

Proclaimer

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

Volume B Number 4
JUL/AUG 2006

TEAMWORK

...working together for victory!

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.





FROM THE EDITOR

Proclaimer

JULY—AUG 2006
Volume 8
Number 4

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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.

The Leadership Train

Leadership is like a train!

Sound interesting? John Kramp, in his new book, *On Track Leadership*, teaches about leadership and team building as he tells the story of his church planting experience in Washington State. Kramp, Vice President of the Church Resources Division at Lifeway, says that the Leadership Train has five cars:

- The Engine:** vision and personal planning
- The Passenger Car:** enlistment and team building
- The Fuel Car:** communication and delegation
- The Equipment Car:** motivation and correction
- The Caboose:** celebration

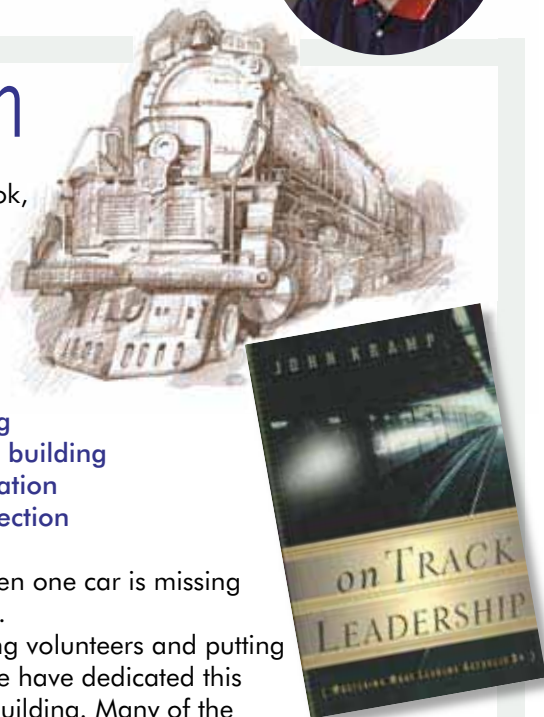
Each car is important in team building and when one car is missing or broken the train can stand still on the tracks.

At this time of year, our churches are enlisting volunteers and putting together teams for the new school year... so we have dedicated this issue of the Proclaimer to the subject of team building. Many of the articles are about how local churches are building team using the ideas of the Leadership Train. Our hope is that you will be inspired and assisted in your team building.

Have a great summer and remember that the Psalmist said that unless the Lord builds the house, (or team) we labor in vain! (Psalm 127:1)

Geoff Hammond, Senior Associate Director

p.s. For a good summer read, try *On Track Leadership*. It is a short, fast moving book. To order your copy, go to Lifeway.com.



2006 Week of Prayer for State Missions

: and State Missions Offering

**SEPT
10-17
2006
GOAL:
\$200,000**

How will this offering be used?		
	Appalachian Trail Ministries	\$ 5,000
	Baptist Builders Startup	\$50,000
	Disaster Relief Equipment & Operation	\$25,000
	Land for Church Plants	\$25,000
	Ministry Intern Scholarships	\$30,000
	Portable Baptisteries for Church Plants	\$ 5,000
	Portable Churches for Church Plants	\$50,000
	Virginia Food Distribution Ministries	\$10,000
	Total :	\$ 200,000

Dates to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR

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

2006	
JULY	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
AUG	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)
SEP	10-13 CENTRAL WEST EVANGELISM CONFERENCE (CW) — The Tabernacle, Danville
	10-17 WEEK OF PRAYER for STATE MISSIONS
	28 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
	30 SOUTHWEST CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE — Euclid Avenue Baptist, Bristol
OCT	20-21 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond
	26 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
NOV	11 SONIC FLOOD MISSIONS CONCERT — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond
	13-14 ANNUAL MEETING — First Baptist, Roanoke
DEC	3-10 WEEK OF PRAYER for INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
2007	
JAN	14 SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY
FEB	23-24 SWAT — The Jefferson, Richmond
MAR	12 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE
	25-Apr1 WEEK OF PRAYER for North American Missions

Central West
Evangelism Conference
 Sept. 10-13, 2006
 The Tabernacle
 1978 S Boston Road, Danville
 Contact: 434-822-6100

SPEAKERS:

James Merritt, Ed Hindson
 Larry Grays, Ken Weathersby

~ special music by local choirs ~

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Beginning July 1, 2006, SBCV will be adding another ministry area to its decentralization plan.



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Wild Game Dinners become a much anticipated event with over 900 attending and become a spring board for Quest Ministries, an outreach to sports enthusiasts.

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God at Work Among the Maasai

More than 125 Maasai accept Christ as Savior and new churches were formed when four SBCV pastors visited on a Maasai mission team effort.



For more information or to register visit www.sbcv.org/studentz or call 888.234.7716

Get a taste of what SBCV Studentz Camp is all about!

