

MAY/JUN 2007
Volume 9 Number 3

Proclaimer

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

SBCV and the Cooperative Program...

Making Your Impact Even Greater!

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

SBC
OF VIRGINIA

SBCV
Responds
to the
Virginia
Tech
Tragedy
[pg5]





from the State Missions Team

The Cooperative Program

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.

It has been at the heart of the Southern Baptist Convention since 1925. It's also been at the forefront of conversation over the past couple of years. In the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia (SBCV), we are blessed with pastors and churches that not only are committed to it in word but show it with their giving each and every month. This issue of the **Proclaimer** is dedicated to the stories of how the Cooperative Program (CP) makes a difference in the field and in the pew. As a convention of local churches working together, we can do so much more than we can on our own... and we see the results through partners like Southern Baptist Convention seminaries, International Mission Board (IMB) and North American Mission Board (NAMB). Now this partnership is even closer as the SBCV Senior Associate Director, Dr. Geoff Hammond, assumes the responsibility of the President of NAMB. Please make sure to check out a special page dedicated to his new "missionary challenge" and some interesting quotes from pastors around the state. Thanks again for your ministry to the Lord and your partnership for His Kingdom.

MAKING YOUR IMPACT EVEN GREATER

Church Leadership CONFERENCE

@ Mt. Pleasant Baptist Colonial Heights

AUGUST 17 & 18, 2007

WORKSHOPS in ministries such as:

- Sunday School Growth
- Missions
- Women
- Men
- Evangelism
- Preaching & Pastoral
- Home & Family
- Music & Worship
- Technology
- Church Growth
- Church Planting
- Church Administration

Dr. Tommy Teague is the senior pastor of North Richland Hills Baptist Church. He has served as the senior associate pastor at First Baptist, Dallas, Tx, First Baptist, Norfolk, Va, and Bell Shoals Baptist in Brandon, Fl.

For more than 20 years, Tommy has been a recognized leader in church growth, leadership development, Sunday School revitalization, and center-city church renewal. He is a frequently used conference speaker and motivational leader in these areas of ministry.

Guest Speaker:
Tommy Teague



The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

Proclaimer



MAY-JUN 2007
Volume 9 | Number 3

Editor Dr. Geoff Hammond
Assistant Editor Brandon Pickett
Designer Patti Spencer

The Proclaimer is a collaborative effort of the State Missions and Support Teams. As a ministry of the SBCV's Cooperative Program, The Proclaimer is published six times annually.

Subscriptions: The Proclaimer 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.

Dates to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR 2007

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

MAY

- 4 VBS CLINICS (Bedford, Rileyville)
- 4-5 DISASTER RELIEF ROUNDUP (statewide)—Parkway Baptist, Midlothian
- 5 VBS CLINICS (Pennington Gap, Hampton)
- 10 SBCV MINISTER OF EDUCATION MEETING — SBCV, Glen Allen
- 11-12 DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (N)—Spotswood Baptist, Fredericksburg
- 19 BIBLE DRILL—Beulah Baptist, Lynchburg
- 31 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)

JUNE

- 1-2 DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (CW)—North Main Baptist, Danville
- 1-2 LIFEWAY WOMEN'S CONFERENCE—Hyland Memorial Chapel, Woodbridge
- 1-3 BASIC TRAINING (Spanish) — SBCV, Glen Allen
- 4 SUMMER INTERN TRAINING — SBCV, Glen Allen
- 10-13 SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION — San Antonio, Texas
- 28 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)

JUL

- 9-13 SBCV STUDENTZ CAMP — Liberty University
- 29-8/3 POWER PLANT — Hampton Roads

AUG

- 7-8 YEC (Youth Evangelism Conference) — Liberty Baptist, Hampton
- 17-18 CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE — Mt. Pleasant Baptist, Colonial Heights
- 30 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)

SEP

- 9-16 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR STATE MISSIONS
- 26 SYTP See You at the Pole
- 29 CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SW)

OCT

- 1-4 BASIC TRAINING (English) — SBCV, Glen Allen
- 11-12 DC VISION TOUR
- 19-20 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — Colonial Heights Baptist, Colonial Heights
- 25 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)

NOV

- 4 MY FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION
- 12-13 SBCV ANNUAL MEETING — Liberty Baptist, Hampton

Did you know?

SBCV churches have given more than **\$55 million dollars** in undesignated CP contributions since its beginning.

5

SBCV and the Disaster Relief brings hope to a hurting Hokie Nation.

CONTENTS

4

No Magic, Just a Majestic Formula

Dolphin Baptist Church, located south of Emporia, believes that SBCV churches should be mission-hearted. This church, with an average attendance of around 80 (40 families), gave an average of more than \$1,000 for missions per family!

8

A Tribute to Dr. Geoff Hammond

While the SBCV praises the Lord for what Dr. Hammond's arrival at the North American Mission Board will mean for church planting and evangelism around the country, we know that he will be sorely missed in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

11

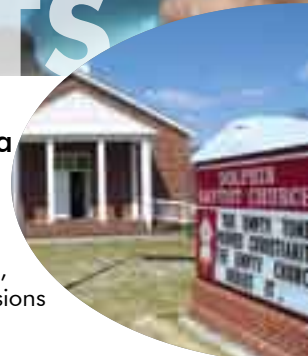
Going Deeper, Reaching Farther

When Pastor Jim Booth of Staples Mill Road Baptist Church says he believes in taking the gospel to the ends of the earth, he means it literally. The church is showing that it also shares the pastor's conviction.

14

Sharing the Gospel in Thailand

A ministry that requires no special knowledge or skills reaches out to the many Chinese who visit Thailand by giving them God's Word and the Gospel.



2007 SBC ANNUAL MEETING

June 12-13, 2007

San Antonio, TX

For more information visit:

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
200 East Market Street
San Antonio, TX

www.sbcannualmeeting.net/sbc07

Pre-register online at: www.sbc.net/churchupdate

Revive, Renew, Rejoice
SBC Ministers' Wives' Conf.
June 12, 2007

Come Fiesta with Friends!

