

SBC of Virginia



MOBILIZING CHURCHES

Mobilizing the Mission Force to
Reach the Mission Field

PROCLAIMER

Find out more about
the Acts 1:8 Network
on page 10



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www.sbcv.org

viewpoint

from the Executive Director



Who's That Man?

by Jeff Ginn, Executive Director

A little boy came down the stairs from the second floor of his home. He saw his mother, seated on the sofa, thumbing through a family photo album. He plopped down beside her and, together, they enjoyed reminiscing.

He saw one black-and-white photo, yellowed a bit, that caught his attention. It was of a young man. He was tall, slender, and handsome. He had a head full of dark, wavy hair. The boy pointed to the picture and asked his mom, "Who's that man?" She smiled and said, "Don't you recognize who that is? Why, that's your father!"

The boy grew wide-eyed and whispered as he pointed to the photo, "If that's my dad, then who's that fat, bald-headed man upstairs?"

Funny how the years change us, isn't it? Maybe not.

The Bible is, in a sense, our family photo album. We glimpse in its pages a picture of the Church in her prime. In the book of Acts, we see the assembly at Antioch mobilizing to reach the world. Missionary teams from that outpost touched many cities and at least two continents!

Is that portrait an accurate representation of our local churches? Or have the years changed us into sluggish, aging shells of what God wants us to be? Much of the answer rests in the degree to which our members and resources are mobilized in missions.

This edition of the *Proclaimer* tells the story of churches that are engaged in touching the world for Christ. May you see your congregation among them!

Helping to mobilize Virginia's mission force,

Jeff Ginn

DR. GINN'S ITINERARY

FEB 6
Enon Baptist Church, Chester

FEB 13
Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox

FEB 14–18
State Executive Directors' Fellowship, Williamsburg

FEB 18–26
Uruguay Vision Trip

MAR 3–4
Liberty University, Board of Trustees, Lynchburg

MAR 6
Pillar Church, Dumfries

MAR 13
Family Vacation

MAR 20
Faith Baptist Church, Henrico

MAR 26
Kempsville Baptist Church, Va. Beach

APR 3
Zion Baptist Church, Orange

APR 7
SBCV Open, Hampton

APR 8–9
E412, Hampton

Statewide
Church Planter Network

April 8, 2011 at E412

Liberty Baptist Church, Hampton • feat. Brian Bloye





Transforming LIVES

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.

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Can you see it?



EVERY BELIEVER SHARING
EVERY PERSON HEARING



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Changes

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE PROCLAIMER



Change is Here

Happy 2011! This sentiment may be a little late by the time you read this issue of the *Proclaimer*, but there is a very good reason. As you look through this first issue of the year, which highlights

Mobilization, you may notice a few changes. **FIRST**, it is a little longer with 24 pages. This change allows more stories of what God is doing in and through the churches of the SBCV to be shared. **SECOND**, it begins with February (hence the belated "Happy New Year!"), which allows the magazine to more cohesively tie to the major seasons and events of the SBC of Virginia. **THIRD**, this issue spans three months (February – April) instead of two months. This change goes along with the Vision 20/20 principles that SBCV messengers approved to be both a sacrificial missional network and a streamlined missional network (to read more about Vision 20/20, visit <http://www.sbcv.org/article211201.htm>).

You may ask, "How does changing the *Proclaimer* to a quarterly instead of a bi-monthly publication help support those Vision 20/20 principles?"

Great question! If we are to channel more resources to national and international causes through the Cooperative Program, we can't keep doing things the same way. Changing to a quarterly publication will allow the SBCV to invest less in the *Proclaimer* (for printing and mailing), which will free up more resources to go to the mission field. And, increasing our page count to 24 will still give us the room we need to share with you the inspiring "God stories" that you have come to expect from this flagship publication.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the ministry and allowing us to support you in your task of fulfilling the Great Commission in Virginia and beyond!



Brandon Pickett,
Managing Editor

QR Codes

QUICK RESPONSE CODES — *Quicker Access to Resources*



You'll find QR Codes scattered throughout the Proclaimer. Why? Because, we're taking action to enhance how you receive information. QR Codes allow you to access a website or webpage instantly by simply scanning the QR Code with a smart phone.

