

Proclaimer

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist
Conservatives of Virginia

SEP/OCT 2007

Volume 9 Number 5

Churches Planting Churches...



Making Your Impact Even Greater



Get All Excited!

From the Executive Director



Doyle Chauncey

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.

I like almost everything in my role as Executive Director-Treasurer, but I love church planting best. The excitement that one experiences when a partnering church gives birth to a new church is exhilarating and addictive. Of course, leading one to Christ personally (soul-winning) is the most thrilling experience of all, but I have come to understand that being a part of planting Bible-believing evangelistic "soul-winning stations" (churches) with the objective of reaching every community and people group will revolutionize and energize an existing church more than any other church activity. Churches that multiply by planting other churches are actively involved in fulfilling their task of the Great Commission, and are exciting places to be.

May I remind you, and underline key words for emphasis, what Jesus said, ¹⁹"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV) Winning and baptizing souls are critical parts of the task, but "disciple-making stations" are essential to complete the assigned task, and to perpetuate the multiplication process.

Thus, a church should have an

intentional, sequential, comprehensive, and systematic plan to continually share the Gospel everywhere.

A number of our SBCV churches have already joined the "fellowship of excitement" by accepting the CP (church planting) Challenge. Read in this issue all about what God is doing through SBCV churches and GET ALL EXCITED about your church becoming a partnering church.

Footnote: I am pleased to introduce and welcome Tom Scott to lead the Communications and Media Team for the SBCV. Tom has 27 years of experience in the field and is uniquely gifted to be the Managing Editor of the Proclaimer. We have an awesome Media Team for him to lead. You will find the team members listed in the issue. Please take a moment to find their names and pray for Tom and the team as they produce the magazine that tells the story visually and in words of what God is doing through SBCV churches.

The Official News Magazine of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

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SBCV STAFF & MINISTRY AREAS

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

Church Leadership Conference

@ Euclid Avenue Baptist
Bristol



8:30
to
4:00

- training leaders in every aspect of Christian ministry
- equipping leaders to fulfill the Great Commission

SEPT 29, 2007

Keynote Speaker:

Bryan Smith

First Baptist, Roanoke



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November 4, 2007

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DATES to Remember

SBCV CALENDAR 2007

SEP	9-16	WEEK OF PRAYER FOR STATE MISSIONS
	26	SEE YOU AT THE POLE (SYTP)
	27	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)
	29	SOUTHWEST CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SW-CLC) — Euclid Avenue Baptist, Bristol
OCT	1-4	BASIC TRAINING (English) — SBCV, Glen Allen
	5-6	BASIC TRAINING (Spanish) - SBCV, Glen Allen
	19-20	WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — Colonial Heights Baptist, Colonial Heights
	25	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
NOV	2-3	MEN'S IMPACT CONFERENCE — Thomas Road Baptist, Lynchburg
	4	MY FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION
	12-13	SBCV ANNUAL MEETING — Liberty Baptist, Hampton
DEC	2-9	WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

2008

JAN	24	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)
	31-2/2	CHURCH CENTRAL TRAINING — SBCV, Glen Allen
FEB	15-16	SWAT Weekend Connection — Williamsburg
	22-23	SWAT Weekend Connection — Staunton
	28	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (Regional)
	29-3/1	STUDENT PASTOR RETREAT — Williamsburg
MAR	2-9	WEEK OF PRAYER FOR HOME MISSIONS
	9-11	EVANGELISM CONFERENCE — 4 locations (TBA)
	27	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (Statewide)
APR	24	CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Regional)

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Three teams of SBCV pastors embarked on a life-changing mission opportunity in Kenya.

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Melting the Darkness with a Cup of Coffee

Stafford Baptist Church had a vision for a short-term mission project in Iceland. What began as a short-term mission project developed into a vision of planting churches in Iceland, a country of 300,000 people.



8

State Missions Offering & Week of Prayer

Missions | Ministries | Missionaries

Please pray for your state convention — its Missions, Ministries, and Missionaries — Sept. 9-16.



12

The King's Kids

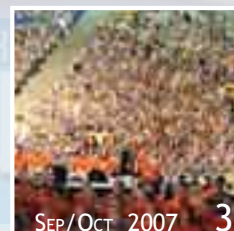
Oak Grove Baptist Church in Big Stone Gap heard about "Unwed Mother Care Packets" and took action seeking what God would have them do to reach unwed mothers in the DC area.