Co-sponsored by:
Dorothy "The Seam" Youngberg
www.sbcw.org
or call 954-326-1221

No Magic Formula, Just a Majestic Formula

It's one thing to be missions-minded but Marvin Lewis, pastor of Dolphin Baptist Church located south of Emporia, believes SBCV churches should really be mission-hearted!

Lewis says when he started as pastor more than two decades ago, Dolphin Baptist was giving about \$400 to the local association, did not give a percentage to the Cooperative Program, and only the ladies led the special offerings. The church was committed to the week of prayer for missions and participated in cottage prayer meetings. But unfortunately, the end result was only a couple hundred dollars. They tried different strategies:

- Increasing their goals by 10% from last year.
- Handed out the names of IMB missionaries in the sanctuary for prayer.

But their offerings only increased between \$4,000 and \$6,000. Then, after being personally convicted, Lewis challenged the church. "We were just

dumb about our giving — so we just let go and let God." He encouraged the congregation, "Let's get God in here and see what He can give through us."

Now, looking back, Lewis knows that God has done it. This church, with an average attendance of around 80 (40 families), gave \$8,445 to the Annie Armstrong Offering in 2006 with another \$25,588 to the Lottie Moon Offering. In addition, they gave 13% of their undesignated offerings to the Cooperative Program. That's an average of more than \$1,000 for missions per family!

When asked if there is a magic formula, Lewis responds, "It's not a magical formula, it is a majestic formula — pray and then be obedient to what God tells you to give." He goes on to quote Scripture, "Not by power, nor by might, but by My Spirit says the Lord."

"Many pastors can change the minds of people," says Lewis, "but only God can change the heart. God changed our hearts."



Lives Changed and Tools Sharpened at SBCV Evangelism Conferences

"I came here with my 'batteries' very low. But I'm leaving refreshed with tools in my hands to impact our community."

Zach Zbinden, senior pastor of Salem Baptist in Crozier, was just one of many who came to the 2007 SBCV simultaneous Evangelism Conferences, and left encouraged.

Close to 500 gathered at Nansemond River Baptist in Suffolk on March 12th at the same time hundreds were gathering at Cave Spring Baptist in Roanoke. In the West, before the conference was even over, more than 20 lives were changed for eternity. The day before the conference began, those 20 accepted Christ as their Savior during "Connection Sunday". They were all invited to the conference and seven were baptized Monday night. Deerfield Baptist Church pastor, Mike Smith, comments, "The Evangelism Conference is truly food for my soul. As a pastor I rarely have the opportunity to be on the receiving end of ministry, preaching, and teaching. I am not convinced that I have the gift of the evangelist (Eph. 4:11), I am a pastor-teacher. However, I know for certain that God has commanded me and every Christian to **do** evangelism. Jesus' first words to His disciples were 'Follow Me and I will make you fishers of

men.' I have heard it said, 'if you're not fishing, you're not following.' If you're not following Jesus, who are you following?"

In the East, an all-star line-up of speakers from around America challenged and equipped those present for evangelism. Roy Fish encouraged the crowd that "the sower and the reaper rejoice together. Therefore, be a sower of the Word!" Ed Stetzer dealt with the need to be clear about our mission of reaching the world for Jesus. Vance Pitman pointed to a global vision of God's Kingdom as "really big" which transforms our perspective. Greg Brinson, senior associate pastor of London Bridge Baptist in Virginia Beach remarked, "What a good line-up of speakers and breakouts. It was a great encouragement."

Next year, plan on attending and bringing a guest to the SBCV Evangelism Conference in your area.

DID YOU know?

50% of all funds received for missions and ministries in Virginia are used to help SBCV churches start new churches.



SBCV RESPONDS TO THE VIRGINIA TECH TRAGEDY

What a Way to Start for an SBCV Church Planter

You probably know of the stress and strain of moving. Well, that's what brand new SBCV church planter, Doug Short, was doing on April 16th with his wife and three kids.

They had been praying for months that God would lead them quickly to Blacksburg and the campus of Virginia Tech to start a new church. They had been through the entire



process of forms, interviews, and field trips. But Short was waiting on his house to sell. He had been asking God why there had been delay after delay when his heart desperately wanted to be on the ground, ministering to students and the residents around Blacksburg.

The call came on Monday morning, April 16th. As Short and his wife were doing the final pack for their trip on Tuesday from Delaware, His mind reeled

as he heard the news from Tech: Shots fired... students dead... total panic and desperation. God was starting to show the Short's about the timing of this move and their mission at Virginia Tech. The day they finally arrived on campus, before they even unpacked their car, they stood just down the sidewalk from where the worst school shooting occurred just 34 hours before. The entire Short family jumped in and began working with SBCV Disaster Relief teams handing out meals and drinks... ministering to hurting hearts and lives.

"When we got the call of the tragedy at Virginia Tech, it just didn't quite sink in. But on the drive down, I realized that God had called us here for such a time as this. Friends called right away and told me that God's got you down there. He's got a mission," said Short.

Short is already meeting with area pastors to pray, plan and strategize the best ways to reach out to people who need hope. Part of that is what he's already doing, meeting physical needs while sharing the hope found in Jesus Christ.

"God tells us in his Word that He will do with us more than we can ask or imagine. He's now thrusting us... propelling us... to that land of 'beyond what I can imagine.'"

SBCV Disaster Relief READY TO HELP

Less than two hundred yards from the worst school shooting in American history sits a Southern Baptist Disaster Relief trailer. Volunteers from various Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia churches arrived on the scene to help only about 24 hours after the shooting was first reported. These volunteers are trained to serve in disasters, but this one was unlike any that they've encountered. This one wasn't a natural disaster... it's man-made. When the SBCV DR food unit first arrived on the Virginia Tech campus, coordinators say they didn't know how God was going to use them; they just wanted to be ready.

