done. But not just what He has done, but what He is doing and is yet to do."

The 200th Anniversary Celebration service took place Sunday, October 23, 2005, at the Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk. More than 5,000 people came together, including a 300-voice mass reunion choir. Admiral Vern Clark, former United States Chief of Naval Operations and former member of First Baptist, challenged the church to realize that, while others had paved the way over the past 200 years, it was their turn now to lead the way for the next 200 years.

The worship service itself was the culmination of a year of activities focused on proclaiming a commitment to their First Love. The activities included Community Impact Events such as concerts by Christian musical artists, outreach events with Christian illusionist Andre Kole, a Christian soccer camp, and Livin' It Ministries led by Hollywood actor Stephen Baldwin. Also during the year of celebration, more than 600 people took part in mission trips around the globe, over 900 new members were enrolled in Sunday School and nearly 200 people were baptized. As Gail Motley, staff member of First Baptist put it, "the whole year was an extravagant offering to God." John Griffin, Associate Pastor added, "We sensed God's pleasure in it all."



Pastor Eric Thomas watches as Vern Clark addresses the crowd.

Bethlehem Walk

For the third year, Salem Baptist Church in Crozier held a live, outdoor nativity called "Bethlehem Walk."

Visitors to this interactive drama saw the Gospel come to life, as they were directed through the "busy streets" of Bethlehem to various scenes depicting the entrance of the Savior into the world. They were then led to the empty tomb of Jesus with Nicodemus giving a final plea for them to make a decision concerning the person of Jesus Christ.

This year Salem Baptist was especially blessed. First, they were able to partner with five other churches in putting on the drama. As the body of Christ united, God moved in the hearts of His people and in the hearts of the unsaved. Over a five night period, 10,330 people heard the Gospel with 180 receiving Christ as Savior and 388 making decisions of rededication.

Secondly, Salem Baptist Church learned again the value of prayer. Two days before the event, prayer meetings were held at 5:00 a.m. (in the cold) outside on the property to ask God

to do a special work. Prayer was also emphasized during the Walk. As a group passed each scene, they prayed for them over and over again.

One of the more incredible stories came late on a rainy Saturday night. The crowd had thinned to just four people. Two of the four were a young couple that had been married that very day.

As they left the scene where Jesus preached that He would die for the sins of the world, Jesus and His disciples began to pray. Ed Rodriguez from Ragland Memorial Baptist Church said, "I believe

this young couple is here by divine appointment." Sure enough, on their wedding day, this 18-year-old girl rededicated her life to Christ and her 19-year-old husband received Christ as his Savior. God is awesome!

Salem Baptist is looking forward to next year's "Bethlehem Walk." And wondering what God has in store for them and the surrounding churches as they pray and seek to fulfill His mission.



2
NEW VBS
ADVENTURES

Go to
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to register



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

Travelers Rest Baptist, Spotsylvania

MAY 6

Mt. Pleasant Baptist, Colonial Heights
Rosendale Baptist, Abingdon



Roy Hall is a faithful member of Sugar Grove Baptist Church in Sugar Grove, Virginia, where he has lived most of his life. In September of 2005, the church called their new Pastor, Billy Gwinn. He and Roy immediately became close friends. This friendship was forged by a common desire to see people come to know Jesus Christ as personal Savior. Pastor Billy is a committed soul winner. His philosophy is "there's no better way to do evangelism in rural America than door-to-door witnessing."

Since Gwinn's arrival in September, Sugar Grove has seen 37 professions of faith... 27 of whom have been baptized. Church attendance has tripled to more than 200, with an average of 105 in Sunday School. Passion for evangelism has been renewed and members are witnessing as never before. While Pastor Billy considers each member valuable to the ministry, he fondly refers to Roy Hall as "the minute man." "No matter what time of day or night, Roy is ready to share his faith," says Pastor Billy.