14

Illuminate.

Studentz Camp • Liberty University was the gathering place for Studentz Camp 2007. Students were reminded that just as Christ is the light of the world, they too are to shine His light to the world.



SEP/OCT 2007 3

2007 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

TELL ME!
The story of Jesus

GIVE, SO THEY CAN HEAR

It's a simple story, yet the most powerful ever told: the story of Jesus. Do you remember the first time you heard — and believed? Now, imagine no one ever told you. How would your life be different? It's an eternal reality for the world's 1.6 billion souls with little or no access to the Gospel.

**Dec. 2-9, 2007
Week of
Prayer for
International
Missions**

NATIONAL GOAL: \$165 million

KENYA

Curious Maasai children surround SBCV Pastor, Ed Rodriguez.

Maasai pastor listens intently as Story Cloth is explained.

Maasai

Sharing a Story Cloth

In March 2006, the Lord opened the door for the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia (SBCV) to partner with International Mission Board (IMB) missionary Bob Calvert. The first team of pastors going to Kenya shared a passion to evangelize, disciple, and plant churches among the Maasai* people of East Africa. Three teams of SBCV pastors embarked on this life-changing mission opportunity. Ed Rodriguez, Pastor of Ragland Memorial Baptist Church, has been on each of the three partnership trips. After leading the most recent team in May 2007, Rodriguez returned to share this testimony.

It was a joy to see one of the churches we planted last year had already built a building and started two more churches. A young man we previously led to the Lord has grown tremendously in his walk and has himself started two churches and preparing to start the third!

One day, after almost an hour of driving in the bush, we could not find any bomas (fenced-in dwelling areas) or Maasai. While stopping along the road to stretch our legs, we discovered eight bomas that were out of sight from the road.

We came in contact with a Maasai man of great influence,

and he invited us to share the story cloth (resource used to share the Gospel among oral learners) with his people. As we shared stories of the Bible, droves of Maasai began to arrive and the rest is history.

The Lord moved on the hearts of 41 Maasai to pray to receive Christ as their Savior! The man of influence also prayed to receive Christ and declared to his people they would gather each week as a church to worship the one true God, Jesus Christ.

I would encourage any pastor to lead his church to volunteer in this partnership. We discovered

where God was at work, and we joined the work. Give this mission trip one chance, and your life will forever be changed.

**The Maasai are an indigenous African ethnic group of semi-nomadic people located in Kenya and northern Tanzania.*

To discover how God can use you as a valuable member of the next mission team,

please visit:

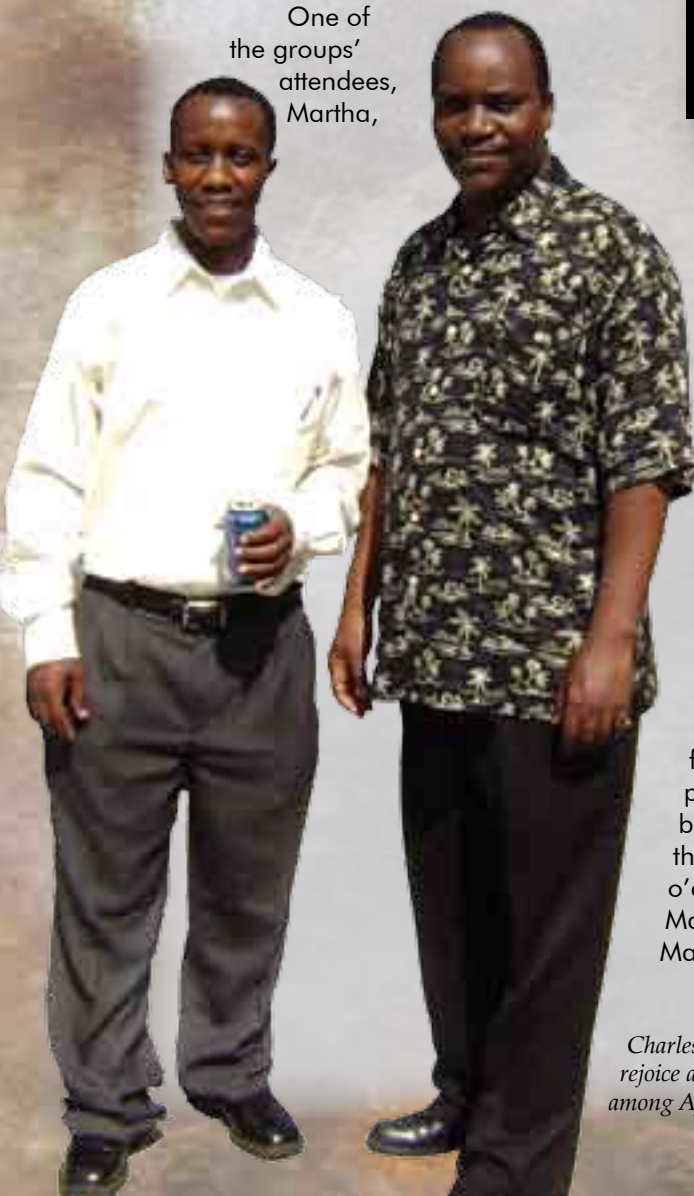
www.sbcv.org/mission/partnerships

Maasai respond as Good News is presented.

Evangelism & Church Planting in D.C.

John (Kirwa) Maritim, a SBCV Church Planter from Kenya, his wife Linner, and their family arrived in Falls Church in the summer of 2006 to plant a church (Sunrise Baptist) among African Swahili speakers. Maritim reconnected with several families he had met from a previous visit to the area and shared the vision God had given him to plant a church for African people in the DC area. Two of the Christian families, as well as one of the non-believers, opened their homes for Bible studies. After two months of networking in the African community, formal Bible studies were started in these three homes.

One of the groups' attendees, Martha,



Bible study leader, Steve Sergon, his three sons and a friend display joy following Bible study fellowship.

experienced first-hand the transforming power of God's love. Martha's family was breaking up. After learning in Bible study how the Lord changes lives, she embraced Christ as her personal Savior. Martha's 19-year old daughter would disappear for days at a time. Martha requested prayer for her at a time when her daughter been gone for awhile. The group prayed the Lord would bring her daughter home the next day. About five o'clock the next afternoon, Maritim received a call from Martha that her daughter

was safely at home! The study group was invited to Martha's home for a celebration of praise to God for answering their specific prayer. During that time two more people accepted Christ! This testimony has made a large impact on the African community through transformed lives and pushing back spiritual darkness.

Sunrise Baptist Church now has over 100 involved in Bible study groups around DC and is preparing to baptize 10 new believers.

Charles Chepkwony and John Maritim rejoice at what the Lord is doing among Africans in the D.C. area.

*Making Your
Impact
Even Greater!*



Newly Elected 2nd Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention Eric Redmond

Pastor Eric Redmond of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Temple Hills, MD, was elected 2nd Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention during the Annual Meeting held in San Antonio, TX, June 12 & 13, 2007. Dr. Doyle Chauncey, Executive Director-Treasurer of the SBCV, had the honor of nominating Redmond before the 8,500 messengers gathered in San Antonio. When asked about his role as 2nd Vice President, Redmond answered that he "looks forward to serving the whole Convention as an ambassador of good will and especially the African American community."

Redmond was encouraged to have his name placed in nomination by members of the National African American Fellowship of the SBC as well as others. He is a strong supporter of the conservative resurgence that has occurred in SBC life. He strongly supports the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 as it stands and the resolution passed during the SBC Annual Meeting adopting it as the minimum guideline for all SBC entities to adhere to. He also describes himself as being "unashamedly conservative."

Redmond gives credit for this big honor to his church and its ministry. For many years, Hillcrest has been a strong Cooperative Program and SBC-cause supporter. Hillcrest is also a church planting church. They are the sponsor church for Mosaic Community Church, in College Park, MD, and have just brought on to their staff a Church Planting Apprentice to plant another church in Temple Hills, MD.

churchesplantingchurchespl churchesplantingchurchespl

Pastor Stewart McCarter of Southside Baptist Church in Suffolk continually casts a vision for church planting. Southside Baptist is a church plant that was sponsored by First Baptist Church in Suffolk. In the spring of 2004, a deacon of Southside led the devotion on church planting for their deacons' meeting. Among those present was Associate Pastor Jon Rissmiller. Rissmiller began to sense God leading him to be a church planter. One year later, the Rissmillers stepped out in faith to plant Abundant Hope Baptist Church just across the North Carolina line in Gates County. Their sponsor, Southside Baptist, sent financial support and a strong core group to be the nucleus of the plant.