"We wanted to be available for whatever needs developed," said Jack Noble, SBCV Area Missionary. "Part of responding to an event like this is to just bring what you have and be ready. That's what they did. The food unit was already in town when the need arose on Tuesday to feed about 200 law enforcement men and women who were then stationed on the campus, round-the-clock. This also included law enforcement connected with the President's arrival. Virginia Tech officials let the SBCV DR team on campus and the team set up a feeding line in the shadow of Norris Hall... less than 200 yards from where 30 people were shot on Monday morning.

SBCV was then asked if they could transport grieving parents that had just flown into town and had no other way to campus. Coordinators contacted area



churches who came with their church vans and shuttled these families back and forth from the airport.

The volunteers, many of whom came from hours away, say they feel privileged that God is using them in the midst of tragedy. "When I first heard about this, I thought right away about how could I help," said Mark Gore from North Main Baptist in Danville, Virginia. "I just feel led that that's what I need to do with my time... be a good steward of what He's given me. My biggest prayer is that God give me wisdom to say the right thing to these hurting people."

Noble says that the relief effort is a long way from over. He says there are much deeper needs than food and transportation. "The best thing you can do is to show up prepared and be ready to respond, and that's what we did... met the needs. That's what we're continuing to do. We are even now surveying the campus, talking to students and teachers... looking for opportunities to serve and share the good news of Jesus Christ to a hurting community."

COLLEGE CARE kits



In memory of the lives lost, and in honor of the lives yet to be touched at Virginia Tech, this year's College Care Kit "Hands-On" Mission Project will all go to students at VA Tech. Students arriving at VA Tech without a church connection or Christian friends, will more likely have a positive experience in their transition and spiritual journey if they receive a College Care Kit.

"How-to information" and details on packaging and collection sites: www.sbcv.org or call 888-234-7716

COLLECTION DATE: JULY 31st

Cooperative Program

Father of Two SBC Missionaries... "I Am Thankful"

by Jim Davis

As a Southern Baptist and father of two international missionary sons and two daughters who participate in mission outreach, I am thankful that the Cooperative Program supports almost 10,500 missionaries here in North America and around the world through the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board. All Southern Baptists have much to be thankful for...Cooperative Program resources also allow Southern Baptists to be the third largest disaster relief agency in the world.

Southern Baptists have been ministering to AIDS victims in Africa since the 1980s. Over the last 15 years, Southern Baptists have restored more than 11,000 inner city homes. Southern Baptists baptize one new follower of Jesus Christ every 38 seconds and plant 53 Bible believing churches each day. Six Southern Baptist Seminaries are equipping more than 16,000 missionaries, church leaders and pastors. Since 1925 Southern Baptists have been partnering through the CP to reach next door neighbors and lost individuals around the world. Each Southern Baptist has the opportunity to join every other Southern Baptist by pooling resources to make it possible to do what none of us could do individually. The Cooperative Program unites us into one Mission Team to live out the Great Commission.

The Cooperative Program is the most expansive, efficient, and effective vehicle for reaching people and supporting missions. It provides us with the ability to make a difference! Southern Baptists own the resources to reach the world.

As a member of an SBCV church, I am thankful the Cooperative Program supports the missions and ministries of our state convention. Let's keep up the work of the Master and continue our long and honored tradition of cooperating to multiply our ability to reach our world.

Jim Davis, serves a deacon at Kingsland Baptist Church in Richmond and has two sons that are supported by the Cooperative Program. Daren Davis serves in Zambia and D. Ray Davis serves with the IMB in Richmond. Jim also serves on the Executive Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.



Real Life Impact

Julio didn't expect a group of singing Anglos to impact his life. But that is exactly what happened. Those singing Anglos were a part of a team from Union Baptist Church on Chincoteague Island. They had come to lead a worship service at the Eastern Shore migrant camp that had become a second home for Julio here in America. It was at that camp that he met Christ and was changed eternally. But how did this group from an SBCV church sense a need to share with Eastern Shore migrant workers? The Cooperative Program.

"For our church, money that we give to the Cooperative Program is not an expense but an investment in impacting the world," states Pastor Kevin Eley. "The CP has opened the eyes of our church members to see things they never saw before." Eley has used the Cooperative Program as a means of educating the church in an Acts 1:8 strategy. In response, church members have begun to reach out to "their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

In the local area, church members have developed a heart for the local migrant workers and volunteer to minister in their camps that dot the Eastern Shore. Their vision for missions also extends to reach their state by cooperating with the SBCV in mission projects. But their vision does not stop there, it includes an international

component. One of the church families has taken this vision all the way to Cambodia.

According to Eley, this all happened as they have captured the "big picture" of missions. "They have seen what they never thought possible," said Eley. "Through the Cooperative Program, we have learned that you can't out-give God."



Engaging Students in Church Planting

July 28 - Aug 3

Registration Cost:
\$299 per student
Registration deadline:
June 1

Information & Registration:
www.powerplant.studentz.com



"Quit Your Job?"

"What do you mean you want to quit your job, sell the house, move to Wake Forest and attend Seminary?" You can almost hear the conversation as if you were in the room. She continues, "If you go to Seminary — I want to go." That's not what he expected to hear next, but that is the conversation that Roger and Martha Jones, parents of three school-aged

...your generous support has blessed their family

children, had just over four years ago.

From the very beginning, the Jones' were concerned about how they would financially survive while going to seminary without making it a decade-long commitment. Martha finished her degree in May of 2006, in just two years. In

three years, Roger completed his Master of Divinity in May of 2007, right on schedule. Martha and Roger are thankful for the many people who assisted them financially along the way but have a special place in their heart for being offered the SBC of Virginia Seminary Grants. This allowed Roger to attend classes full time and work at a church. If it had not been for the generosity of the SBCV, the Jones' seminary years could have easily turned into five or six years instead of three.