Roy
recounts
the

The Minute Man

*Pastor Billy
and Roy Hall*

night they knocked on John Osborne's door. John wasn't home, but when his wife answered and heard why they had come, she immediately responded, "We've been looking for a church!" Soon after, John and his wife, along with their daughter and two sons, were saved and baptized. When asked what motivates him, Roy is quick to say, "I'm only following Jesus' example. If He went around telling people how to be saved, then so should I." Pastor Billy says that Roy sets a good example for others in the church to follow and adds that their motto is Proverbs 11:30, "He that winneth souls is wise." "We're back to doing what God put us here to do," says Roy.

Proclaiming FIRST LOVE in Iraq

a military police officer. Christy knew that in times of war, reservists were called to serve in capacities at home. So he expected his assignment to be somewhere in the States. Little did he know that he would be temporarily leaving his second love, wife Missy, and their four daughters, to serve in the midst of the Iraqi war zone. Not only has Pastor Christy carried out his responsibilities as a MP, his life has influenced others. Recently, he was asked to preach the Gospel on behalf of the chaplain in an effort to better relate to the soldiers and their needs. Dave Christy has not left his First Love. As a matter of fact, he is proclaiming Christ to soldiers in Iraq.

*Dave Christy with Secretary of Defense,
Donald Rumsfeld.*



EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

For more
information:
www.sbcv.org

TWO MARCH 13

Simultaneous Conferences

1 EASTERN CONFERENCE

Liberty Baptist
Hampton

2 WESTERN CONFERENCE

West Salem Baptist
Salem

TWO

Breakout Sessions

Renewing
your
Passion

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OR

Call us toll free at
888.234.7716

GUEST SPEAKERS

EASTERN

Frank Cox
Gary Frost
Voddie Baucham



Cox



Frost



Baucham

WESTERN

Chuck Kelley
Ken Weathersby
Bill Fay



Kelley



Weathersby



Fay

What's in Your Toolbox?

When asked about a toolbox, one might think of a grandfather's rusted metal box full of tools for every occasion. But how is your "ministry" toolbox? Have you updated or used your

ministry toolbox lately, or is it rusting on the shelf?

Pete Hypes knows the value of a ministry toolbox! After spending his career as a professional EMT and meeting people's physical needs, Pete has recently

developed a new tool to meet spiritual needs. Feeling the call of God and a love for the local church, Pete ventured out to take his first church as a bi-vocational pastor of Bermuda Baptist Church in Chester. The Lord is helping Pete to revitalize Bermuda Baptist. How? Through much prayer and using the expanded toolbox of the SBCV's resources, Pete has:

- enlisted SBCV to assist on his ordination council
- attended the SBCV Basic Training to help relaunch the church
- has faithfully connected to the SBCV monthly pastor fellowships
- brought his church leadership to the SBCV Church Leadership Conference and

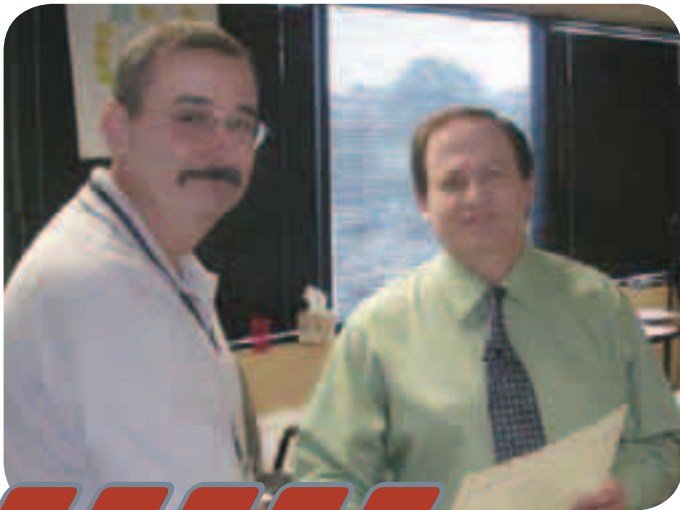
the SBCV Annual Meeting

- has enlisted SBCV to assist in their short-term strategy development

Yet Pete is not just collecting tools for his box; God is using him/them to build His church and strengthen the SBCV.