Wednesday, July 12th
5:00 until 10:00pm
Liberty University

\$10 charge per student | pre-registration required
[more info online at www.sbcv.org](http://www.sbcv.org)



FAITH team member, Patsy McKnight

FAITH Teams Help Plant Church

tells us that we have a commandment, not a suggestion, to go and share Jesus Christ with a lost and dying world," said Pastor David Osborne. "I reminded them that according to Acts 1:8, Mountain View is our Jerusalem and our Judea is the Elk Creek area. Everything that we do as a body of Christ is not just about our congregation; we should be about Kingdom work for God's glory."

It did not take many visits to validate the need for a church in the

area. FAITH team member Patsy McKnight says, "We are encountering Christians who have fallen away from church and families, who feel no need for church involvement. We also

"Many showed a true hunger for the Word of God."

Traveling through the beautiful countryside of rural southwest Virginia, one might think churches are plentiful, but that is not always true. In partnership with SBCV, Mountain View Baptist Church discovered the small community of Elk Creek needed a church.

Mountain View began to work the harvest field by recruiting members trained in FAITH. "I simply shared with our members the Word of God which



LaVaun Reedy makes a visit as a FAITH team member from Mountain View Baptist.

see those who have a false or little understanding of the true Gospel."

LaVaun Reedy, another FAITH trainee said, "My first thought of going into the Elk Creek area was reluctance... there are several churches in the area and I thought there was no need for another. After I started going out with the FAITH teams, I found there truly was a need. Many showed a true hunger for the Word of God. We, as a team, were encouraged by many of the visits and the openness to the Gospel."



EVERY CHURCH HAS A CHALLENGE: how to get its members "out of the stands and into the game" through enlistment. Seaford Baptist Church, Seaford, has attempted to launch a volunteer revolution through a philosophical shift. Tammy Esteves, a leader in Seaford's enlistment process, says, "We no longer want to seek people to fill roles, we want roles to fulfill people!"

Seaford now has "FIRST SERVE" opportunities which give members a chance to "taste and see." These are various one-time opportunities offered at different times to allow members the chance to see if that ministry is



A VOLUNTEER REVOLUTION

where God is leading them.

Senior Pastor, Richard Harrell, says these new opportunities have uncovered hidden talents, spotlighted new leaders, and closed the back door on fringe members. But the greatest evidence that this new approach is working is through individual stories. Stories like that of "Ted." He had been in the church for years until this new enlistment leadership process opened the door for him to fulfill his passion for teaching men. Now he is teaching a group of men and making an impact in their lives; all the



while fulfilling his passion. Harrell says the difference has been "by starting with a person, not a position."

Seaford has also taken practical steps to equip its members. There are two big events annually: Seaford Summit in the fall (with topics on leadership, discipleship, witnessing, etc.), and a spring Service Fair for all persons serving in church leadership positions. These training events include video and classroom instruction led by church members on a wide range of topics. Esteves says of her role at Seaford, "Helping people find their God-given mission . . . there is nothing like it in the entire world."



YEC 06

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

AUGUST 8-9
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
IN HAMPTON, VA

Pre-Registration Deadlines:

\$28 (includes t-shirt)

Must be postmarked by July 24th

Online registration closes August 1st

At the door Registration:

\$33 (no t-shirt/seats not guaranteed)



ready to make the **_SHIFT?**

SHIFT YEC Breakout Sessions

SHIFT_ your conversation SHIFT_ your defense

SHIFT_ your discipleship SHIFT_ your leadership

SHIFT_my passion

SHIFT_ your witness SHIFT_ your youth group

SHIFT_ your mission SHIFT_ your school



GREG STIER_speaker
AUDIO A_concert



TODD AGNEW_worship
SKIT GUYS_drama



VISION FOR MISSIONS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

In September 2005, four SBCV pastors, in partnership with the IMB, completed a trip to Zambia. Pastor Mike Smith of Deerfield Baptist Church, Deerfield, has already translated his vision into reality by taking his first partnership team back to Zambia in 2006. "I was thrilled to be part of the pioneer team of SBCV pastors that went to Zambia in September of 2005 to establish a

Zambia nationals gather around Pastor Smith.



"Equipping believers to reach the lost."

new partnership. Although this was my third time to Africa, it was my first time to Zambia and God did a

great work. We truly were able to see Ephesians 2:10 in living color. Although virtually nothing that we had planned actually came to pass...God had something much bigger and better in store. As a result of our trip and evangelistic efforts, Kalabo Baptist Church was born."

Pastor Smith went on to say, "When the four of us committed to go, we also committed to return with a team. Through a series of events, it was clear that God had called me to go the first time and it has been amazing to see how God has been working through our team that is about to return to Zambia." Deerfield Baptist sent their first team of seven to Lusaka, Zambia on April 18th. "Equipping believers to reach the lost" was the theme of the trip. The purpose was two-fold: train Zambian believers to share their faith to reach the lost and share "True Love Waits-AFRICA" with secondary school-aged children.



Baptism in local river.

PLANTING New CLASSES

Jimmy Meadows is seeing God work in the life of his church and in his own heart. Meadows planted Mt. View Baptist in Tazewell about four years ago.

God is blessing Mt. View with numerical and spiritual growth while renewing a passion in Meadows for church planting.