Your investment in this family makes you a part of their ministry and co-workers in the harvest for Christ's kingdom. They say that your generous support has blessed their family as they now serve Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hillcrest, Virginia. This is a testimony to your generous giving to the Cooperative Program.



Grateful for CP Support

One of the SBCV's newest (and youngest) pastors, **TYLER SCARLETT** of Forest Baptist Church in Forest, is extremely thankful for your giving to the Cooperative Program. The CP has helped support him through three years of seminary at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. This year, he had been selected by the SEBTS faculty as one of only three seminary students to preach in chapel. He is also going to receive the Bessie M. Satcher Award in Preaching. Here is a portion of his thank-you letter to SBCV churches:



In all honesty, this could not have been possible had I not had the financial backing and support of the SBCV to aid me in my tuition and commuting expenses. And I hope that this goes to prove that supporting theological training in the SBCV is worth our money, for the sake of the convention, our local churches, and ultimately the kingdom of God. The money is not going to waste. I feel that through this honor and award, God, by His grace, has allowed me to see this in my own life and education as I anticipate graduating in a few weeks.

Also, God has blessed my pastorate at Forest already with 25 new members in January alone and 15 baptisms thus far.

*With much thanks to the SBCV,
Tyler Scarlett
Forest Baptist Church*

We Can't Afford Not to Give

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ST. CHARLES

The small community of St. Charles is located in the heart of Southwest Virginia coal fields. It originally began as a camp, constructed by the local coal companies for their employees and families. But since the late 1960's, when the coal boom ended, St. Charles has felt the economic crunch in a major way. While coal mining is still the primary source of income for those fortunate enough to have work, St. Charles struggles economically with 65 percent of its population requiring some type of government assistance.

It is in this setting that Pastor Paul Davis leads First Baptist Church to be in the top per-capita SBC churches in Cooperative Program (CP) giving. In fact, in 2002 the church increased its CP from 10 to 11 percent. In 2006, with undesignated receipts just over



\$102,000, the church gave \$11,324 to

CP. "This is nothing new to us," says Davis. "Giving has always been important here because through the CP, we can do what we could never do alone." The congregation of approximately 150 in a coal camp in southwest Virginia has a world view that every church can learn from. Not only does it give to CP sacrificially but has baptized an average of 20 people each of the six years since Davis became pastor.

"There is a direct connection between giving and baptisms," says Davis. "The church that understands CP will also understand that evangelism is at the heart of all we do." When asked how the church can afford to give as they do, Davis replied "When we're totally dependant on God for everything we have, we can't afford not to give!"



Dr. Hammond Goes to NAMB

"On March 21st, Dr. Geoff Hammond was unanimously voted as president of the North American Mission Board. "We were so moved by the hand of God through the process concerning Dr. Hammond that we are presenting a recommendation to you unanimously as a committee—a true unanimous recommendation from our committee," Greg Faulls, chairman of the president search committee, told fellow trustees. Hammond has said at every SBCV Annual Homecoming that, "the SBCV doesn't have a story to tell without the story of the local church." Now, he plans on making sure that the stories of the more than 5000 North American missionaries are told from the field to the local churches... so that "Southern Baptists will fall in love with missionaries all over again."

To know **GEOFF HAMMOND** is to know the story of missions. He was born on the mission field in Nigeria as a third generation missionary. He has served with the IMB as a church planter in Brazil and as a missionary in the states. So, it is fitting that his story continues as the president of the North American Mission Board — a Southern Baptist Convention entity that is charged with reaching an entire continent for Jesus Christ.



The Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia first got to know Geoff more than eight years ago when he came from Arkansas where he was the Director of Missions. He was jointly sponsored by SBCV and First Baptist Church of Norfolk to become an SBCV Church Planting Strategist. That role quickly developed into something far greater where Geoff was charged with implementing a church planting strategy that would prayerfully, one day, produce a church planting movement. The fruits of this effort are being seen around the state today!

In 2002, Geoff became the Senior Associate Director and along with Dr. Doyle Chauncey and a strategy team, implemented the decentralization strategy where Virginia would be sectioned into ministry areas and have a Church Enrichment Missionary and a Church Planting Strategist in each area. Since then, the SBCV has grown and developed into one of the premiere conventions in the country.

Hammond's heartbeat has been one of church planting, missions, and team building — both with the State Mission Team and with local church pastors. "I'm a missiologist at heart," Hammond says.

"Cross-cultural evangelism and church planting are my heartbeat." If you've ever attended an SBCV event, you could probably repeat by heart Hammond's favorite phrase, "The SBCV doesn't plant churches, churches plant churches that will plant churches that will plant churches..."

While the SBCV praises the Lord for what Hammond's arrival at the North American Mission Board will mean to church planting and evangelism around the country, we know that he will be sorely missed here in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We look forward to see what

God has for Geoff and his family (Debbie, Tim, and Nick) "More Beyond" Virginia and the SBCV.

Since the announcement of Hammond's election as NAMB president, pastors and leaders across the state have wanted to wish him well and let him know that their prayers are with him. Here are just a few of those comments from around the SBCV:

"Geoff is not only a personal friend, but a tremendous leader of leaders. So, Baptist's are fortunate to have a man like Geoff leading NAMB. I can't wait to see how God uses him."

"From Hawaii through Georgia back through Texas and ending in Virginia, I have never witnessed any convention leader that has the spiritual caliber of Dr. Geoff Hammond. His passion for "pushing back the darkness" has gloriously invaded our desire to plant new churches throughout Virginia. Dr. Hammond's zeal for souls has inspired me to go into that darkness with the boldness of our risen Lord."

"Two things that Geoff told me early on that impacted me were, "You can only wear your own armor — not Saul's," and "Do what God leads you to do — not what someone else did."