- FAITH training has ignited Pete to become a dynamic personal evangelist, who is now training his church in FAITH
- SBCV Studentz Camp has gained a Medical Coordinator for the past two years from the "tool box"

It is important to build a ministry toolbox so we can offer as much as possible back to his local church and to the SBCV. What do you have in your ministry toolbox?



Pete Hypes receives Basic Training Certification from Geoff Hammond.

taking a renewed passion home from the annual meeting

by Mike Smith,
pastor of Norview
Baptist in Norfolk



As the new pastor of the 80-year-old Norview Baptist Church in Norfolk, the theme of the SBCV Annual Meeting in Richmond, *Renewing Your Passion*, was perfect for me and impacted me greatly. I was moved by the stories of how God was moving in lives and churches around our state, I had only one question: "How could I take this message home to my church?" I

purchased the conference DVDs and decided to share them on Sunday nights as sermon illustrations.

Before the worship service on Sunday, January 22, I met a couple who (I would find out later) were living together while unmarried. Our sermon for the week came from John 4, "The Woman at the Well"... and God was up to something. The story of Terry Wilson and Worsham Baptist Church, entitled "Prayer and Passion" fit this message. Terry's story demonstrated that there were still people who were looking for God in all the wrong places, but if our church would pray and love, lives could be changed. During the invitation, David and Sandy came forward and tearfully received Christ.

The following week, I visited the couple. When asked what had moved her, Sandy said, "When

the lady on the film (Terry Wilson) said, 'I filled my life with the things of the world,' I didn't know what her sins were, but I knew what mine were... When you gave the invitation, it was like somebody had a hold of my shirt and was pulling me to the front."

David and Sandy got married on January 28th. They cannot stop talking about how Christ changed their lives. Certainly, God gets the glory for what happened to David and Sandy, but the resources provided by the SBCV helped to communicate that truth in a powerful and relevant way.

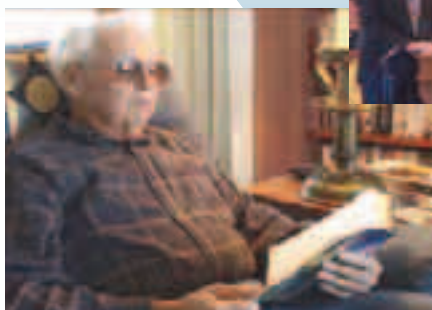


NEHEMIAH awards

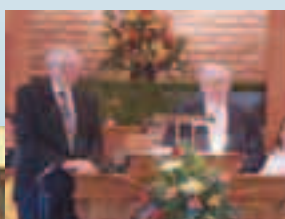
The Nehemiah awards are given annually by the SBCV to a pastor and a layperson instrumental in the formation, history, or ministry of the state convention.

At the 2005 Annual Meeting... SBCV was privileged to recognize the contributions of two Godly men who have made an impact in both the formation and the continuation of the convention.

Jim Pope, a layman from Pecks Baptist Church in Bedford, has held numerous positions in the church and,



*Jim Pope,
Nehemiah
Award
recipient*



*Jim Pope in his
home church,
Pecks Baptist,
Bedford*

according to fellow church members, always displays a servant spirit and an evangelistic heart. But Pope's influence goes far beyond the walls of a single church. He served on the original executive board at the founding of the SBCV to create a convention with a heart to win Virginia for Christ. He has lent his financial expertise to the convention in an indelible way. He literally walked the incorporation papers of SBCV up the steps of the Bedford County Courthouse at the inception of the state convention. He has continued to walk the SBCV through its growth and expansion.

Pastor David Johnson has had a transforming ministry in Virginia. Through a series of divine circumstances, Dr. Johnson was led from England to America to proclaim the gospel of Christ. Beginning 27

*David Johnson,
Nehemiah Award
recipient*



*David Johnson receiving
award from Doyle
Chauncey at 2005
Annual Meeting*

years ago, God led Johnson to pastor and transform Rileyville Baptist Church from a small rural church into one of the largest and most diverse in the Shenandoah Valley. He has also had a transforming influence throughout our state through SBCV. He was instrumental in starting the Bible conference that led to the formation of a fellowship of conservative Virginia Baptists. This fellowship later grew into the SBCV we know today.