When Meadows and his Sunday School director began to seek God's guidance on how to grow the ministry, his vision was to start new classes.

Meadows led the congregation to begin thinking in terms of reproduction. Both men decided to plant a new Sunday School class just like you would plant a new church. As they encouraged the class to sow (bring in new people) they also set a goal for reproduction (plant the new class). They soon took ownership of this vision and grew. As time drew closer, Meadows and his director led the people to pray about who would go with the newly-birthed class to help establish it. Just before the launch date of the new class, Meadows brought them together in front of the church and commissioned them...as a new class. This sense of birthing new things is starting to catch on in the life of the church as they look forward to the day they birth a new church.



Church Planter, Jimmy Meadows

2006 Hurricane Season Starts

Mark Gauthier
Assumes Volunteer Leadership of
Disaster Relief



We are pleased to announce that Mark Gauthier has assumed the statewide leadership of our Disaster Relief ministry. Heretofore, he assisted Jack Noble as Co-Director. With Jack becoming Church Enrichment Missionary for the Midwestern area, Mark will fill the role as Director. He is assisted by a Team Leader for Disaster Relief in each ministry area.

State Director
Mark Gauthier

State Training Coordinator
Robert Williams

AREAS:

Southeast
Ron Early

Northern
Robert Varley

Southwest
David Moore

Central West
Jimmy Marston

Eastern Shore
Stan Owens

Central East
Eddie Urbine

Midwest
Wayne Sink

Soaring UPWARD

The vision for a sports ministry at Main Street Baptist Church in Christiansburg was cast through an *Upward** Basketball presentation at an SBCV leadership conference. Even though Main Street **HAS NO GYM**, by faith, they started the ministry in November 2003. They believed that "where God guides, He provides." God brought more than 200 children from around the New River Valley. Fifty families who did not have any church affiliation were represented.

The second season was just as miraculous with 411 children enrolled. God supernaturally provided five different gymnasiums in the area to accommodate 50 teams.

At the start of the third season, church members asked, "What more is God going to do?" God began to answer that question by giving 670 children for the 2005-06 season. Main Street had the opportunity to minister to more than 1500 people each weekend while 87 teams played basketball. The season culminated with the *Upward Celebration!* More than 1600 people gathered at Virginia Tech's Cassell Coliseum and heard a clear presentation of the Gospel.

Upward also provides a great means for involving lay-leaders within the church body. More than 200 church members have served in the ministry of *Upward* Basketball. Each week volunteers serve as coaches, referees, score keepers, concession workers, intercessors and devotional speakers.

From the beginning, many prayers have been answered and God has continued to show Himself faithful in powerful and practical ways. It is true that "where God guides, He provides!"

* *Upward* is an outreach sports ministry designed for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. It provides an opportunity to invest in a child's physical and spiritual growth by teaching sports and the Bible, while involving volunteer members in ministry. For information go to www.upward.org.

Essentials for Effective Volunteer Enlistment

ALLAN TAYLOR,

well-known Minister of Education from FBC, Woodstock, GA, says, "we really do enlist 95% of our problems." One of the key ingredients in a successful Sunday School is an effective enlistment process. Here are **FOUR ESSENTIALS:**

1. **PRAYER:** The first step begins on our knees in fervent prayer. We must continually and persistently ask our Heavenly Father to "send forth laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:38). Too often we attempt to do kingdom work in the flesh.
2. **PERSONAL:** Successful enlistment is done face-to-face... not through general pulpit appeals or a phone call. It says something about how important the task is when you ask to meet with them one-on-one.
3. **PURPOSEFUL:** This involves sharing the qualifications and expectations needed for the task. One of the most important things we have done in this regard is the creation

By Dan Cook

Associate Pastor
Spotswood Baptist
Fredericksburg



of a teacher covenant. I believe in calling people up to serve in Sunday School. These volunteers have the responsibility of handling two of the nearest things to God's heart: His people and His Word. Should there not be high expectations for such a responsibility?

4. **PASSIONATE:** When enlisting people, make sure that you do it with passion and enthusiasm. If you are not excited about the ministry opportunity, don't be surprised if they are not. Let's call them to a dream, not a job. Make them aware of the great responsibility and great rewards.

When we stop enlisting our own problems, the enlisting process becomes a joy instead of a burden!

Editor's note: A great resource is the book on this subject, "The Six Core Values of Sunday School" by Allan Taylor.