"I guess the thing that stands out most to me about Geoff is his love for books (especially books on leadership). There were times when we exchanged leadership book titles... he never had a "put off" attitude... he was very appreciative of finding out about a new book! And being the person that he is, I believe I'll still be able to shoot the new NAMB President an email, asking him to refer a good leadership book... and I'll hear back from him! We'll miss you, Geoff... I'll be in touch!"

"Dr. Geoff Hammond shares my passion to reach the nations. He speaks of and lives missiology, contextualization and indigenous church planting. He can coolly assess the statistics but warmly sees the individuals behind the numbers. He is relentless in striving for implementation and results. He is a missionary's friend."

"Without a doubt, Geoff Hammond is one of the most dynamic leaders I have worked with. His unrelenting passion for sharing the Gospel keeps him focused on church planting like a laser beam... The NAMB Board of Trustees could not have selected a better man as the next President of the North American Mission Board."

"Geoff Hammond's love for Christ shines in every aspect of his life. He is a man that puts Christ in everything he does from working with church leaders to teenagers who need Christ in their lives."

"At various SBCV Student Pastor Retreats Geoff shared his heart and vision for Church Planting. Each time his passion touched my heart and renewed my original calling to missions. ...May God richly bless you as you serve Him in this strategic appointment."

"He was an inspiration to me. He opened my eyes to the possibilities of what can be. He was creative, always dreaming of how to meet the needs of Virginia. And he had a vision to reach every race and ethnic group for Christ through planting churches. There were no limits in his mind. There is a frontier out there and in Geoff's mind, with God's help we could do it."



Hammond kneels as SBCV church planters pray that the Lord strengthen him for his new mission at NAMB.

"Dr. Geoff Hammond has been an inspiration and an encouragement to me as a pastor. He is a man of vision, compassion, and a tremendous leader among Baptists."

"Geoff Hammond will always have a special place in the hearts of my wife Diane, me, and the church family here at Virginia Beach Beacon Baptist Church. ...We wish our dear brother God Speed as he moves into this new mission field of his life."

"But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7

illuminate.

JULY 9-13 2007 | LIBERTY U | LYNCHBURG VA | WWW.SBCV.ORG/STUDENTZ



SBCV studentz CAMP₀₇

www.tonnolan.org

www.stellarkart.com

www.maddogsenGLISHmen.com

www.realencounter.org

www.everydaysunday.com



tony
NOLAN



stellar
KART



mad dogs &
**ENGLISH
MEN**



real encounter
MOTO-X



everyday
SUNDAY



REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

www.sbcv.org/studentz



A New Day and the Best Way

It is not unusual for an independent church to come to the conclusion that partnering with Southern Baptists, in particular the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, is the best way to do missions. Twenty-eight years ago, what is now known as Fair Havens Church, Chesterfield, broke its ties from the Methodist denomination and became an independent Methodist church. But this was not your typical independent church. It was unusual in terms of denominational and theological backgrounds, and also called a former Southern Baptist IMB Missionary as its interim pastor. Subsequently, Bob McEachern was called as full-time pastor, and later Fair Havens uniquely aligned itself with the SBC of Virginia.

McEachern says he is "just so proud of them. They have come a long way. They were not steeped in Southern Baptist tradition and heritage but came to the place of transition based on their conviction in the area of missions. Getting the church to think in terms of giving through the Cooperative Program was a challenging task. Coming from



Test Me & See

February 4th was no ordinary worship service at Salem Baptist Church in Virginia Beach. Just the day before, several members had taken the "polar plunge" into the frigid 48-degree water of the Atlantic Ocean to raise money for a community charity. However, all that was overshadowed by the celebration of what God had done through Salem BC in giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions.

Salem Baptist Church is among the SBCV's first efforts at revitalization. Pastor Richard Saul and his wife, Debbie, have been at the church less than two years working in a role that is very similar to church planting. God has been at work



at Salem, but the growth has been somewhat slow and resources have been limited. The church set a modest, but worthy goal for the missions offering. At about the same time, the church voted to increase Cooperative Program giving from 5 percent to 10 percent. God is truly honoring their faith. On that cold February Sunday, church members were thrilled to learn that not only did they meet their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal... they went three times over it! What seemed impossible became reality through sacrificial giving and God's provision.

In the weeks since that celebration Sunday, Salem has had significant increases in first time visitors, worship attendance, and offerings. Only eternity will tell how the family of God was expanded because of the faithful and sacrificial gifts of the body at Salem Baptist Church.

"Test me in this, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."
Malachi 3:10b

a Methodist and an independent background, it took time to help them understand how the combined efforts of mission-giving could do more than that of independent-giving." As a result, Fair Havens committed to become Southern Baptist and to support missions through the Cooperative Program. It did so not because of tradition but because of conviction. Fair Havens has set a future goal of giving 10 percent of its undesignated offering to the Cooperative Program and is committed to reaching the community and beyond with the Gospel. Under the leadership of the pastor, and with the support and consultation of the SBCV, the church has embarked on a challenging long-range growth strategy which includes a firm desire to be more purposeful in the area of missions.

2007 Polar Plunge in the
Atlantic Ocean



SBCV
Women's Conference
OCT 19-20 · 2007
**when wallflowers
dance**

COLONIAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
COLONIAL HEIGHTS

Angela Thomas is a best-selling author of numerous books for women, including:
"Living Your Life as a Beautiful Offering"
and "Do You Think I'm Beautiful?"

angela thomas
guest speaker

Co-Sponsored by
Salem Baptist Church and
Fair Havens Baptist Church

**COST:
\$25**

Starting New Churches

Going Deeper... Reaching Farther



The Staples Mill Road Baptist Church, Richmond, is sponsoring a new church start to West Africans. When asked why the church is so enthusiastic about this new church, Pastor Jim Booth responded, "it's all about reaching the lost here and to the ends of the earth — and internationals are coming to us." He says the church must be salt and light to its community — "this is not optional or extracurricular." When Booth says he believes in taking the gospel to the ends of the earth, he means it literally. He and his family served with the International Mission Board for ten years prior to serving as pastor of Staples Mill Road Baptist.

