

Volume 8 Number 3

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

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**A Note of Thanks
for your faithful
Cooperative
Program giving,
from the SBCV
Church
Planters**



FROM THE EDITOR

Proclaimer

MAY-JUNE 2006
Volume 8
Number 3

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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.

SILENT STRENGTH

ONE of the great strengths of the Cooperative Program is

that it is a missions program that is silently working, 24/7, for the expansion of the

Kingdom. There are no constant appeals for money for missions, but faithful Southern Baptists know that every time they tithe to their local church, a portion is silently going to support missions in Virginia, North America, and the world.

However, this silent strength can become a weakness if, from time to time, people are not reminded about what the Cooperative Program is and how it works. Leaders of local churches need to be educated, and there is a whole new generation that needs to know and develop an appreciation for the Cooperative Program. With

this in mind, each year the Proclaimer dedicates one issue to this subject. Your state missions team works hard to bring you stories of how the Cooperative Program is working, and how

churches are excited about this missions opportunity. Indeed, on the front cover you have a thank you card signed by some of your SBCV church planters in Virginia who are supported by the Cooperative Program.

As one of the wisest men who ever lived said, "Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts." (Ecc. 4:7). We are proving

this to be true in the SBCV as we cooperate together to fulfill the Great Commission.

Geoff Hammond



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www.sbcv.org

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REGISTER BY MAIL:

Send check to:
Diane Cuc
Institute for
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PO Box 2667
El Cajon, CA 92071

Due to the technical nature of the information it is recommended that students be at least 15 years old.

THE INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH PRESENTS

THOUSANDS... NOT BILLIONS A CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 20, 2006

■ 8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. ■

Individual \$20 — Students & Senior Citizens \$15
Cost includes a box lunch.



First Baptist
@ Church of
Roanoke

Dates to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR

For information contact sbcv@sbcv.org or call 888-234-7716

2006

MAY	5	VBS CLINIC — (N) Travelers Rest, Spotsylvania
	5-6	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (SW) — Wayne Hills Baptist, Waynesboro
	6	VBS CLINICS — (CE) Mount Pleasant Baptist, Colonial Heights; (SW) Rosedale Baptist, Abingdon
	6	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING (CW) — Hyland Heights Baptist, Lynchburg
	12-13	DISASTER RELIEF State Round Table — Bethany Place Baptist, Richmond
	18-21	APPALACHIAN MINISTRY - Trail Days — (SW) Damascus
	19-20	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (SE) — London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach
JUNE	20	BIBLE DRILL — Beulah Baptist, Lynchburg
	20	"THOUSANDS...NOT BILLIONS" A CONFERENCE — First Baptist, Roanoke
	25	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	2-3	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (CE) — Enon Baptist, Chester
JULY	9-10	DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (N) — Centreville Baptist, Centreville
	11-14	PASTORS' CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION, Southern Baptist Convention — Greensboro, NC
	29	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
AUG	6-8	COLLEGE BEACH & BOARDWALK OUTREACH — London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach
	10-14	SBCV STUDENTZ CAMP — Liberty University, Lynchburg
	22-29	STUDENTZ POWER PLANT — Richmond
SEP	8-9	YEC (YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE) — Liberty Baptist, Hampton
	18-19	CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE — Mount Pleasant Baptist, Colonial Heights
	24	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
OCT	10-13	CENTRAL WEST EVANGELISM CONFERENCE (CW) — The Tabernacle, Danville
	10-17	WEEK OF PRAYER for STATE MISSIONS
	28	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
NOV	29-30	SOUTHWEST CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE — Euclid Avenue Baptist, Bristol
	20-21	WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond
DEC	26	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	13-14	ANNUAL MEETING — First Baptist, Roanoke
NOV	3-10	WEEK OF PRAYER for INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

PLAN AHEAD!

*10th Anniversary
Homecoming Celebration*

November 13-14 • First Baptist, Roanoke

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Southern Baptist representatives among the Maasai tribe fed more than 50,000 people who were starving as a result of a severe drought.



Note: Portions taken from SBC.net

WHAT IS CP?

Cooperative Program (CP) Missions—HOW IT CAME ABOUT

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1845, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has always had one mission — the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20). To fulfill its assigned part of this divine mandate, each SBC entity made special offering appeals to the churches. This method was referred to as the “societal”

approach to missions and had poor results.