Both Jim and David are just as instrumental today in the life and ministry of the SBCV. We praise God for their ongoing contribution to the advance of God's kingdom in Virginia.



Saturday | April 22
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Woodlawn Baptist Church

9001 Richmond Highway
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

For more information:
VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.sbcv.org or CALL 888.234.7716



State Bible Drill & Speaker's Tournament

May 20, 2006

**Beulah Baptist Church
Lynchburg, VA**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 8, 2006

Ways to Register...

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FAX — 804-270-1834
MAIL — SBC of Virginia
4101 Cox Rd. Suite 100, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Questions? Call 888-234-7716 or email sbcv@sbcv.org



stepping back to the basics

In 2004, Crossroads Baptist Church of Leesburg found itself traversing an intersection of uncertainty without a pastor. Located within the fastest growing county (Loudon) in America, Crossroads debated on how to connect to its new and changing community.

Under the directional guidance of the SBCV, Crossroads soon called Van Welton as its new pastor. Van, a licensed attorney in Virginia who God called to the ministry, began to challenge the church to grow by returning to the basics.

From the beginning, Van began to emphasize doctrinally sound exegetical preaching. "To effectively impact this world, it is essential that the church know and apply the Truth of Christ," comments Van.

Secondly, he began to promote the value of Sunday School as a relationship-based support ministry. Required monthly teacher training and an emphasis on birthing new classes is leading to growth and stability.

A third core value has allowed Crossroads to discover a new love for missions. By regularly focusing on SBC missionaries, the church has increased its special mission offerings by over 150% and is now anticipating its first volunteer missions trip in 2006.

In addition, Van began to develop appreciation for the State Convention by encouraging participation and education. "I have discovered that there are many second and third generation Southern Baptists who do not appreciate the value of our Convention," says Van. "We must educate our people



Memorial Day Service at Crossroads Baptist Church



"We must educate our people on the benefits of being Southern Baptist or our Convention will suffer."

about the benefits of being Southern Baptist or our Convention will suffer."

Crossroads has also strengthened its outreach opportunities by opening its doors to the community. For example, by providing practice space for a community orchestra and an after-school program, Crossroads members have evangelistic opportunities that come to them.



Once again, Crossroads Baptist is certain of its place within God's kingdom. It discovered its purpose by going back to the basics.

LEADERSHIP
Renewing Your Passion for LEADERSHIP

CLC

WORKSHOPS to include:

- Sunday School & Discipleship (all ages)
- General Church Ministries (men, women, children, youth, senior)
- Missions
- Evangelism & Outreach
- Leadership
- Pastoral and Preaching
- Music and Worship
- Technology
- Church Planting

AUGUST 18-19, 2006
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
Colonial Heights, VA

RICH MAY
with special guest
ELMER TOWNES

LEADERSHIP

From True Love to First Love

MARK and CATHY WELLS

became sweethearts in high school and married in the Catholic church. She was Baptist and he was Catholic, but Cathy believed that she could win Mark to faith in Christ through a life of loving submission. She prayed faithfully and attended the Open Door Baptist Church

on weekends while Mark was on duty as a Chesterfield County police officer. Mark met the pastor at Open Door in an unexpected way. While keeping surveillance of a parking lot, watching for a thief stealing gas, he found the pastor also watching the parking lot. After Mark almost arrested

him, the pastor invited him to church the next morning. He went "because this guy was down to earth." Mark found Jesus that Sunday morning.

After Mark was saved, he and Cathy started attending Swift Creek Baptist Church. There he received discipling for his Christian walk. When Mark became immersed in the Word, he realized that his life just did not match up. He became convicted, and found that a life of submission was a joyful life—the peaceful life that he had searched for.