The church is showing that it shares their pastor's conviction. Many have stepped up and said, "yes, we will get involved and help church planter, Henry Amadeker." Upon the Amadeker's move to Virginia, the Master's Men group organized a move-in party and made sure the Amadeker's physical needs were met. When Amadeker said he needed a volunteer leadership team to assist with various tasks such as prayer walking, web design and event assistants... members again said yes, we will



Josh Turner's purpose spelled "passion." His passion was to start a church that would reach hundreds of people and reproduce itself many times in the near future.

and fellowship luncheons. This is exactly what I had been praying for in our early years — accountability, friendship, and training. There is no way that I can even put a price on what SBCV has done to assist our church in taking new steps. Our church planting strategist has been instrumental in equipping key leaders in our church to become excited about small group ministry and discipleship. This year our plan is to do more financially through the Cooperative Program than we ever have. It is our joy to give freely just as the Lord has given to us freely. We are grateful to have a state convention who we can call

serve. The church's Missions Committee is now finding other ways the church can help.

Booth believes that salt only has value when it gets out of the shaker. The church is committed to helping its members put down deep roots in Christ so they can reach out farther in His name. Being healthy disciples includes taking the Gospel to all peoples, even when the ends of the earth are moving in across the street.

Editor's Note:

Would you like to find out how your church can begin partnering with a new church start? Contact SBCV through your area Church Planting Strategist will meet with you to discuss opportunities and how your church can get into the church planting harvest.

A Grateful Church Plant Partner

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH,

LOUISA, started as an independent church plant with a leader that knew two things: he was saved for a purpose and that purpose was to win his community to Christ.

Josh Turner's purpose spelled passion. His passion was to start a church that would reach hundreds of people and reproduce itself many times in the near future. But how do you do that when you need training and partnership? The answer: SBCV and the Cooperative Program.

"New Life started with a core group of thirty-five people who had a vision for winning the lost," Turner says. That core group started learning and with 'childlike' faith began to do some things that God would honor. But Turner knew that he needed accountability and practical training to take New Life to the next level. After hearing and reading about the SBC of Virginia, he was inspired by its vision for church planting and its stand for the inerrancy of God's Word.

"After attending my first Church Planting Network (CPN) in early 2003, I felt the Lord prompting us to partner with SBCV. Since that time, I recall my heart soaking up all the fellowship and advice through the monthly CPN meetings and fellowship luncheons. This is exactly what I had been praying for in our early years — accountability, friendship, and training. There is no way that I can even put a price on what SBCV has done to assist our church in taking new steps. Our church planting strategist has been instrumental in equipping key leaders in our church to become excited about small group ministry and discipleship. This year our plan is to do more financially through the Cooperative Program than we ever have. It is our joy to give freely just as the Lord has given to us freely. We are grateful to have a state convention who we can call friends and partners in ministry. I truly feel part of a team with a Kingdom mind set."



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

50% of all undesignated CP contributions are invested in SBC missions and ministries beyond Virginia.



SBC reports that more than 2/3 of all undesignated CP contributions from Virginia is given by SBCV churches.

Just Another Opportunity to Share Christ

Unseasonably warm temperatures blanketed Virginia at the start of 2007. But in the Ozark region of Oklahoma and Missouri, a series of ice storms dumped four inches of destructive ice on the landscape. The damage, 40 miles wide and 250 miles long, left tens of thousands without power and transportation. The electricity would be out for weeks as many trees lay across power lines and homes.

During the middle of January, God gave SBCV Disaster Relief teams the

opportunity to make some ice-cold home visits in Springfield, Missouri. During these visits more than a dozen people accepted Christ as Savior!

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams from a half dozen states responded to the storms. Two SBCV chainsaw teams worked for a total of 14 days in Springfield, Missouri, clearing tree debris from 30 residences. The teams assisted people who could not help themselves, as they removed downed trees from the homes of the elderly



and widows living alone.

The SBCV chain saw teams were extremely effective.

Female team brought members companionship and comfort to the widows, having an opportunity for an hour 'home visit' while work was completed in the freezing winter weather outside.

SBCV Disaster Relief teams brought hope to a disrupted community through their physical presence, emotional support, and physical relief as another opportunity to share Christ.

Editor's Note: SBCV DR teams responding in January included Enon, Chester, West Salem, Blue Ridge Chapel, Poquoson, and First Norfolk.

People in Pain Come to Church

Heartache and pain fill the halls of Fincastle Baptist Church every Tuesday evening. In a community of huge homes and prosperous business ventures, there is a large group of hidden, hard-working individuals in desperate need of medical attention who are uninsured and have limited resources. God birthed in the heart

of Dr. Susanne Voekler the need for a Free Clinic in Botetourt County two years ago. She quickly found receptive hearts in fellow physicians, lawyers, and Pastor Kevin Cummings and Fincastle Baptist Church.

Following true biblical principles, a group of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and occupational therapists planned not only to meet the need of physical aches and pains but spiritual complications as well. After working a full day in their regular jobs, the group races to prepare for their Tuesday night patients. But the rush comes to a powerful stop as the waiting patients receive a word of encouragement from members of Fincastle Baptist Church. The Free Clinic volunteers consist not only of the medically trained, but also door greeters who have the gift of encouragement and mercy. Their dual mission is found in their mission statement "to

serve Jesus and the uninsured of Botetourt County."

Local hospitals, pharmacies, and doctor offices have been extremely benevolent. The Free Clinic of Botetourt County overflows with volunteers, as they serve about fifteen patients a week. Fincastle Baptist Church now has few hours in the week that their building isn't being used by willing servants to touch people's lives for Christ.



You are invited and Encouraged to attend our...