The story of Abundant Hope has been a miraculous one. In the two years since they began, approximately 55 people have made professions of faith. With the church consisting of about 80-100 members and regular attenders, they have just recently

broken ground on a new building, and they are already sponsoring their first church.

In 2006,

Rissmiller discovered a need for a church plant in the town of Franklin. He carried the need back to his young church and sponsor church, where they began to pray and seek the Lord of the Harvest for a church planter.

God answered their prayer in Jeremy Nairn, who today is the church planter for River of Life Baptist Church in Franklin — sponsored jointly by Southside Baptist and Abundant Hope Baptist. Nairn came to know Christ as a teenager in 1997. Pastor McCarter and the ministry of Southside Baptist were central in his spiritual development. Since becoming a member of Southside in 2000, Nairn has taught Sunday school and discipleship classes, led evangelism teams, and served as a pastoral intern. In 2006, He graduated with a pastoral ministries degree from McCarter's alma mater, Columbia International University.

River of Life Baptist Church held its first service on Easter. In its short existence, eight people have made a profession of faith and are awaiting baptism.



Stewart McCarter, Jeremy Nairn,
Jon Rissmiller,

REPRODUCTION: A Vital Part of the SBCV Strategy to Impact Spiritual Darkness

Church planters sending out church planters, sending out church planters... Reproduction is vital part to SBCV's strategy for Pushing Back the Darkness. Not only are churches planting churches but new church planters are being raised up through an apprenticeship process.

Tom Phelps moved his family to Galax to gain the needed hands-on experience of church planting before he set out to start the church God laid on his heart. After a year of serving as a church planting apprentice at Pathway Baptist, a young church plant in Hillsville, Phelps is moving again to follow God's call to start a church in Buena Vista. This small town at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley is a major spiritual battleground. The community is being highly influenced by the Mormon Church. There is a great need for a strong evangelical witness, and Phelps has already started to plow the ground. The family's summer is filled with prayer walking, community surveys, and evangelistic events for laying the groundwork for the new church they have been called to start. SBCV churches can be involved in this work through prayer and short-term mission trips.

check out
www.sbcv.org/planting
for more info



Melting the Darkness with a Cup of Coffee

Believers living and working in Iceland strategize about reaching their community for Christ.

Why are families from Stafford Baptist Church, Pillar Church, and Church at Quantico traveling to Iceland to share a cup of coffee? The answer is simple...believers in northern Virginia, desiring to join God where He was working, prayed for guidance. Unbeknownst to them, two missionary couples in Iceland were also praying...for volunteers to join them in their work.

In 2000, God gave Pastor Bill Jessup and Stafford Baptist Church a vision for a short-term mission project to Iceland. The volunteers on the trip partnered with couples, Kjartan and Valdis and Mike and Shelia in Iceland. What began as a short-term mission

project developed into a vision of planting churches in this country of 300,000 people.

The work did not stop after one trip. Stafford Baptist and its church plants, Pillar Church and

Jennifer Clifton (left) and Annie Garman enjoy fellowship during time in Iceland.



Church at Quantico, agreed their respective pastors and their families would

go to Iceland to live and serve on a four-month rotation. During these months, six groups from their churches also joined the pastors on mission.

Jessup said, "We were able to invest our days in what we were there to do...build relationships in coffeehouses and other social 'hot spots' and build up the believers in Iceland." The mission teams also helped the Christians develop Bible studies among their people.

Presently, leaders are being developed, and small group Bible studies are being planted throughout Reykavik, Iceland. As the mission trips continue, the spiritual darkness of Iceland is being pushed back and replaced by the Light of the Gospel.



2 0 0 7

state missions offering AND week of prayer

GOAL: \$200,000

how will this offering be used?

Food Distribution Ministries	\$15,000
Disaster Relief	\$20,000
Baptist Builders Startup	\$10,000
Land for Church Plants	\$45,000
Appalachian Trail Ministries	\$ 5,000
Ministry Intern Scholarships	\$40,000
Evangelistic Block Party Trailers	\$25,000
Just-In-Time Spanish Training Institute	\$10,000
Worship/Small Group Meeting Location in DC	\$25,000
Ministry to Military Families	\$ 5,000

If we exceed our goal, additional funds will be applied to the general State Missions Offering account.