The pastors of the church had been role models showing a life of dedication, and dedication was one thing Mark understood as a police officer. But the story didn't end there. Mark fell head over heels in love with Jesus and surrendered completely to Him. As a result, he has served in various interim and associate staff roles. Mark is now committed to planting a church in Chesterfield for the One he loves most—Jesus. And he will do this with his high school sweetheart, Cathy. Together, they plan to serve their First Love.

prayer works

It's amazing what can happen when a simple prayer card meets faith and hope.

Church Plant Pastor, Gordon Ellsworth, took this philosophy to heart when he led his congregation to place six important items on a single, small, green prayer card. He challenged his church, Beacon Baptist, to begin to pray over those six items concerning the future and vision of the church. During the next several months, God answered each of the requests except one — "God, please give us a permanent home in Your time and in Your way." Gordon realized that this was a large request for a church plant. But he knew that God is awesome and hears the prayers of His people.

Gordon states, "In the next several months, contacts were

Prayer Requests

1. *Pray for God's Vision for Beacon Baptist Church. Jeremiah 29:11-13*
2. *Pray for the leadership of Beacon Baptist Church. Ephesians 4:1-7*
 - *Pastor and his family*
 - *Deacons and their families*
 - *Sunday School Teachers*
3. *Pray for a permanent home for Beacon Baptist Church in God's way and timing. Joshua 1:8, 9*
4. *Pray for the marriages of our church. Ephesians 3:21-33*
5. *Pray that God will send those whose heart He has touched through the doors of Beacon Baptist Church. Hebrews 13:1-3*
6. *Pray that God will supply the harvesters for the harvest is ready and is white to harvest in Virginia Beach. Matthew 9:37, 38*
 - *Nursery Praise!*
 - *Youth (Middle School (Praise) and Worship Leader)*
 - *Morning Set-Up Praise*

made between Virginia Beach Baptist (which had a permanent building) and Beacon Baptist Church. They contemplated the possibility of merging the two bodies of believers. Transition Teams met... excitement began to grow...and God began to blend their hearts together, not just for each other but also for the mission of winning Virginia Beach for Christ! On August 21,

Today, Beacon Baptist Church, now known as Virginia Beach Beacon Baptist, has a permanent home. It all happened in God's time and in His way because a church plant pastor challenged his congregation to pray over six important items written on a green card...and they accepted the challenge. Prayer works!

2005, the two churches met for the first time and soon became one... united by the Lord. Some say it was a marriage made in heaven!"

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Colossians 3:8-10

Registration Deadlines/Cost

FEB 1	\$199
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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

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Untitled Skateboards

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Building 429

CONCERT: Building 429

www.building429.com

- ×× 2005 Dove Award New Artist of the Year
- ×× #1 hit "Glory Defined"
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running for missions

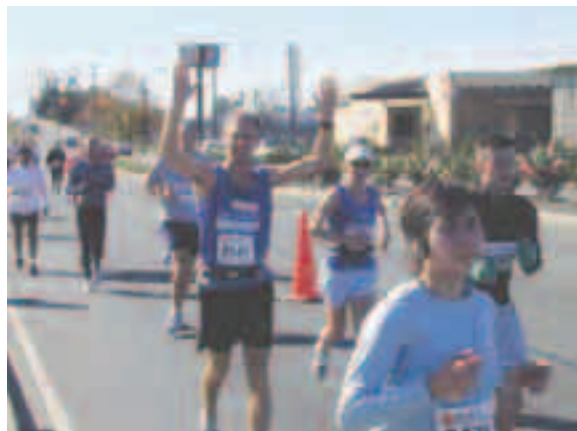
Join a gym in January and expect to fight over equipment and parking spaces. Go in December and have the pick of the litter. Most people set goals or New Year's resolutions to start the year off right. Pastor Doug Echols of Enon Baptist Church set his goal at the end of 2004. Specifically, it had to do with missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Throughout the year, Doug had been preparing/training for his gift toward the mission offering. That's right, Doug is a runner who likes to compete in

Marathons. For those not familiar with a marathon, it can be defined in miles; try 26.2 miles. Doug had noticed there were plenty of runs and walks for cancer, as well as other charities, but there was nothing for missions. Wanting to do something about it, Doug decided to run in the Richmond Marathon and have people in the church pledge money for each mile

he completed. Whatever was collected would close out their mission's year as an additional gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