2nd Annual Disaster Relief Round-Up

May 4-5, 2007 | Parkway Baptist Church, Midlothian

Speakers: Terry Henderson, Randy Crutcher, Terry Jones, Ted Conner

Disaster Relief SBC of Virginia



2007 Student Pastor Retreat

It's a Big Challenge

Coming Together at SWAT

Queen for a day turned into much more than that at the annual SWAT Connection Weekend this year. On Friday afternoon, nearly 160 pastor/staff wives made their way to the lovely Hotel Jefferson in downtown Richmond for the two-day SWAT Connection. Normally, two events are held in the state, but this year we had one meeting, bringing everyone together for a very special guest speaker.



Babbie Mason, nationally known singer, songwriter, and speaker, not only shared her testimony and heart, but also led in worship with many of the songs she had written. Several said that this was a real highlight... along with catching up with



some other wives and meeting new ones. Paula Sacra from North Bedford Baptist in Forest says that every time she comes to SWAT, she is refreshed, "Being a pastor's wife, so often you can't share with church members things that have hurt you, so when you come to the SWAT Connection weekend, you are able to let your hair down, be yourself, take it easy, laugh, and sing. It's a time of worship, it's a time of praising the Lord, and being with friends. SWAT is just what the SBCV is – it's family."

The theme this year was "Leaving a Legacy" and three women shared about people who were instrumental in shaping and molding them, allowing them to continue the legacy of prayer and encouragement. And a tradition continued this year, as each woman chose a prayer partner and had a special time of fellowship and prayer. Many shared how God had given them just the right prayer partner!

The Apostle Paul's first priority was the gospel of Jesus Christ. Emery Minton, Jr., believes that ought to be the first priority of every Christian youth leader in America — for that matter it should be the first priority of every believer. "You are a debtor and you owe someone the gospel," said Minton who is the Operations Director with First Priority Ministry (FPOA) for the tri-states (Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia).

Minton spoke to a group of about 40 SBCV youth leaders at the annual SBCV Student Pastor Retreat. The group was made up of bivocational, vocational and volunteer youth leaders from across Virginia and Greater Washington, DC. Many brought their spouses and children which made for a group of about 130 people who enjoyed two days and one night of training and fun at the Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg, Virginia; which is home to the world's largest indoor water-park.

Minton shared a sobering message that America's youth

are in trouble and that it is extremely urgent that the church aggressively and strategically reach out to the American teenager. According to FPOA there are about 33 million teenagers in America, of which, 52% live in rural communities, and 80% of them don't attend church on a regular basis.

An enthusiastic Minton quipped that, "A bulldog can whip up on a skunk, but it is not always worth the effort." Minton challenged SBCV Youth Leaders to prioritize their work and ministry so that they can optimize opportunities to lead teenagers to Christ. Brad Smith of Great Neck Baptist Church in Virginia Beach said, "As a youth leader I can't do everything that I want to do, I have to learn to prioritize. For me, Evangelism is a priority."

The challenge to reach teenagers in America for Christ is a big challenge but it is one that is worth the effort. The SBCV is committed to encouraging and equipping those who make it a priority to reach teenagers throughout Virginia for Christ.

"That's very comforting to know its so close knit that I can pick up the phone and call for prayer and I know that it goes out immediately," said Sacra. First-timer, Regan Lowe from Mt.

Calvary Baptist in Matoaca, was overwhelmed by the love and care from her new friends, "I can't wait to go home and share the joy that I have this weekend with the ladies in my church."

Make plans to attend the 2008 SWAT Connection Weekends. Two SWAT Connections: one Williamsburg February 15-16; and one in Staunton on February 22-23.

Cooperative Program

Sharing the Gospel in Thailand



Butch McCarthy, Chairman, SBCV Executive Board, and team member.

I am pleased to share about my participation in one of our partnerships, funded by the Cooperative Program. I am giving Bibles, the Jesus Film, and other printed materials to the Chinese people. They visit Thailand, where we give them God's Word and the Gospel.

Prayer Walking lays the spiritual foundation for our work at our hotel and other distribution venues. The Chinese are often excited and grateful for the Bibles, videos, and materials which teach them how to be saved and grow in Christ.

Tonight, in very clear English, a Chinese lady, a believer, expressed her joy over what we are doing and asked, with tears in her eyes, if she could have a hug. Many refuse our gifts. Yet, with focused, intense prayer, we see people change attitudes instantly and take a Bible and packet. Often, up to a dozen others will do likewise.

As many as ten people will be exposed to every Bible, video, and set of materials taken back into China. While 20,000 Chinese die without Jesus each day, 30,000 of them are saved each day! It is humbling, exciting, and fulfilling to think God would allow me to participate in His strategic plan to get His Word into the hands, heads, and hearts of the largest group of people in the world!

This ministry requires no special knowledge or skills. Lay people are blessed as they become part of this unique project. As a lady on our team said to me at lunch today, "All your training could not convey what I've seen for myself!" She is planning to come next year, and we aren't home from this trip yet!

Interest in knowing more? Contact your SBCV local area missionary.

To God be the glory! Great things He has done! Is doing! And will yet do!

Teaching CP Every Sunday

Imagine sitting in a pew during Sunday morning worship at Rileyville Baptist Church (RBC). The announcement is made that the offering plate would soon be passed. This was the part of the service that many people look forward to the least. But before the ushers came forward, a video clip is shown of an international missions project that Rileyville's offering is helping through their giving to the Cooperative Program (CP) through the SBCV. Now, members and guests realize that whatever money is put into the plate will have an impact, not just here, but around Virginia and the world! Those at RBC say they've actually received more from the Cooperative Program than they could ever imagine. Pastor Alan McCullough says "Giving to the CP has contributed to our vision of reaching the lost around us, by helping us look beyond ourselves to a ministry area, a state, a nation, a hemisphere, and a world in need of the Gospel."

"CP giving has changed the atmosphere of our church"

So how did this happen? RBC uses a steady and systematic approach involving exposure and experience.