For more information visit www.sbcv.org

Renewing Your Passion for
Leadership

Southwest Church Leadership Conference

Saturday Sept. 30

EUCLID AVENUE
BAPTIST CHURCH
Bristol

Workshops in ministries such as:
Sunday School Growth, Missions, Women, Men, Evangelism,
Church Growth, Home & Family, Preaching & Pastoral,
Music & Worship, Technology, Church Administration,
Church Planting



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ERIC THOMAS
Pastor
First Baptist Church, Norfolk

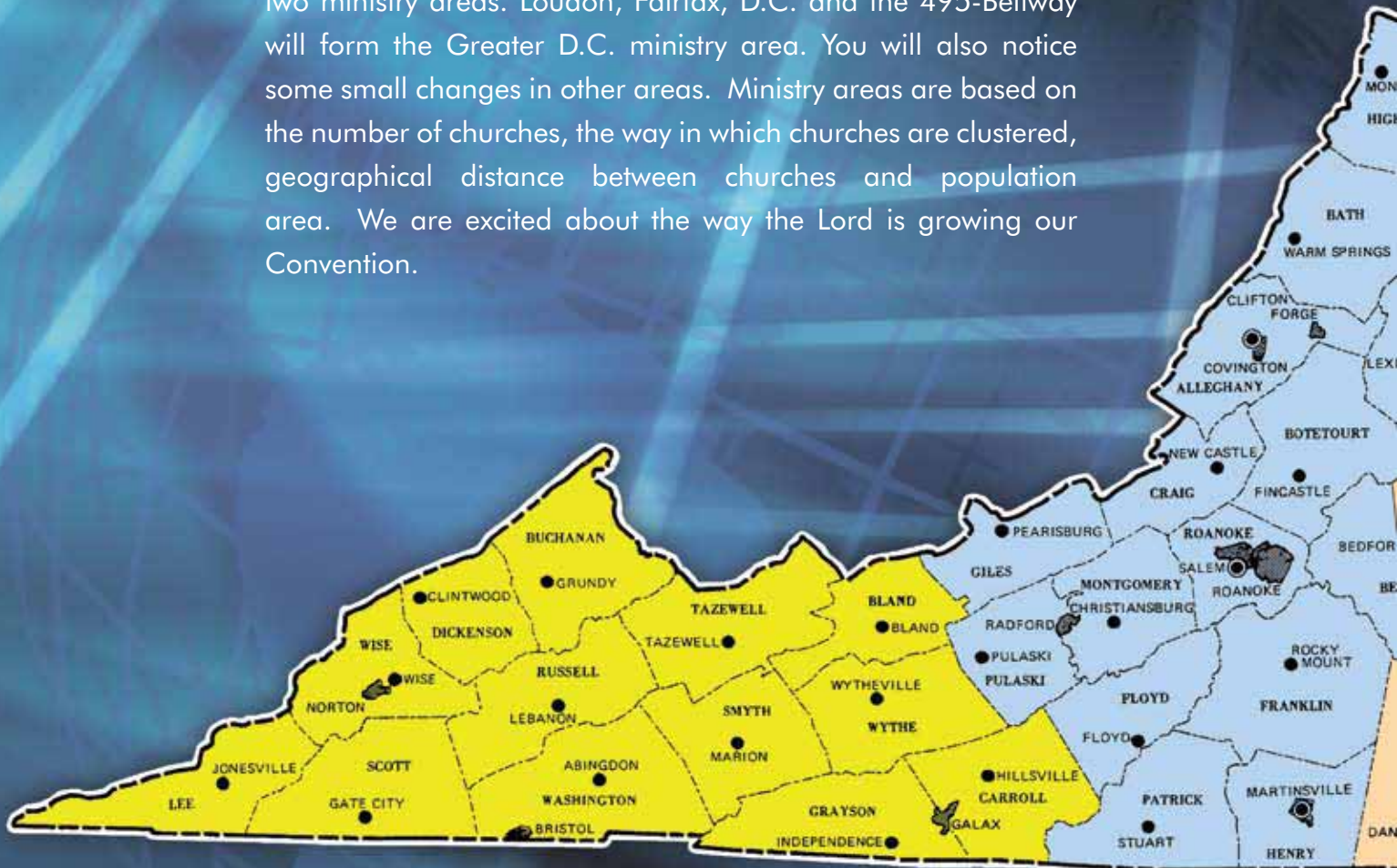


SBCV-7 MINISTRY AREAS

Go to ***www.sbcv.org*** for information about the SBCV missionaries and ministries in your area.

beginning July 1, 2006

SBCV WILL BE ADDING ANOTHER MINISTRY AREA to our decentralization plan. Northern Virginia will now be divided into two ministry areas. Loudon, Fairfax, D.C. and the 495-Beltway will form the Greater D.C. ministry area. You will also notice some small changes in other areas. Ministry areas are based on the number of churches, the way in which churches are clustered, geographical distance between churches and population area. We are excited about the way the Lord is growing our Convention.