For months, Doug trained by running on the weekends in groups, gradually adding more miles to each run as he built toward the 26 miles goal. But don't make the mistake of saying 26 miles, because Doug will remind you that the extra .2 counted



Doug Echols runs
for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering in the Richmond Marathon. People in the church pledged money for each mile he completed.

for more pain... and more for missions! Doug finished in just over four hours and raised \$1,100. God was able to take Doug's abilities and determination and use them to support the international

mission work of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Now, if you think Doug's approach to the "year end" resolution was different, after training/running the marathon, Doug's "new year's" resolution for 2006 is to gain weight!



Disaster Relief 2006

No one would have ever envisioned the enormity of the devastation, loss, and destruction that one year could bring. This past season was a brutal, record setting hurricane season with 13 Category One, seven Category Two, two Category Three, two Category Four, and three Category Five hurricanes. Hurricanes Dennis, Emily, Katrina, Rita and Wilma made this the costliest season on record. Yet in the midst of massive destruction, this has been one of our Convention's greatest outpourings of human generosity. The SBCV Disaster Relief ministry, aided by hundreds of volunteers operating its shower, feeding, chain saw, and clean-up units, has left a lasting impression on the Gulf Coast and countless thousands of displaced individuals.

The key to the SBCV contribution has been readiness. With more than 1,400 trained volunteers ready to respond on a moment's notice and with new units being prepared... the SBCV Disaster Relief ministry stands ready. Because of generous support through the Cooperative Program and Katrina relief contributions, the SBCV is in the process of adding an additional shower unit and feeding unit. A general operations unit (mobile command and communications) is also in the process. With heightened interest from churches across the State Convention,

there are presently 10



statewide training events scheduled for 2006. Another 600 individuals are expected to be trained this year, which will bring our volunteer team to

more than 2000 volunteers. If 2006 is anything like 2005, every one of them will be needed. It should be noted again that this ministry would not be possible without our church's sacrificial giving to the Cooperative Program and the readiness of countless volunteers to serve.



HUMBLE & HUNGRY FOCUSED

*From the
Executive Director*

DOYLE CHAUNCEY



I recently attended the inauguration of Dr. Thom Rainer in Nashville. Rainer succeeds Dr. Jimmy Draper as president of LifeWay Christian Resources. In his inaugural address, Rainer stated, "It is a sin to settle for being good when God has called us to be great." I left Nashville with that statement embedded in my mind, and it continues to inspire me.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us the "Great" Commission. It is not just a "good" idea! Until everyone has had a chance to receive the gospel of Christ personally, a "good" effort is not good enough. To move beyond mediocrity, it will require that we return to our first love, continually renewing our passion for Christ and for lost souls.

The primary reason so few become great is because they get good and then stop. They use prior successes as evidence that they've arrived. Believing their own headlines, leaders in successful ministries are often too quick

to write it down, print the manual, and stop doing what made them successful in the first place.

We have finished our 9th successful year as a state convention. Churches have been planted, people have received Christ as Savior, and vital ministries accomplished much through the efforts of our churches and church plants. We have grown from a handful of churches to more than 470 churches and church plants. A total of more than \$46 million has been contributed through the Cooperative Program of the SBCV since 1995. Fifty percent of the total, or \$23

million, has been forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention. Without a doubt this is all "good,"

but it can only be called "great" if it can be said that we have reached our full potential.

Success can make us arrogant and complacent. To survive, we must realize that success is not the goal and should never be the ultimate objective of any enterprise. The goal is to strive to reach our full potential. Reality dictates that we will most likely never reach our full potential, but the journey keeps us HUMBLE, HUNGRY, and FOCUSED. What we become in the process helps us make the leap from good to great.

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, contact your area missionary.

Southern Baptist Convention

June 12-14, 2006

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Individual \$20 — Students & Senior citizens \$15

*Due to the
technical nature
of the information
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Cost includes a box lunch. Advance ticket purchase is required. Space is limited,
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