In 1919, SBC leaders proposed the 75 Million Campaign,

a five-year pledge campaign that, for the first time, included everything — the missions and ministries of all the state conventions as well as that of the Southern Baptist Convention — thus started the Cooperative Program.

Cooperative Program (CP) Missions—HOW IT WORKS SIMPLY PUT, IT BEGINS WITH YOU.

You give yourself first to God (2 Cor. 5:8). Next, out of gratitude and obedience, you commit to give back to Him, through your church, a portion of what He provides. This is commonly called a tithe and represents ten percent of your income (Lev. 27:30, Mal. 3:10).

Your church decides the next step. Every year your church prayerfully decides how much of its undesignated gifts will be committed to reaching people in your state and around the

world through Cooperative Program (CP) Missions. This amount is then forwarded to your state Baptist convention. The convention then gives a percentage of those funds to the SBC for North American and international missions and ministries. These gifts are used by Southern Baptist entities to send and support missionaries; train pastors, missionaries, and other ministry leaders; provide relief for retired ministers and widows; and address social, moral, and ethical concerns relating to our faith and families.

THE BOTTOM LINE—people around the world hear the gospel and receive Christ.

Thank you for your love for the Lord, your love for people, and your participation in Cooperative Program (CP) Missions.

DID YOU KNOW?

► ... that if we strengthen existing churches and start new churches that give faithfully to the CP, we will give more to missions in the long run?

By Pastor Wendell Horton,
Sky View Baptist, Fancy Gap

The Pastor & The Cooperative Program

To love the Cooperative Program is simply to understand it. The pastor's job is to educate the people and to be excited and supportive of the Cooperative Program if he expects the members to do the same.

The Cooperative Program is more than a line item on the budget. The people have to be excited about being a part of hundreds of ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia (SBCV). Let the church know that through their faithful giving, they are a part of the work of over 10,000 career missionaries.

How do we educate the people about the Cooperative Program? One of the best tools we have is the Cooperative Program Missions *Virtual Missions Resource Kit*. Right now we are using the *Missionary Moments* feature. Instead of solemn music as the offering is being collected, the people are seeing, on a big screen, the ministries and faces of the people they

are helping. When we stand to bless the offering, I say, “Ten percent of our giving today has helped provide what you have just seen. You have been a part of saving souls and changing lives in a way you may have never realized. There will be a heavenly reward for you, for faithfully participating in these ministries through your Cooperative Program giving.” The Bible says we will receive the same reward as the people doing the work (Mark 10:41).

Our church constantly keeps material, articles, and pictures of SBC ministries displayed for the people to view and take home. There are many DVDs and tapes available from the IMB and NAMB, virtually free of charge. You might say that even these resources are made available through your CP giving.

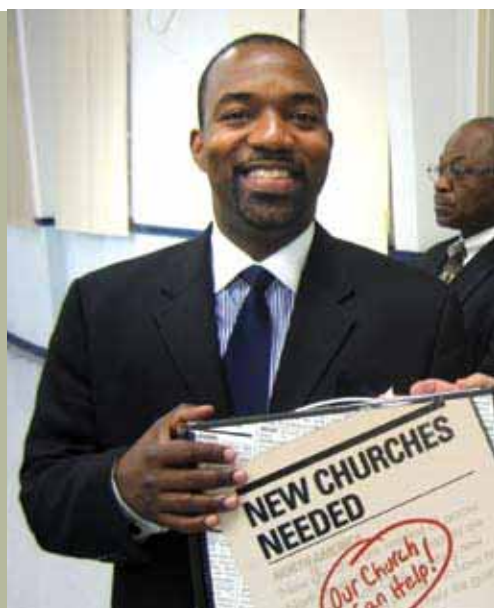


How has Cooperative Program giving affected our church? We have been blessed by God to have been in two building programs since 1995. Both times we increased our

Cooperative Program giving by 2%. We wanted to make sure we were not building ourselves a monument, but, instead, were keeping a kingdom perspective. God honored that decision by enabling the church to pay off both projects in two years. You will never out-give God!

Cheerful Givers

Hillcrest Baptist Church



Hillcrest Baptist, an SBCV church in the Greater DC area (Temple Hills, MD), celebrated its 50th Anniversary this past fall. Throughout the church's life, members have recognized the vision of the SBC Cooperative Program and the importance of giving to the CP in order to reach their neighborhood, the nation, and world with the Gospel of Christ. Hillcrest has seen many changes in the neighborhood and its congregation. It has transitioned from a predominately Anglo congregation to a predominately African-American congregation.