EXPOSURE:

- Natural Disasters — highlight NAMB/SBCV response during Disaster Relief
- Elections — emphasize the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission
- Before the offering — teach that for every dollar one gives to RBC, 17 percent goes back to the CP
- Weekly — pray for missionaries using prayer guides, IMB and NAMB bulletin inserts

EXPERIENCE:

- Multiple mission trips
- Share how God changed lives through team reports during the

services upon returning home

- Local missions and ministries

"As a pastor, I may never know the impact of increased giving to the CP. Our church will never know its role in the number of souls saved or people baptized worldwide. But Rileyville is blessed to know they are a part of every Disaster Relief response, every publication of SBC literature, and every conservative leader, pastor, church planter, and missionary trained at a SBC seminary and then sent out."



Southern Cross BIBLE PROJECT

\$2.00 = 1 Chinese Bible



In 2006...
SBCV churches
gave \$44,225
(more than 22,000
Bibles) to the
Southern Cross.

The label says:
'Free Gift to You,
No Cost'

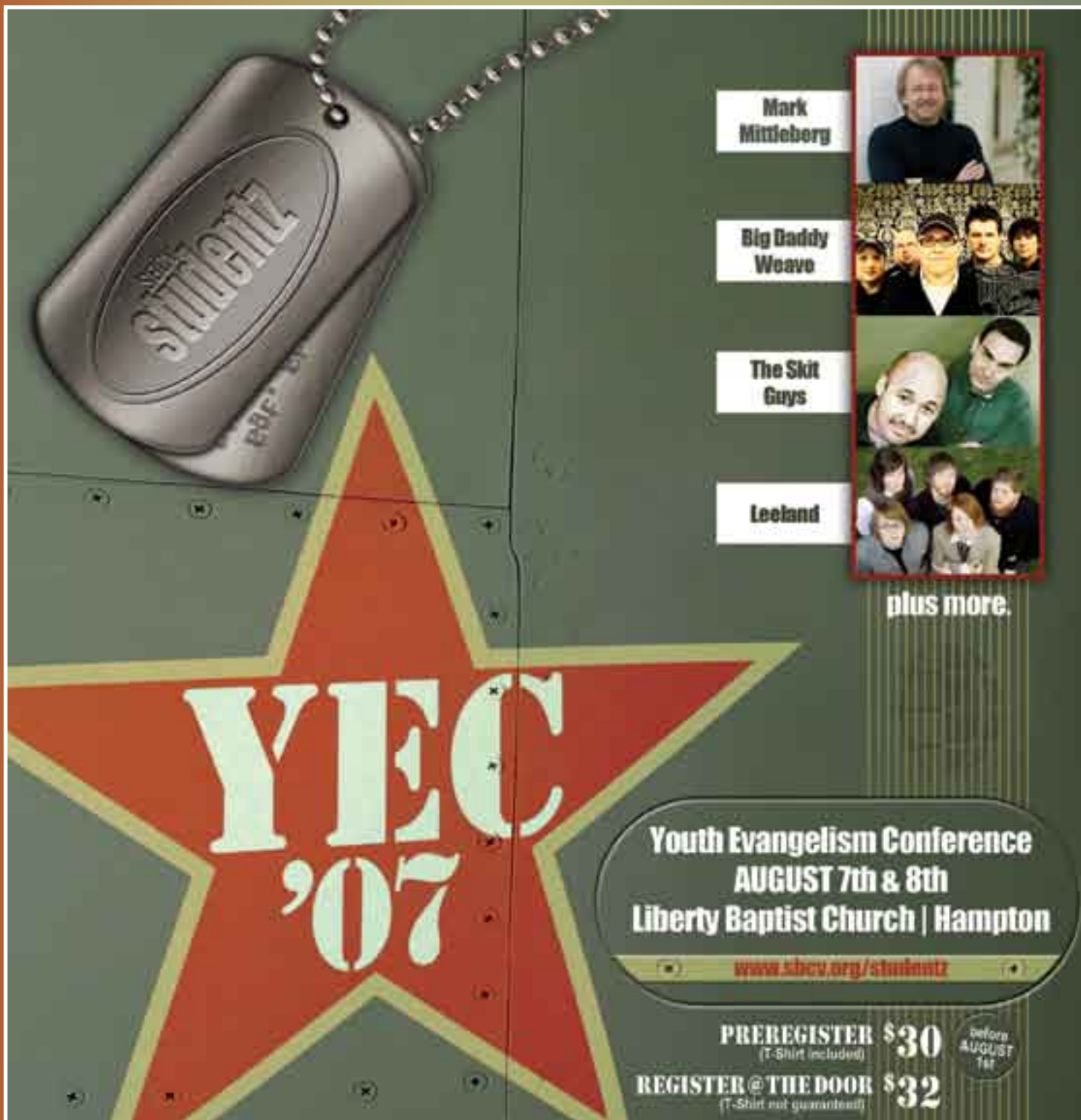
SBCV GOAL:
\$50,000 = 25,000 Bibles

My Friendship Connection

This year, the new time-change day will be November 4th and we are encouraging SBCV churches to make this a "Friend Day." Just released materials called "My Friendship Connection" have been released. These cutting edge materials are available online at www.sbcv.org.

Let's make this the greatest day of evangelism in the history of Virginia!





Mark Mittleberg

Big Daddy Weave

The Skit Guys

Leeland

plus more.

YEC '07

Youth Evangelism Conference
AUGUST 7th & 8th
Liberty Baptist Church | Hampton

www.sbcv.org/studentz

PREREGISTER \$30
 (T-Shirt included)

REGISTER @ THE DOOR \$32
 (T-Shirt not guaranteed)

Before AUGUST 1st

10 Proclaimer
 The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia
 4101 Cox Road, Suite 100
 Glen Allen, VA 23060
 888.234.7716 | 804.270.1848

fax: 804.270.1834
 website: www.sbcv.org
 email: proclaimer@sbcv.org

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Waynesboro, VA
 Permit No. 129