It's that simple.

Using QR Codes is as simple as 1-2-3!

1. Download a QR Code reader from your smartphone's app provider or go online (a quick Google search will bring up many free downloadable QR software options specific to your phone).
2. Open the app and scan the QR Code.
3. The QR Code INSTANTLY connects you online.

**Scan.
Click.
Connect.**





MOBILIZING



To the Ends of the Earth



by Bill Wennersten, Church Planting Strategist, North Region

Often when we read Acts 1:8, it's easy to think that Jesus was only speaking to the apostles and some hard-core disciples. If we let ourselves think that way, we get the text wrong. Jesus was speaking to His Church, giving an assignment to take the Gospel everywhere, baptizing and making disciples who will then do the same until He returns. It is a God-sized task and takes a God-sized vision.

Potomac Baptist Church (PBC) in Sterling is answering the Lord's call to take the Gospel to its "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria," and now to the "ends of the earth" by going to Malawi, Africa. PBC has partnered with Gospelink (an evangelical missions agency) and the people of Malawi to share the Gospel and help develop a self-

sustaining church throughout the country. The strategy is to develop a self-supporting agricultural center on 500 acres purchased by Gospelink that will also house a training center for the leaders of Malawi churches. The agricultural center will help to financially support the pastors in the network.

PBC became a partner with Gospelink in 2009 when 16 church members went to Malawi on their first short-term mission trip. They worked in the rice fields, helped install an irrigation pipe, ministered in orphanages and schools, and held the first pastors' conference with about 30 pastors. The need for Bibles and for further pastor training was evident and plans were made for the following year. During that fall, winter, and spring, PBC raised \$23,000 for Bibles and about \$13,000 to build an outdoor pavilion in which training could take place.

In 2010, several thousand Bibles were purchased to be distributed to anyone in the Malawi churches who would memorize the first chapter of the book of James. PBC had thousands of copies of the first chapter of James distributed in the Nyanja (Chewa) national language and has now distributed thousands of Bibles. PBC erected a pavilion, built outdoor toilets, and pitched 20 six-man tents. For the training session this year, 164 pastors attended, and each received a 12-lesson booklet in his native language on the attributes of God. "It was amazing," says Pastor Scott Hesler, "to see them sitting on bags of rice, eagerly taking in the teaching, for which they were immensely appreciative. We've already built iron tables and chairs to use for next year's training sessions."

This project is quickly moving beyond what one church

can do. PBC needs church partners, Bible teachers, farmers, construction workers, cooks, students to do children's ministries, and women with a heart to minister to the women and pastors' wives. The possibilities for ministry are limitless—can you see it?

RESOURCE

Website:

www.potomacbaptist.org/content_pub/ministry_missions

Contact:

Email Pastor Scott at scott.hesler@potomacbaptist.org or call 888-234-7716 for details from your SBCV region's missionary.

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Gone FOR GOOD

by Brandon Pickett, Director of Media Services

What happens when a church decides to close its doors on Sunday morning?

Only a few short months ago, Hyland Heights Baptist Church in Lynchburg opened a brand-new and much-needed worship center for the more than 1,500-member congregation.

On Sunday, August 15, however, they decided to close the doors of that new worship center and replace Sunday services with community service. Church members provided free services like oil changes, car washes, and lunch to their community during the “Gone for Good” event.

“We’re doing what [Christ] called us to do...get out in the community and serve,” says Carl Weiser, senior pastor at Hyland Heights. “It makes [me] proud to see all these folks out here doing this—it gives [me] the sense that they want to serve the Lord.”

The morning of serving outside the church walls provided church members opportunities to share the Gospel and visit with people who may not know Christ or have a church home. One woman shared with Weiser that even though she drives by the church building everyday, she did not know anything about it. After experiencing the acts of service and learning more about the church, she promised to visit. “We’ll be there tonight,” Weiser reminded her. Their regular schedule would resume that evening with a special 6 PM service.

Pete English, a member at Hyland Heights, knew the church would need a good location for the oil changes, so he offered the use of English’s Auto Alignment. Even though the shop is far from the church, they still had an excellent turnout. The week leading up to the event, customers asked English about



the “free oil change” sign and wanted to know if it was true.