But throughout this transition, it has maintained its "DNA" as a Southern Baptist church and its enthusiasm for CP giving. This year, Hillcrest has set CP giving as a budget priority. They plan to give \$100,000 or 18% of their budget. That amount does not even include special offerings such as Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong, which they generously support over and above their CP offerings. Hillcrest's pastor, Eric Redmond, sees first-hand the work of the CP as a trustee of Southwestern Seminary. "Supporting the Cooperative Program allows Hillcrest and other SBC churches to participate in the spread of God's fame to places where Christ's name is not yet known. Supporting the sound training of future church leaders through the seminaries, being a beacon for truth against the spirit of the age through the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, aiding God's workers through Guidestone, and sending servants through the IMB and NAMB — all of this is one work for the glory and power of the kingdom of God. Hillcrest could not do this work alone. But we share in this fellowship of joy through our CP giving."

These are truly cheerful givers, with a heart to live out the Great Commission.

Cooperative Program Partners

When you give to the Cooperative Program (CP), you are giving to strengthening existing churches and starting new churches in Virginia. Through our Cooperative Program Partners you take the gospel to North America and the whole world. Check out the SBCV web site and those of our CP partners!



Southern Baptist Executive Committee

www.sbcec.org



International Mission Board

International Mission Board

www.imb.org



North American Mission Board

www.namb.net



Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

www.sbts.edu



Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

www.sebts.edu



New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

www.nobts.edu



Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

www.mbts.edu



Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

www.swbts.edu



Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary

www.ggbts.edu



Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

www.faithandfamily.com



GuideStone Financial Resources

www.guidestone.org

DID YOU know?

that Cooperative Program giving means . . .

- All of our churches joining hands and hearts to fulfill the Great Commission
- Big churches helping smaller churches
- Smaller churches doing together what they could never do on their own



Give with an Open Hand

The Cooperative Program is to the local church what the tithe is to the individual member of that church. Scripture clearly teaches believers to be good stewards of the blessings He has bestowed on them. If he's perfectly honest, the member will acknowledge the need to tithe his/her income and allow those who manage the finances of the church to use that money where it can be best utilized. We all know that an individual will often become disgruntled and want to give his/her tithe, yet maintain control over the money's distribution. "I want to give my tithe to the nursery to buy new cribs," or "I want to help the needy, so I want my tithe to go to the benevolent ministries,"

By Pastor Chip Roberson
Cave Spring Baptist, Roanoke

or "I'm giving my tithe so we can have that new organ we desperately need." If everyone will consider these attitudes, we'll admit that the tithe ceases to be the tithe when "I" begin to dictate its usage.

Historically, Baptists have trusted their leadership to determine where those monies are most needed on both the local and national level. Track giving is the expression of distrust for those we've elected to give leadership. We have "tithed" our



church's offerings in order that our Cooperative work can progress. It's a plan that has worked for many, many generations now. There is no reason to change the CP as we move through this season of our cooperative life.

Editor's Note: Since Chip Roberson became Pastor of Cave Spring in 2004, the Cooperative Program giving of Cave Spring Baptist has increased from \$211,000 to \$348,000.

Why We Give 15%



Paul McDaniel
Church Planter/Pastor
Family Life Baptist
Mechanicsville

The question was asked, "Why does Family Life Baptist Church give 15% of its undesignated offerings to the Cooperative Program?" Family Life Baptist Church is a brand new

church start in Mechanicsville. Church Planter/Pastor, Paul McDaniel, believes that how you begin will ultimately determine how you end up. Family Life believes the church should give the church tithe, a minimum of 10%, back to missions. So why 15% instead of 10%? Here are the reasons McDaniel gives:

- 1 You cannot out-give God — we believe that, even though we think we cannot afford it, we need to give over and above what is required. (Luke 6:38)
- 2 We believe in the SBCV and always want our church start to know that the

Convention is putting its priority on what should be a priority — church planting and evangelism.

3 The DNA of Family Life Baptist Church is to be a multiplying church and desires its future church starts to always be focused on missions. What better way to do that than to give to the Cooperative Program?