SOUTHWESTERN

62

CHURCHES
POP. 396,913



MIDWESTERN

77

CHURCHES
POP. 725,739



CENTRALWEST

67

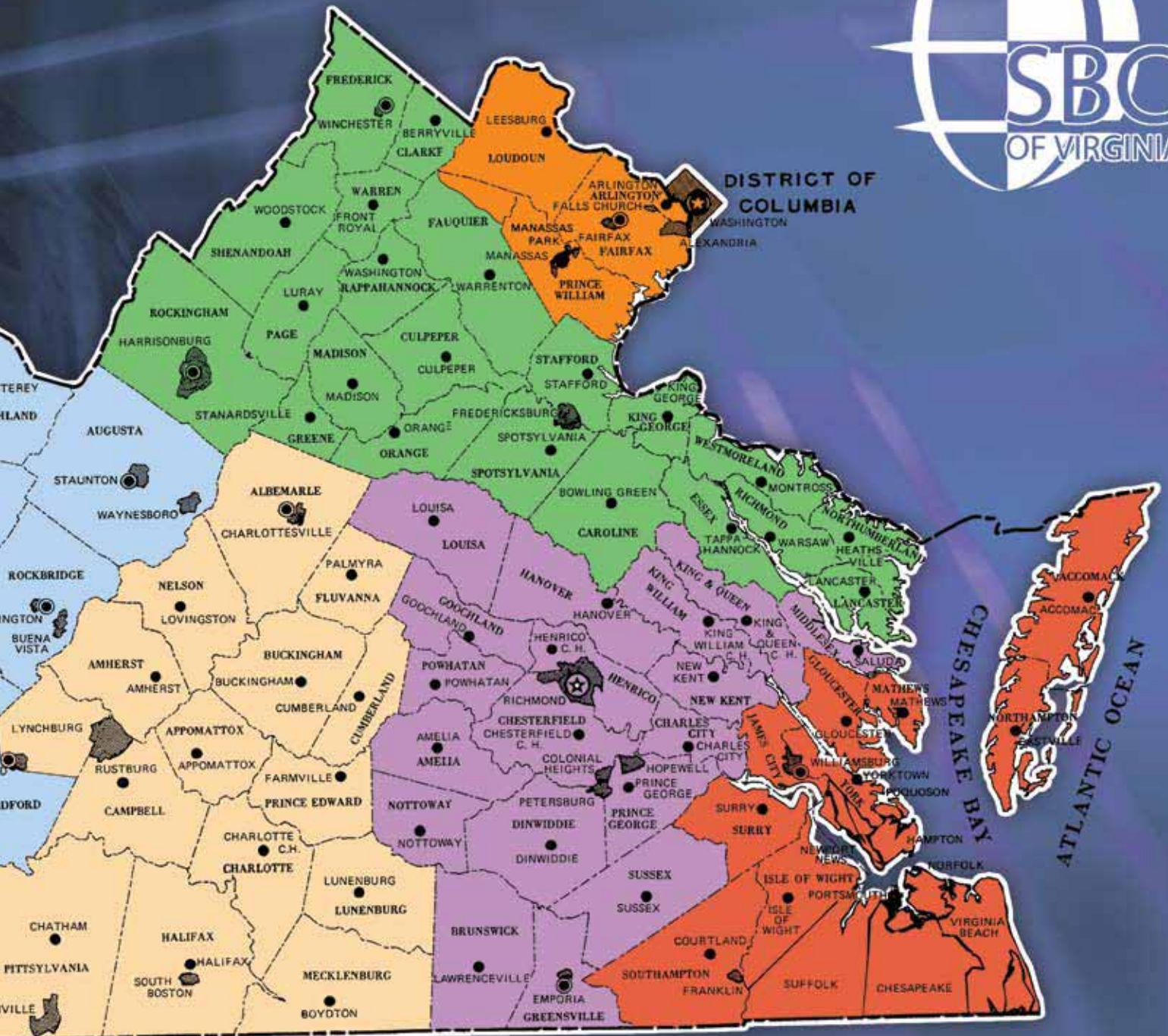
CHURCHES
POP. 649,987



NORT

5

CHUR
POP. 83



NORTHERN	GREATER D.C.	CENTRAL EAST	SOUTH EASTERN
5	39	67	102
CHURCHES	CHURCHES	CHURCHES	CHURCHES
POP. 34,165	POP. 1,975,199	POP. 1,223,412	POP. 1,654,412

Communication & Team Building



Pastor Ben Arment of History Church, Reston, makes full use of the latest technology to communicate with both the community and the church family. The church has two websites, one for the public and the other for church family. Ben also posts comments and personal information on a daily blog so his church family feels more connected with him, his family and ministry.

The church sends out a bi-monthly, full-color newsletter, in which the church's values and vision are communicated mainly through pictures. "We live in a visual age," Arment says. "So it's important for us to communicate the church's mission through images and not just words."

The church has recently brought on a part-time graphic designer to take over production of the newsletters. History Church also utilizes "podcasting" on their public website so that anyone can listen to the Sunday morning sermons. Arment is hoping that in the future, they will be able to upload video from Sunday



mornings, allowing people to watch their service on the web.

In this fast-paced age, the church must remember that technology is an effective tool for reaching the lost. Communication is an important part of team building.

Liberty Baptist on Track in Developing Leaders

Daniel Dockery, Pastor of Liberty Baptist, Appomattox, says that they have three options in involving people in the ministry of their church:

1. dictate and tell people what to do
2. delegate tasks to be done, which is a top-down structure
3. develop leaders and empower them to do the ministry.

Dockery chooses to develop leaders and meets with committee chairpersons on a monthly basis. During these monthly trainings, members learn the in's and out's of leadership, such as: how to prepare and lead meetings, how to take minutes, how to plan a year-long calendar, and how to prepare reports for church quarterly business meetings. "Then we simply trust them to lead," says Dockery. "They are unleashed and empowered to minister freely. The key to successful leadership is communication — the more the better!"