september 9-16

Ministries
Ministry Partnerships
Missionaries

 email: sbcv@sbcv.org | web: www.sbcv.org | phone: 888.234.7716

Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia

sept 9-16

week of prayer

Please pray for these missionaries



Sue Sawyer
Women's
Ministries
Consultant



**Vernig
Suarez**
Church
Planting
Missionary,
DC Area,
Hispanic
People Group



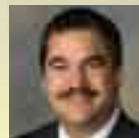
Jack Noble
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Midwest
Ministry Area



**Andrey
Shirin**
Church
Planting
Strategist
Associate,
DC Area



**Bill
Wennersten**
Associate
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
DC Ministry
Area



**Mark
Custalow**
Church
Planting
Strategist,
Southeast
Ministry Area



**Randy
Aldridge**
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Southwest
Ministry Area



**Doyle
Chauncey**
Executive
Director—
Treasurer



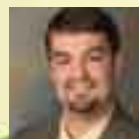
**Steve
Bradshaw**
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Central West
Ministry Area



**Henry
Amedeker**
Church
Planter,
Richmond
Area, African
People Group



Don Cockes
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Southeast
Ministry Area



Tony Inmon
Church
Planting
Strategist,
Midwest and
Southwest
Ministry Areas



**Darrell
Webb**
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Northern
Ministry Area



Dale South
Church
Planting
Missionary,
DC Area,
Hispanic/
English
Speaking
People Groups



**Don
Matthews**
Church
Enrichment
Missionary,
Central East
Ministry Area



Larry Black
Church
Planting
Strategist,
Central East
and West
Ministry Areas

week of prayer

SUNDAY, SEPT 9

Sue Sawyer
Vernig Suarez

MONDAY, SEPT 10

Jack Noble
Andrey Shirin

TUESDAY, SEPT 11

Bill Wennersten
Mark Custalow

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 12

Randy Aldridge
Doyle Chauncey

THURSDAY, SEPT 13

Steve Bradshaw
Henry Amedeker

FRIDAY, SEPT 14

Don Cockes
Tony Inmon

SATURDAY, SEPT 15

Darrell Webb
Dale South

SUNDAY, SEPT 16

Don Matthews
Larry Black



Sept 9-16
2007

state missions
offering

AND

week of prayer

Goal: \$200,000

How will this offering be used?

FOOD DISTRIBUTION MINISTRIES

\$15,000

DISASTER RELIEF

\$20,000

BAPTIST BUILDERS STARTUP

\$10,000

LAND FOR CHURCH PLANTS

\$15,000

APPALACHIAN TRAIL MINISTRIES

\$5,000

MINISTRY INTERN SCHOLARSHIPS

\$40,000

EVANGELISTIC BLOCK PARTY TRAILERS

\$25,000

JUST-IN-TIME SPANISH TRAINING

INSTITUTE

\$10,000

WORSHIP/SMALL GROUP MEETING

LOCATION IN DC

\$25,000

MINISTRY TO MILITARY FAMILIES

\$5,000



Keep this bookmark readily available.

TEAR IT OFF and remember to pray.

Reaching the Next Generation

state missions offering
AND
week of prayer

Sept 9-16, 2007

Goal: \$200,000

PRAY FOR:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

MINISTRIES: Food Distribution Ministries
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: New Hope/New York
MISSIONARIES: Sue Sawyer, Vernig Suarez

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

MINISTRIES: Disaster Relief/Baptist Builders
MIN. PARTNERSHIPS: Southern Cross/Thailand
MISSIONARIES: Jack Noble, Andrey Shirin

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MINISTRIES: Land for Church Plants/Worship
Space Location, DC
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: State-to-State
MISSIONARIES: Bill Wennersten, Mark Custalow

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

MINISTRIES: Appalachian Trail Ministries
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: Appalachian
Regional Ministries
MISSIONARIES: Randy Aldridge, Doyle Chauncey

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

MINISTRIES: Ministry Intern Scholarships
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: South America
MISSIONARIES: Steve Bradshaw,
Henry Amedeker

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

MINISTRIES: Evangelistic Block Party Trailers
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: Africa — Zambia
MISSIONARIES: Don Cockes, Tony Inmon

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

MINISTRIES: Just-In-Time Spanish Training Inst.
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: Africa — Kenya
MISSIONARIES: Darrell Webb, Dale South

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

MINISTRIES: Ministry to Military Families
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS: Chaplaincy
MISSIONARIES: Don Matthews, Larry Black

Teaching a Youth Sunday School class, witnessing to young students, and encouraging them in their walk with Christ seems like a job description primarily for a student pastor. Pastor Ed Burkholder of Apple Grove Baptist in Mineral shares a similar desire for reaching the next generation of leaders. He himself has lived a few generations!