McDaniel's prayer is to be consistent,

"We at Family Life, desire to keep our focus on missions, so we should never decrease our 15%."

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A Life-changing Weekend

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featuring
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KENDRA PENN
as Guest Soloist

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Richmond, VA 23229

For information go to:
www.sbcv.org
or call 888.234.7716

CP ≈ ABOUT FAITHFULNESS

"The Cooperative Program gives every Southern Baptist church an opportunity to display faithful stewardship." But after making that statement, Pastor Stewart McCarter of Southside Baptist Church in Suffolk asks this pointed question, "How can we ask our membership to tithe and then our church not be faithful to tithe itself? We can't be inconsistent in our message."

Southside Baptist had a history of faithful giving long before Pastor McCarter arrived. But the church realized that in the past couple of years, its growth had caused it to get behind in giving to the Cooperative Program. So, between September 2004 and August 2005, the church doubled its previous year's CP giving. The pastor explained it as an adjustment to catch up with the growth of the church. Believing that a growing church that exceeds its budget projection is inadvertently robbing God of a 10% gift to missions, Southside



changed its giving to reflect a tithe based on undesignated receipts rather than budget projections. "God blesses faithfulness. He won't bless unfaithfulness," McCarter emphasized.

The blessing of God was clearly displayed in what Southside Baptist experienced as a result of their faithfulness. In the midst of doubling Cooperative Program giving, Southside planted *Abundant Hope Baptist* by sending out twelve families from their own congregation. Even after this, Southside's attendance grew, its undesignated receipts increased, a large portion of its building debt was paid, and



Pastor Stewart McCarter of Southside Baptist, Suffolk

numerous baptisms took place. The church continues to give at least 10% to the Cooperative Program and is excited about planting another church in the near future.

"It is sometimes said by a church that it can't afford to give at least 10% to the Cooperative Program when, in reality... it can't afford not to," McCarter says.

"You can't expect God's blessing if you don't tithe!"

"What Will It Take To Reach Them?"

The Cooperative Program makes it possible for a young church planter and his family to plant a new church just a short drive from our Nation's Capital.

Church Planter, Clint Clifton, remembers one of his first visits to Northern Virginia almost five years ago. "I remember most vividly driving into Northern Virginia and making a right turn off of Route 1 in Virginia's oldest town, Dumfries. As I came around the corner and reached a hill, I saw a sea of rooftops that seemed to stretch forever. I had never seen so many houses in one place

and immediately this thought branded on my mind, how many of the families that live in those homes have never met Christ and what will it take to reach them?"

Clifton said that he still doesn't know the answer to that question but God used it as a seed that ultimately became a burden in his life. "Just like the men that ministered alongside Jesus, I am young and inexperienced, but called by God," said Clifton. Through NAMB, SBCV and Cooperative Program giving, the Clifton's have received: insurance for a growing family, resources,



*Clint and Jennifer Clifton
Church Planters, Pillar Church, SBC,
Dumfries*

training and a massive support network that is making it much easier for them to answer... "What will it take to reach them?"

"Thank You Southern Baptists for giving so faithfully and generously to the Cooperative Program."



DID YOU know?

That all SBCV approved church plants give at least 10% of their undesignated gifts to the Cooperative Program?

10-14 JULY06 @ Liberty University

DNA

WHAT ARE YOU MADE OF?

For more
information:
www.sbcv.org

youth camp 2006

Registration

Deadline	Cost
JUNE 19	\$219

Colossians 3:8-10

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

Cooperative Program Helps Church Fulfill Its Global Purpose

Bethel Baptist Church

in Yorktown has a two-fold

mission: make a difference in the community, while at the same time, have a heart for the world. Pastor Thurman Hayes says the Cooperative Program helps them achieve this. "The Cooperative Program is a way for me as a pastor to get my local church involved in God's global purpose. What's so exciting to me about CP is that it enables

our local efforts to be connected to a worldwide purpose."

Bethel's commitment to the Cooperative Program is evident through its 20-percent giving of undesignated offerings. This spirit is further displayed in its commitment to multiple mission trips that give church members a new perspective on the world and their place in it.

"We have a passion to reach our community for Christ, but a Great Commission church has a heart for the world too," Hayes said. "Our giving to the Cooperative Program comes from our belief that we want to be part of something larger than what we can do on a local



level." Local efforts include outreach to the community, such as when the church served as a rallying point during Hurricane Isabel. That community outreach also includes Upward Basketball, AWANA, and an Easter musical production designed to present the Gospel of Christ.