Liberty Baptist has developed leaders to be in charge of ministries such as Missions, AWANA, VBS, Youth, Children, Preschool and

Music. A good example of Liberty's development of leaders is seen in its VBS structure. This year's director has an assistant who learns and becomes the director next year, while the former director becomes the assistant. Developing leaders takes a commitment and an investment in people, but in turn, people invest their lives in ministry to others.



College Students CAREKITS

College CareKits help Christian high school seniors go to college prepared and committed in their walk with the Lord.

Many times students arrive at colleges without a church connection and without Christian friends. CareKits help them make the transition to college life a positive experience in their spiritual journey.

SIX SBCV CHURCHES from around the state have offered to help bridge the gap between us and the new college students by distributing College CareKits to freshmen as they arrive at college this fall.

For "how to" information and details on Packaging & Collection Sites visit www.sbcv.org or call 888-234-7716





The Art of Delegation

A commitment to delegation ultimately comes down to realizing that God the Father is the team leader, so says Tim Piland, Senior Pastor of Nansemond River Baptist Church in Suffolk. His experience in the United States Air Force has helped him to make delegation a natural part of his leadership style.

Delegation is more than just dividing up a task list; it means empowering and allowing people the opportunity to make decisions. Piland says, "To be successful in delegation, the person needs two things: they must know what is expected and be given the right to carry it out. I must be sure of my own calling because I can then allow others to fulfill theirs, while remaining focused on my own." Piland further explains, "A leader must understand that delegation includes staying out

of the way but staying informed of progress."

Piland has patterned these principles for his church staff:

FIRST, delegation becomes easier as you build trust over time and your staff sees you lead.

SECOND, delegation can only happen as people are equipped to serve.

THIRD, begin the right way by building delegation into the DNA of the church. The encouraging word is that it is never too late to start!

FOURTH, know your people. You must begin with giftedness and allow people to be successful.

"When we delegate and empower people to act," Piland says, "we are following God's divine pattern in the Trinity: God the Father is the team leader, Jesus carries out the will of the Father, and the Holy Spirit further illumines the work of the Father through the Son."



Tim Piland

STEPS TO BUILDING YOUR TEAM

ENLISTING AND BUILDING

good teams has helped Harvest Fellowship, an SBCV church plant in Smithfield, experience healthy church growth. Pastor Randy Green says, "The key to building the teams has been in helping people find their God-given potential and pointing them to the right place to serve on the team". He recommends the following steps as a guide:

Step 1. Pre-enlist

1. Listen to God and know the ministry needs of your church.
2. Never start new ministries without there being a need and without the right person to lead that ministry.
3. Find the answers to the following key questions:

- Is this person a team player?
- Can the person build and lead a team?
- Is this person a true servant?
- Can this person follow, as well as lead?

Step 2. Enlist

1. Look within your fellowship for potential leaders.
2. Target potential leaders.
3. Select leaders who are best suited for the team ministry.
4. Train and enlist new leaders and put them to work.

Step 3. Build Your Team

1. Help each team leader know and understand how God has gifted them.
2. Encourage them to focus on what they can do best.
3. Encourage your team leaders to mentor future potential leaders in order to expand ministry capabilities.

Jesus said, 'the greatest among you shall be a servant.' The greatest benefit of team ministry... "is that everybody gets an opportunity to serve Christ."



A Life-changing Weekend
Registration: \$25; after October 13th, \$30.

Woman After God's Own Heart

featuring
ELIZABETH GEORGE



KENDRA PENN
as Guest Soloist

Presented by the Women's Ministries of SBC of Virginia and Grove Avenue Baptist Church

A WOMAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART
October 20-21, 2006

Grove Avenue Baptist Church
8701 Ridge Road
Richmond, VA 23229

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

Ministry to Sportsmen at Smith Mountain Lake

By Jackie Carver, Pastor, Palestine Baptist, Huddleston



At our church in Bedford County, we have found that God is at work in all

the everyday things we do, even when it comes to our hobbies. Nine years ago we held our first Wild Game Dinner (WGD). It was designed as an evening of food and fun in which "good-ole-boys" got together to share hunting experiences. The event grew each year until we had to move it to the Huddleston Elementary School gym. We now hold the "WGD" in our

own Family Life Center and this year had more than 900 in attendance! The best part is that each year people surrender their hearts to Jesus as He builds His kingdom.

Out of our "WGD" has sprung Quest Ministries,

an outreach to sports enthusiasts in the Smith Mountain Lake area and surrounding communities. This year, Quest Ministries raised over \$20,000 in sponsorship from vendors. This allowed us to hold the "WGD" and volleyball tournament. We are also able to plan for a bow shoot and golf tournament. These events are not for profit but are opportunities to share the Gospel. In the past, we have held a fishing tournament on Smith Mountain Lake and a very successful Kid's Fishing Tournament at a local pond.