Burkholder is 85 years old. He remarks, "Young people are our future. When I think about the future vision for this church, I don't think in terms of (my) age." His greatest desire is to reach whole families. The best way of doing this is through reaching the children and youth.

Burkholder has led Apple Grove for more than nine years and continues to be enthusiastic about what God is doing in their church. He shares, "Each Sunday is a spirit-filled experience as we see what God is doing." Recently, Burkholder and his wife, Bev, received a further blessing when their daughter and her family moved to the area to be closer and help with the ministry at the church. "It has not been smooth sailing, but the ministry at Apple Grove has been a real blessing," he says.

Burkholder adds, "I believe that evangelism must be my first priority. God called me to the ministry to reach all to the Lord." He believes that our greatest opportunity of reaching

the next generation is by reaching those from age 8-12. Burkholder has personally reached a large number of children and youth for Christ. Some of them cannot come to Apple Grove. For each young person that he leads to Christ, he sends them a personal letter explaining that church membership is very important whether they come to his church or a neighboring church. Burkholder's mission is to "always do



and go where Jesus leads." At age 85, Pastor Burkholder keeps going because his Jesus keeps on leading.

What is an Evangelistic Church?

"Thom Rainer describes an effective evangelistic church this way: *"Nothing is more important than the eternal destiny of a person. Evangelism must ever be at the forefront of our priorities. But the evangelistic priority did not mean that these churches were one dimensional in their ministries. We found churches with extraordinary emphasis on missions, discipleship, and social ministries. Evangelistic emphasis seems to enhance these other ministries. The churches are well balanced in their ministries, but many reminded us repeatedly that evangelism comes first."* (Effective Evangelistic Churches, pp196-197)

Pastor Barry Ginn's greatest concern is where the people of his community and his harvest field will spend eternity. He shares, "I am not

concerned about your ethnic group, gender, economic status, or educational level." Great leadership and focused pastors lead from the top down by example. Ginn has committed himself to be a personal soul winner, and the church leadership has joined him in this commitment.

Ginn has been Senior Pastor of Monumental Baptist Church in Petersburg since January 1, 2005. He comments, "There are many [people] in the tri-cities area (Chester, Petersburg, Colonial Heights) that are looking for an answer to life's problems. Jesus is the answer." In the past two years the church has grown in membership by 152. Half of these joined on a profession of faith in Christ.

Most pastors like Ginn would be amazed with that kind of response. "May God get the glory for the great things He has done and God is doing amazing things here," says this grateful pastor.



Keep this bookmark readily available.
Remember to pray.

Women's Conference

when wallflowers dance

CONFERENCE FEES:

\$25 includes event, materials, and lunch

\$30 if postmarked after Oct. 12th

A life changing weekend
for women seeking a deeper
relationship with the Lord

OCTOBER 19-20

Colonial Heights Baptist Church

A focused time with God.
Comments from previous conferences:

God spoke to me this

*weekend, and I will never
be the same again.*

*God has been trying to get
my attention and He used
this conference to finally
get me still long enough to
hear Him.*

Angela Thomas

is a single mom with four children, so she knows what it is like to be running in several directions at once, with speaking engagements, traveling, writing, and taking care of her family. She is young, energetic, and passionate about helping women to go deeper with God.

with

angela thomas



www.sbcv.org
888-234-7716



THE KING'S KIDS

When Oak Grove Baptist Church in Big Stone Gap heard about "Unwed Mother Care Packages" the leadership of the church caught the vision of what God could do in reaching unwed mothers in the DC area. Church member, Debbie Dickerson, led the way getting the information organized and into packets. Judy Taylor, another Oak Grove member, was eager to help. She commented, "Sharing Jesus' love and the sanctity of life were issues with me."

Students from
Oak Grove's
Kings



Christian Academy volunteered to help. They collected and packaged over 60 packets. On the day the packets were shipped, the children gathered around the packets and prayed that God would use them to reach others with the love of Christ. Pastor Alan Collier said, "We understand how projects help deliver the Gospel. Also, I remember how difficult it was for my mother as a single parent."