Hayes tries to paint a big picture of CP for his congregation. "It just excites me to think that every time we put money in the plate, we're supporting:

- missionaries who are penetrating un-reached people groups around the world,
- the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia planting churches throughout the state,
- the North American Mission Board doing the same across the nation,
- seminaries effectively equipping pastors and missionaries.

Personally, I find that tremendously exciting."

DID YOU know?

If "two are better than one" (Eccl. 4:9), **how much better are 16.3 million?"**

This is the current membership in more than 43,000 Southern Baptist churches across the United States. With a global population exceeding 6 billion and a command to take the gospel to every nation, we must enhance our cooperative efforts if we are going to fulfill Christ's command.

Boats, Dreams, and the Cooperative Program

Daren Davis, IMB Missionary to Africa

Sitali is a carpenter that builds boats across the sandy way from our house. Recently, I was walking with my Bible on my way to visit someone else when I caught Sitali's eye. After exchanging greetings, he blurted out "I have been having a dream that I do not understand!" I tried to explain his dream with Scripture and in the six months since then, we've been able to talk every week. Just last week he had another dream. I opened the Bible to Ephesians chapter six, explained to him that he was in a spiritual battle, and shared the gospel for the fourth time. But when confronted with having to choose between sin and God, Sitali shook his head. It was obvious he was not ready to do that.

*Without your support,
Sitali may have never
heard the gospel.*

Please pray for Sitali as he struggles with this spiritual battle.

It is because of the gifts of Southern Baptists to the Cooperative Program that we can live in the remote town of Kalabo where a boat, a 4X4 truck, and an All-Terrain Vehicle are needed. The Cooperative

Program helped us purchase these items so our family can travel along the rivers and flood plain where the Lozi people live. Without your support, Sitali may have never heard the gospel. Thank you Southern Baptists for the sacrificial giving of your resources which makes it possible for thousands of missionaries to live in places where God is at work.



2006 Evangelism Conference

Renewing Your Passion for Evangelism

rang out loud and clear in the SBCV Annual Evangelism Conference. This anticipated event is held simultaneously in both the Eastern and Western parts of Virginia every year. This year it was held at West Salem Baptist in Salem and Liberty Baptist in Hampton. More than 95 churches were represented with more than 700 people.

The Eastern Conference kicked off with Pastor Frank Cox, North Metro First Baptist Church in Georgia,

as he told the story of how two funerals impacted his life for evangelism. He then challenged everyone present to make evangelism an everyday part of life. Gary Frost, director of missions in New York City, shared how the Lord has given him and his wife the privilege of ministering to more than 40 children taken in through foster care. And the conference concluded when Evangelist Voddie Baucham set out the call to be evangelistic in the family...starting with the next generation.

In the Western Conference, Ken Weathersby, from the North American Mission Board, opened with a fiery challenge to be bold and hit the streets with the Word. Evangelist Bill Fay spoke about the sin of silence and

challenged pastors not to just preach about evangelism, but to get out there and do it.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary president Chuck Kelley shared from his heart about how the Lord worked miracles through the tragedy of Katrina. He told the congregation about how during the weeks after the hurricanes, the faculty, staff and students had many opportunities to share the love of Jesus with hundreds of thousands of storm-tossed residents. A real world example of evangelism at work!



Cooperative Program Feeds the Physically and Spiritually Hungry



"We are so blessed to be Southern Baptist missionaries supported by the Cooperative Program. Just this month, as your Southern Baptist

representatives among the Maasai tribe, we fed more than 50,000 people who were starving as a result of the severe drought that has taken this part of the world to the dregs. When several of the people asked who gave the money, I simply replied, 'Our Southern Baptist brothers and sisters in over 40,000 Southern Baptist churches who pray and give as God directs them.' It is so freeing to be able to do ministry without having to harangue people to give money. I would imagine that many of these people would have died had I

waited on money to come from donations. With the Cooperative Program, money is available to do everyday ministry as well as crisis moments. It can be utilized, as we say over here, "chop-chop" to get the job done when it is so desperately needed. We have had a number of people saved at the feeding centers, all as a result of the sacrificial giving from people like you. Every person that I've spoken to that has received food these last two weeks has expressed extreme gratitude for the gracious gift. Please allow me the opportunity to pass the



thanksgiving on to you in this short note. Thank you from the bottom

of our hearts—or stomachs—as the case may be." Be blessed,

Bob & Nancy Calvert
Maasai Team Leader
International Mission
Board Baptist Mission
of Kenya