The reason for the success of this ministry is that the members feel an ownership, with each doing what they can for the Kingdom of God. As pastor, I participate as a fellow believer and encourager and rejoice in it all!



For more information:

www.Questministriespalestine.com



— Celebrating God's Provision — — PINE GROVE BAPTIST —

It was an exciting day in the history of Pine Grove Missionary Baptist, Dugspur. In April 2005, the congregation held a ground-breaking ceremony for a new fellowship and education building. Representatives from various church groups and Sunday School classes used golden shovels to turn the symbolic first mounds of dirt.

Pine Grove's congregation has seen constant growth and realized the importance of working together. They put their focus on Matthew 19:26 where Jesus said, "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." This led them to the building



project's theme, "Building Together in Faith That Others May Believe."

In September 2005, the church celebrated the project's completion with a dedication service. Pastor Allen Cherry and the congregation gave God all the credit by saying, "We understand that this is His building and His

work. We are laborers in His field."

The much needed building is almost 10,000 square-feet and includes a new fellowship hall that will provide easy access for the elderly and handicapped. It also increases the amount of



Pastor Allen Cherry

space available for large group functions. Additional classroom space provides much needed room for church activities such as Sunday School, AWANA, and youth groups.

welcome... Richard Lee

Richard Lee is our new Church Planting Missionary to African-Americans, Africans, and Caribbean-Islanders. He and his wife, Lucille, will live in Richmond and their primary focus will be the Central-East ministry area.



His responsibilities will be to network for evangelism, raise up small groups, and identify leaders and church planters. Richard is from Missouri and has served as a church planter there and in Tennessee. He also served as a Church Planting Strategist in Northern Illinois. Richard served as the North American Mission Board's National Missionary to African-Americans, Africans, and Caribbean-Islanders.

Please pray for Richard that he'd know the will of God and that God would bring leaders to him and multiply his efforts.

TWO NEW CHURCH ENRICHMENT MISSIONARIES

we welcome...

Darrell Webb and his wife, Angela, as our SBCV state missionaries for Northern Virginia, beginning July 1, 2006. Darrell will



be the Church Enrichment Missionary for the new Northern Virginia ministry area and will be living in Doswell. He has been the

Pastor of Exmore Baptist Church and prior to this he served as an Associate Pastor for Education and Youth in Memphis. Darrell has been involved in Christian Education as an Administrator at a Christian school. While on the Eastern Shore he led Exmore Baptist Church to start the Shore Christian Academy. Darrell is a graduate of Liberty University and Mid-America Seminary. He and Angela have a daughter, Allison (7), and a son, Nathan (5). Please pray for the Webb family that God will give them a fruitful ministry, as they seek to strengthen churches and support pastors.

Jack Noble and his wife, Rhonda, have also joined our state mission's team. Jack is well known throughout our state for his volunteer leadership with the Disaster Relief ministry. On July 1, 2006 he will become the Church Enrichment Missionary for the Midwestern ministry area. Jack is a graduate of James Madison University with an Accounting degree, as well as Liberty Seminary. He has served churches in Savannah, The Tabernacle in Danville, and most recently was Minister of Education at North Main Baptist Church in Danville. Jack and his wife, Rhonda, have four children, Josiah (18), Nathan (16), Abigail (15), and Anna (12). He brings a wide knowledge of educational ministries from large churches to small churches. Jack will also be our State Missionary Coordinator for Disaster Relief. Please pray for the Noble family in their new role and ask the Lord to bless them and their ministry.



TIME FOR THE TRUTH *Christians Living in a World of 'Evolution'*

By Brandon Pickett, Media Missionary, SBCV

One of my favorite places in Virginia is the Roanoke Valley. What a beautiful area — the Blue Ridge Parkway, the city of Roanoke and Mill Mountain can be a great getaway. On a recent trip with my family, we decided to head up to the Mill Mountain Zoo. At the zoo's welcome center, the first thing you see is a large display

explaining the alleged history and origins of this beautiful mountain.

And the first sentence on the display reads: "Mill Mountain was created billions of years ago."

You see, the theory of evolution is no longer veiled as a hypothesis. It is now publicized as absolute fact. You can't get away from it. My son comes home from school talking about how his teacher said we come from animals and that the earth is billions of years old. Turn on the news and ABC has a stunning story on how there is "scientific proof" of the Big Bang.



Dr. John Morris, President, ICR



These theories are woven into many movies, television shows and even cartoons. It's now even seeping into the church even though the Bible teaches that the earth was formed in six days. But where is the scientific proof that creation took only six days and that the earth is only thousands of years old?

There has never been a better time for some hard-core facts about a young earth. The Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, along with the Institute for Creation Research (ICR), sponsored the east-coast premier of a special conference, "Thousands...

Not Billions, The Young Age Of The Earth" at First Baptist Church, Roanoke. A team of scientists from ICR blew evolution right out of the water with scientific proof from an unprecedented eight-year study of the age of the earth. Around 1,000 people attended this special event and took back to their homes, schools and churches new tools to help combat the lies of the world.