The children at Oak Grove Baptist are learning the importance of helping others by sharing with them to meet their physical and spiritual needs. "With the help of SBCV and the Cooperative Program, our church kids are learning to be the King's Kids," said Collier.

*Is your church involved in hands-on missions?
For more info, go to www.sbcv.org/projects*

Missionary Perspective from Mormon Roots

As a kid, he was taught to revere Joseph Smith as a great latter day prophet, honor Mormon writings as authoritative as the Bible, and view the Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints (RLDS) as having a more correct and complete revelation than other churches. Larry Black was baptized into the RLDS at age eight.

Slick advertising leads one to believe family is important to the Mormon religion. However, what is less publicized is the rate of suicide in Utah

among women and youth to be among the highest in the nation. Pressure from the church, due to unbiblical doctrines and cultic expectations, contribute significantly to this problem.

Black's own harmonious Mormon family would soon come to an end, and his siblings ended up in their grandparents' home. Though his family fell apart, they are grateful for how God used this tragedy to bring each of them to faith in Jesus Christ. His grandparents, members of a Southern Baptist church, made sure all of them heard the truth of the Gospel.

After coming to faith in Christ, Black set out on a quest to

understand his religious roots that would enable him to share his new found faith with his mother and siblings. This journey resulted in hearing God's call to missionary service.

For Christians desiring to witness to Mormon acquaintances, Black recommends one should know what one believes, stay focused on the deity of Jesus Christ, tell one's story without arguing, and pray fervently for their soul.

Larry Black
Church Planting Strategist,
Central East and West Ministry Areas



Liberty University's *Preacher of the Year* ...SBCV Church Planter

From running his own business as a forester to a burning passion to reach his community for Jesus Christ, Josh Turner is focused on rescuing the perishing. Five years ago, the Lord called Turner to gather a hand-full of people together with the purpose of starting a church that would win his neighbors and friends to Jesus Christ. He has learned to minister, like many of his peers, by doing ministry. However, Turner knew that if he was going to lead his rapidly growing church to be faithful disciples he would need to stay at least one

step ahead of them. His conviction led him to register at Liberty Theological Seminary.

While taking an expository preaching course and with a deep sense of conviction, he prepared an assignment to preach. The message was entitled, "Six Undeniable Realities of a Place Called Hell." He believes if he doesn't warn people about their destiny, he has failed as a servant of God. Due to this sermon, Turner's class voted him "Preacher of the Class." This led to Turner being selected out of the entire

student body to be named Liberty University's

Preacher of the Year. Turner

was asked to preach the Convocation message on May 7, where he again preached this powerful message.

Josh Turner believes he has been called to make a difference in people's lives — he is indeed rescuing the perishing.



The Importance of a Personal Witness

The waitresses seemed to be unusually excited as they hurried back to my office and encouraged me back out into the dining room. They exclaimed, "Jerry Falwell is here! You should go tell him that you went to the service last night." It was not unusual for Falwell to come into the restaurant so I took on my "so what" mind set, and I responded to their encouragement. Falwell introduced me to Evangelist, J. Harold Smith. He knew that Smith would stick out his trembling finger and ask me that pointed question, "Are you saved?" At first glance, the story may sound as a chance meeting, but a careful study reveals this event had been carefully planned.

On Thursday of the previous week, Falwell had stopped by the restaurant and was told I had accepted an invitation to attend the service on Sunday night. With this information, he asked the student body during Convocation on Friday to pray for Jack, the Manager at Days Inn. After I did not respond during the Sunday evening invitation the pastor and the evangelist knew they needed to make a personal visit to the restaurant to share Christ.

I somehow managed to escape their intentional plans during the visit by making the commitment to attend the Wednesday evening service. As Smith concluded his Wednesday evening message, Falwell assumed the platform and began, "With every head bowed and every eye closed..." I took off toward the platform only to discover that security could only briefly keep me from coming to Christ. I responded to Christ that night because of the personal witness of Jerry Falwell and J. Harold Smith. I will always treasure the encounter with those great men as will millions of others who responded to Christ through their ministries.



VBS Wrap-up

Tony (not his real name) and his family attend an SBCV church in our state, at least they do now. Until last summer, they didn't go to church, anywhere. VBS leaders used a creative idea involving the use of a digital camera as an outreach tool. They took digital pictures of the children in VBS and using the registration list delivered copies of the disk to each guest's home and shared the Gospel. That happened to Tony's family. During the home visit, his whole family prayed to receive Christ. This is just one story of how SBCV's investment in VBS is impacting our state.