Training Dates:

Disaster Relief Round Table

May 12-13

Bethany Place Baptist, Richmond

May 5-6

Wayne Hills Baptist
Waynesboro

May 19-20

London Bridge Baptist
Virginia Beach

June 2-3

Enon Baptist
Chester

June 9-10

Centerville Baptist
Centerville

From New Orleans to Chesapeake

After losing everything in Hurricane Katrina, my biggest realization was, I have not been faithful enough in my prayer, dedicated enough in my devotions, nor urgent enough in my witnessing that God should be moved to bless my family the way He has.

I write this note with tears in my eyes, in awe of His wonder, looking at His plan which is playing out in my life and can only say...

"We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of God, our friends and family, the SBCV and the Cooperative Program."

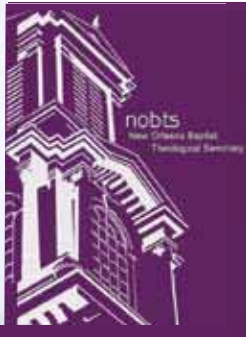
EDITOR'S NOTE:

Eric and his family were students at New Orleans Seminary when Hurricane Katrina hit. They drove away with only those things they could fit in their cars. Since coming to Virginia, churches have generously reached out to them and Eric has been a Church Planting Apprentice with Calvary Road Baptist Church in Chesapeake, while he finishes his seminary training. He will become a Navy Chaplain in the Fall of 2006.

Eric Hammen and his family

WOW! I've seen my Red Sea parted, my miracle, and the love that I have been teaching and preaching has become reality in my life. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of God, our friends and family, the SBCV and the Cooperative Program. Your faithfulness has changed our lives forever, and has provided awe-inspiring testimony of the effect God's love and the faithfulness of His people can have on impacting the world around us. THANK YOU!

*In Christ, Eric Hammen
Minister to College/Young/
Single Adult Ministries
Calvary Road Baptist, Chesapeake*



FAITHFUL GIVERS faithful givers assist seminarians ASSIST SEMINARIANS

In May of this year, I'll finally be receiving that long-sought M.Div. (Masters of Divinity) from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The seminary experience is in many ways a test, one of which can certainly be financial in nature. So, in the fall of 2005, when the SBCV awarded me a partial scholarship to begin my final year, it was a blessing. I appreciate that the SBCV has such a heart, not only for churches and church planting, but also for the men called to pastor those churches. I'm thankful that they were there to help.

Lately, however, I've realized that thanks are equally due to people I'll likely never meet on this side of heaven, i.e., the thousands of SBCV church members whose churches give faithfully to the Cooperative Program (CP). I can still remember writing that first check to the seminary and reading on the top of the receipt — words to the effect — that faithful givers to the Cooperative Program had actually paid a majority of my tuition.

If state conventions aren't committed to CP giving, the money won't be there for seminary students, or for the various mission endeavors that CP receipts support. So yes, I'm thankful that ours is a state convention that understands the need and is so very committed to a vision as important as the Cooperative Program.

“ I can still remember writing that first check to the seminary and reading on the top of the receipt — words to the effect — that faithful givers to the Cooperative Program had actually paid a majority of my tuition. ”

Albert N. Henderson

Minister to College/Young/Single Adult Ministries
Spotswood Baptist, Fredericksburg

Editors Note: SBCV contributes more money to assist students at Southeastern Seminary than any other State Convention.

caring people...

"We encourage our people to give through the SBCV to Disaster Relief understanding how many thousands of meals we've been feeding every day as Southern Baptists."

~ Don Paxton

Rosedale Baptist, Abingdon

Appalachian Trail Days

DAMASCUS, VA

May 19th — 21st

For more information you can

log onto our website at

www.sbcv.org or call

888.234.7716

Church Budget as a Training TOOL

When Rev. Maurice McCarthy was pastoring in Christiansburg, he attended a stewardship conference that would forever change his approach to church budgeting. Today, he applies those learned principles at Beulah Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

The 14-page budget he uses contains much more than numbers. The booklet includes the church's mission statement, covenant, ministry objectives and a detailed budget. The budget is neatly grouped by the various ministries of the church, and each line item contains at least one sentence that explains its usage. Pastor McCarthy says, "The budget is not just a reflection of paying bills, it's about ministry. It's a ministry-action budget. You can look at our budget and you will understand our ministry."