Maybe the message is getting through. In June, Gallop released a new poll that shows about 1/2 of Americans still believe that human beings didn't evolve but were created by God in their present form within the last 10,000 years or so. And many more believe that, despite the mantra of media and mainstream science, God did have something to do with creation.

It certainly is time for the truth and for the church to get serious about defending the central principles of the Bible.

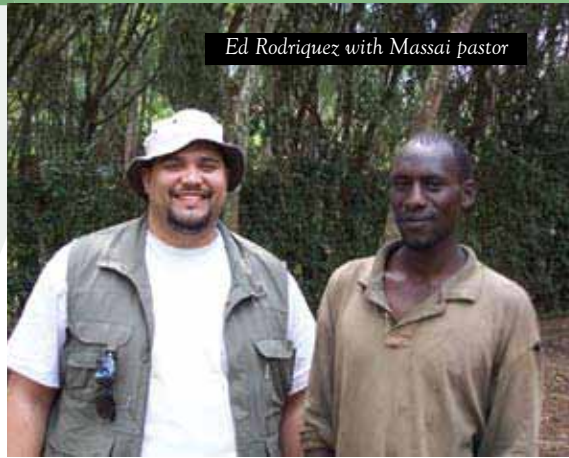
Learn more about The Institute for Creation Research at www.icr.org/

God at Work Among the Massai

The four SBCV pastors who were part of our first Massai mission team came home from Kenya celebrating the work of the Holy Spirit. They witnessed more than 125 accept Christ as Savior and the formation of new churches among the Massai people. In their words, "we were truly where God was working and felt that we had simply joined Him in the abundant outpouring of His Spirit." Ed Rodriquez, pastor of Ragland Memorial Baptist Church and a member of the team said, "The Lord manifested His presence as we witnessed many being saved."

He shared the following story:

"A delay of three hours had occurred during one of our trips. Once on our way, we met a woman who had just given birth and was being pushed in a wheelbarrow to the nearest clinic. She was accompanied by her husband and father. The team stopped, offered assistance, and took them to the clinic where the woman received treatment. While we waited, a



Ed Rodriquez with Massai pastor



Massai nationals with their pastor

Massai pastor presented the Gospel to the two men. Both accepted Christ as their Savior. The team left the clinic celebrating the birth of a child and the spiritual birth of two Massai men. It was then that we realized

the reason for our delay — to witness God at work!

The celebration did not stop in Kenya. It continued as the team

Central East Church Enrichment Missionary

DON MATTHEWS

Don Matthews will be moving to become the Church Enrichment Missionary for the Central-East ministry area. Don has done a marvelous job as Church Enrichment Missionary in the Midwestern area for the past 3½ years and now he has taken up the challenge in the Central-East. Don knows this area well. He served as Minister of Education at Swift Creek Baptist Church in Midlothian and graduated from the University of Richmond on a football scholarship. Don and Mary Ann will be a blessing to the churches in the Central-East ministry area.



returned back to the States. God had prepared the way for them from the beginning to the end of the trip."

Members of SBCV churches are invited to join this celebration and witness the outpouring of God's Spirit by joining and praying for teams returning to the Massai in 2007. Go to www.sbcv.org/africa_partnership for more information and photos.

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KEYS to EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

From the
Executive Director
Doyle Chauncey



In Colossians 1:24-29, the Apostle Paul reveals a number of principles of effective Christian leadership. I see **three key principles:**

Effective Christian Leaders Are Willing to Pay the Price

Paul begins, "Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you..." (1:24). Look at the preceding verses and you realize that Paul is referring to the sacrifice of Christ for our sin. Paul is grateful for Christ's work in their life.

But there is more to this statement. He also says, "I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of the church." He began by talking about Christ's afflictions, now he is talking about his own. Paul says there is a price to pay to lead.

Effective Christian Leaders Have a Servant Mentality

Paul states, "I have become its (the church's) servant by the commission God gave me..." (1:25). Paul viewed himself not as a professional nor an executive, but a servant. Jesus gave us an example of what this means in the upper room when the disciples gathered with Jesus for the Passover meal. He takes off his garment and humbles himself like a servant and washes the feet of the disciples. He was giving them a model of the kind of leadership He desired: servant leadership.

Effective Christian Leaders See the Big Picture

Paul writes, "We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ." (1:28). Paul sees the big picture. He is not seeking to build organizations... he

is seeking to reach and develop people.

Perhaps this picture will illustrate the three key principles. One day John decides to go to church. He walks in with "wild hair," wearing ragged jeans, a T-shirt, and no shoes. The church is completely packed and all eyes are on him. John gets closer and closer to the pulpit and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. About this time, the minister realizes that an elderly deacon is slowly making his way toward John. The people are thinking, "The minister can't even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do." And then they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty he lowers himself and sits down next to John so he won't be alone. Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control he says, "What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget." Indeed, that deacon is an effective Christian leader.



10th Anniversary
NOV. 13-14
Homecoming Celebration
**FIRST BAPTIST,
ROANOKE**

Jeremiah 29:11

*"I know the
plans I
have for you."*

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CLC

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Mount Pleasant Baptist Colonial Heights

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6:30 -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

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