The purpose of the SBCV is to "assist local churches in their task of fulfilling the Great Commission," and this challenge is not achieved without tools. VBS continues to have the greatest evangelistic tools in the Southern Baptist Convention, with 26 percent of baptisms in SBC churches, a direct result of VBS. Last year, throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, almost three

million children, youth and adults were enrolled in VBS with close to 100,000 making some type of spiritual decision. Jerry Wooley, LifeWay's VBS ministry specialist said, "With all the excitement about this year's VBS, we expect next year's numbers to continue to show VBS is reaching people like nothing else."

During April and May, SBCV offered 16 VBS training clinics throughout Virginia. Four regional SBCV teams served throughout the Commonwealth and were led by Wayne Sink of Roanoke (west team), Teresa Wilson of Charlottesville (north team), Paula Sacra of Bedford (central team), and Dawn Upton of Dinwiddie (the east team). With an increase of over twenty percent in this year's attendance, SBCV regional teams impacted over 1100 individuals representing over 200 congregations. Churches attended from Chincoteague Island to Pennington Gap, and from Danville to Washington, D.C.





illuminate. CAMP RECAP



Praise Report

144 CAME TO THE LIGHT

174 CAME BACK TO THE LIGHT, and

111 COMMITTED TO CARRY THE LIGHT

The Light shined brightly at Liberty University July 9th through the 13th as the SBCV Studentz Camp hosted 1,000 middle and high school studentz. The theme this year was, **illuminate**, and studentz were challenged to apply 1st John 1:7 and respond to the Marvellous Light. Over 400 students did, as 144 prayed to receive Christ, 174 recommitted their lives to Christ, and 111 committed to full-time ministry and missions. Tony Nolan shed light on the studentz lives through his powerful speaking. Mad Dog and Englishman brought real-life drama illustrations, and Stellar Kart rocked the house with great worship.

Over 120 students from seven SBCV churches worked with four church plants doing many different activities from servant evangelism carwashes, door-to-door visitation, market place evangelism, and block parties with the Liberty University block party trailer. The Gospel was shared and several contacts were made. From the work the students did in three days we know of two people who made a personal commitment to Christ as their Lord and Savior. Bookmark sbcv.org/studentz to keep track of developments on SBCV Studentz Camp 2008!



YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

Youth **E**vangelism **C**onference (YEC) is about reaching out to lost students and helping those who are Christians become excited, committed witnesses for Christ. YEC 2007 was held on August 7 & 8 at Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton.

This year we focused on evangelism through apologetics. Approximately 1200 students, student pastors, leaders, and staff learned ways to defend their faith and share the truth of Jesus Christ with nonbelievers.

Our theme was BELIEF — what do you believe in order to defend your faith? The praise and worship, Big Daddy Weave and Leeland, communicated reaching the lost. The funny, but serious message the same theme. The main session and break out topics were focused on helping students better understand the Christian worldview in order that they would be equipped to share the Gospel to their friends. Our students face a world that wants proof that the Bible is true, the earth was created in seven days, Jesus is who He says He is, and the resurrection did occur.

Our hope for this year was to set the stage for 2008 where we will follow the Home Depot idea of "You can do it, we can help" — with practical tools and strategies you can use to share your faith. Students will be given an opportunity to share the Gospel in real life situations. Please continue to pray for our students during this coming school year as their faith is challenged, that they will be able to give an answer for the hope that is in Christ Jesus.

**YEC
'07**



IMPACT:07
MEN'S CONFERENCE
IMPACTMEN.ORG

NOV. 2-3

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- MAIN SESSIONS
- NOTEBOOK
- 25+ BREAKOUTS
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08

MISSION
opportunities

**You and
 Your Church...
 On Mission**

SNAT
**WEEKEND
 CONNECTIONS**
2008

info:
www.sbcv.org

**Guest Speaker:
 Yvonne Burrage**

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FEB 15-16
Williamsburg
 Woodlands Hotel

LOCATION 2
FEB 22-23
Staunton
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SBCV 2007

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November 12–13
Liberty Baptist Church | Hampton, VA

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Dr. Charles Jenkins



Dr. Timothy D. Ellis



Dr. Ergun Caner

Worship



Calling Levi



Damaris Carbaugh

10 Proclaimer
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