This church has a commitment to give 15% of its undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program. The pastor uses the opening letter in the budget to cast a vision. He writes, "Are we willing to say 'Yes' to God about an assignment we know we cannot accomplish with 'business as usual?' Let's be sure He is giving us such an assignment. And if we believe He is, then let's go for it, and trust Him to provide the resources needed for our obedience."

While McCarthy humbly says, "It is just a simple way of recasting the vision," the new format got raving

STUDENT PASTOR RETREAT 2006

The SBCV Student Pastor/Leader Retreat was held at Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg this year. Over 100 were in attendance for a time of teaching, fellowship and family worship. Steven Dervan, Associate Pastor for Students at First Baptist Church in Alpharetta, Georgia, led the seminar sessions. During each session, Steven shared many practical examples and relevant truths for today's youth. He encouraged the leaders to love their youth and said that this was one of the most important elements of youth ministry. Steven also shared that there has to be:

ACCEPTANCE
APPRECIATION
AFFECTION
AVAILABILITY
ACCOUNTABILITY, and
AUTHORITY

...in a student's life. He challenged the youth leaders to become more effective in those areas.



Music at each session was led by Jason Freer, Youth Minister of Beaverdam Baptist Church in Beaverdam, Virginia. Jason blessed those in attendance with his "heart for worship".

This was a unique occasion to equip student pastors/leaders and encourage families. Families also experienced fun together while enjoying the indoor water park.

When asked what their favorite aspects of the retreat were, many leaders replied, "My family felt a part of dad's ministry."



reviews from the congregation. There are at least three positive elements of this budget:

1. Because of line item explanations, many business-meeting questions are answered before they are even asked.
2. Grouping line items together into ministry categories shows that the church budget supports its mission.
3. With ministry category tallies, the ministry percentage in relation to total budget is clear.

No wonder this budget is so well received. It informs, enlightens, casts

vision, and challenges the church to give freely, with great expectation of what the Lord will do through their faithfulness.

State Bible Drill & Speaker's Tournament May 20, 2006 Beulah Baptist Church Lynchburg, VA

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 8, 2006

Ways to Register...

ON-LINE — www.sbcv.org
EMAIL — sbcv@sbcv.org
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



**NORTH AMERICAN
MISSION BOARD**

FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

We are so grateful for our partnership with the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia.

Thanks to your efforts and the generous giving to which you are so faithfully committed, we now have more than 5,300 missionaries serving in North America. In addition, Southern Baptists started 1,724 new churches throughout our continent last year and most, 60 percent, are of African-American or ethnic makeup. These are new congregations reaching new people for Christ and in the last decade Southern Baptists have started more churches than at any other time in our history.

This is only possible through our Lord's blessings and by your most gracious giving to the Cooperative Program. Because Southern Baptists decided a long time ago we can accomplish much more together than we ever could apart, we are joining arms to shine a light in the darkness and bring hope to our homeland. Thank you for your generous support and for the privilege of partnership.



**International
Mission Board**

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

As followers of Jesus Christ, we have a responsibility to go into all of the world and make disciples of all nations. None of us are exempt. One of the ways we can help do this is through our gifts through the Cooperative Program. These gifts provide support for more than 10,000 missionaries in North America and throughout the world. Last year, Southern Baptists enabled missionaries serving with the International Mission Board to start over 17,000 new churches and baptize approximately 460,000 new believers among 1,193 people groups, including 137 newly engaged people groups.

Thank you Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia for partnering in the work through your ongoing gifts through the Cooperative Program.

...together touching the world

"Through our regular giving to the Cooperative Program...we as Southern Baptists look ahead to what's coming...to do things that NO church can do on their own."

~ Eddie Urbine, Minister of Music, Old Powhatan Baptist, Powhatan

Renewing Your Passion for LEADERSHIP

CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

WORKSHOPS to include:

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

AUGUST 18-19, 2006

Mount Pleasant Baptist Colonial Heights

FRIDAY,
6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

SATURDAY
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Keynote Speaker:

RICK RAY

Founder and President of
Sec2ndman Ministries

also featuring:

ELMER TOWNS

Dean, School of Religion,
Liberty University

Renewing Your Passion
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SPEAKER | WORSHIP
GREG STIER **Todd Agnew**



YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

AUGUST 8-9

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
IN HAMPTON, VA

CONCERT
AUDIO A

DRAMA
the **Skit**
Guys



Pre-Registration Deadlines:

\$28 (includes t-shirt)

Must be postmarked by July 24th

Online registration closes August 1st

college beach
& boardwalk
outreach

london bridge baptist
virginia beach

july 6-8



Designed for
college students and
young singles.

Training in evangelism, coupled with sharing the gospel with locals and tourists on Virginia Beach through sports, face painting, sun screen hut, boardwalk worship, opinion polls, etc.



PowerPlant coming to Richmond!

July 22 – 28

A new student missions initiative of the North American Mission Board in partnership with SBCV.

For more information, go to the PowerPlant website: www.sbcv.org/studentz

Imagine What More Could Be Done!

MOST of the articles in this month's issue focus on telling the story of what we as a state convention of Southern Baptist churches are currently doing through the Cooperative Program. But we must not fall into the trap of focusing only on what we are accomplishing.

A vision of what more Southern Baptists could do requires an understanding of our history. In the early

days of the Southern Baptist Convention, appointing agents to promote home and foreign missions in the churches funded missions work. Agents were allowed to keep about 20-percent of what they collected after expenses that amounted to another 25-percent. It was a costly approach to raising money.

Further, there were problems with the frequency of the visits. Smaller or town churches got too few visits and larger or urban churches too many visits by agents. Protests about the use of agents soon followed, which further led to the Convention prohibiting their employment.

In 1924, the SBC met in Atlanta and adopted a report from the Commission on Future Program. The purpose of the Future Program was to, "put our denomination work on a substantial, permanent, and continuous basis." Thus, the Cooperative Program to fund SBC world missions began in 1925.

The early vision of the founders was that every church would voluntarily give at least 10-percent of

their undesignated offerings through a state convention, and for every state convention to forward at least 50 percent of what they receive from the churches to the Southern Baptist Convention.

From the early 1930s until the mid-1980s, gifts to the Cooperative Program grew from \$2,421,118 to \$325,436,882. The percentage of the churches' aggregate undesignated receipts given through the Cooperative Program was consistently in the 10.5 to 11 percent range.

The average percentage of undesignated receipts sent through all Southern Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program from 1984 to 2004 declined from 10.6 percent to 6.99 percent — a startling 33-percent reduction!

So it is vitally important that we recapture the founder's vision, a compelling vision that challenges us to use the immense resources that God has placed in our hands to help fulfill the Great Commission in our generation. As long as the vision our people see is to give more to continue to do what we are already doing, we will only see incremental gains. Imagine what more could be done for the Glory of God!

From the Executive Director



DOYLE CHAUNCEY

Southern Baptist Convention & Pastors' Conference June 11-14, 2006

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS:

WEB: www.sbc.net (quickest/most effective) PHONE: 800-334-2282 FAX: 336-378-4484
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All reservations must be received by the SBC Housing Bureau no later than Monday, May 8, 2006

Go to www.sbc.net for details

Filling Your Home with God's Beauty

SBC 2006 Ministers' Wives' Luncheon
June 14 at 12:00 p.m.
Sheraton Greensboro Hotel

To register on-line, log on to www.swbts.edu/conferences, scroll down to "June" and locate the "2006 Ministers' Wives' Lunch." To pre-register by telephone, call toll-free 1.877.467.9287.

How Can My Church Increase Its Cooperative Program Giving?

EDUCATION

We cannot assume that everyone understands the Cooperative Program. New Christians will be excited about the idea

when they understand it and so will Christians from other denominations. Use literature, videos, and magazines to educate your members. Teach what the Scriptures say about cooperative giving.



PERSONAL CONTACT

Invite a Cooperative Program missionary from your state convention, the North American Mission Board, or the



International Mission Board to preach at your church or speak to a group of members. The SBCV staff are available to speak in your church.

INVOLVEMENT

Involvement in short-term missions — research has proven that when Southern Baptists get hands-on-experience as mission



volunteers in their state, in North America, or around the world, they will give more generously to missions.

First-hand experience is life-changing, and when members see the fruit of their giving, they will give more generously.



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