Some 42 people were blessed by a complimentary oil change at English’s Auto Alignment during Gone for Good. While customers waited for their cars, church members shared the Gospel with them, prayed for them, and gave them lunch for the road. “They are getting what they need because they are not in church this morning,” says English.

Ray-Ray Martin and Rodney Ward, both from Altavista, agreed that the free service they received was an unexpected blessing. They heard about the free oil change and, despite thinking it was too good to be true, headed to the auto shop, where they discovered a blessing rather than a catch. “My cousin told me about this,” says Martin. “It’s pretty nice, I didn’t believe it at first ‘til I came up here... it’s nice.”

As David Cardwell enjoyed his free lunch, he shared his appreciation to the volunteers who shared with him the love of Christ. “It’s great. With things being as hard as they are and times being as difficult, I think it is great that people would take time to show love and affection for others.”

Weiser hopes that, “we see people come to know the Lord, and that [church members who participated] say, ‘I can do this in my community, my neighborhood, my workplace.’”

“This is great, something to be talked about for a long time,” says English.

RESOURCE

■ **Websites:**
www.hhbc.net
www.sbcv.org/mobilizing

■ **Contact:**
 Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region’s missionary.

■ **Consider:**
 How can your church serve your community?



A Church on Mission

by Eddie Urbine, Associate Church
Mobilization Strategist, Partnerships

The year is 1985, and Brad Russell, a 10-year-old missionary kid (MK), stands next to a muddy watering hole. The beautiful voices of believers in Malawi, Africa, ring out over the baptismal celebration. God is moving and hearts are being changed. The Gospel is going forth in this great new work.

Fast-forward 25 years—Pastor Brad is now baptizing believers at Old Powhatan Baptist Church (OPBC) in Powhatan, Virginia. The work at OPBC is not new. The church was constituted in 1771, but the movement of God is just as exciting, just as invigorating...and it is still the Gospel going forth to do the work.

Old Powhatan Baptist Church is an Acts 1:8 church, and this former MK with a heart for all the nations now leads the church to reach its neighbors, both near and far. The Acts 1:8 initiative is a way for churches to engage people with the Gospel, starting right in their own hometown and extending to the nations. "We don't go just because the need is so great or because we feel guilty," says Pastor Brad. "We go because we want to obey Jesus Christ, who has been so merciful to us."

It is because of the great mercy of Jesus Christ and the grace poured out on this church for nearly 240 years that the members of Old Powhatan Baptist have

“Our church building is not a destination. It is a launch pad for ministry.”



joined the cause of God's mission to all people, starting right in their own backyard. Neal Flippin, director of missional community living, shares, "Our church building is not a destination. It is a launch pad for ministry."

And launch they have. In the past few years, under the leadership of Pastor Brad and former pastor, Tom Keehan, OPBC members have continually been going—to their neighbors in Powhatan with service projects and through sharing the Gospel; to the homeless of Richmond once a month; to Mississippi, Texas, and West Virginia for Disaster Relief; to Appalachia to help with home repairs; and to Thailand, Serbia, Romania, Greece, Togo, and Cote d'Ivoire. They have also adopted the "S" people of North Africa and have taken two trips to these unreached people.

Pastor Brad reminds us, "The mercy shown to us in the Gospel compels us to pray, give, do, and go. None of these is optional." Is your church praying, giving, doing, and going?

RESOURCE

■ Websites:

www.sbcv.org/mobilizing/article181883.htm
www.powhatanbaptist.org

■ Contact:

Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.

■ Consider:

Is your church an Acts 1:8 church?



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&
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ANNUAL HOMECOMING

Hyland Heights Baptist Church

Lynchburg

SecondLook

by Brandon Pickett, Director of Media Services



LYNCHBURG, VA (BP) – Messengers to the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia Annual Homecoming unanimously approved two resolutions calling for continued convention-wide support of the Cooperative Program (CP) as well as increased CP commitment from their churches during the 14th annual meeting, November 8 – 9, at Hyland Heights Baptist Church in Lynchburg.



Dr. Jeff Ginn, SBCV executive director, says the SBCV annual meeting is called a “homecoming” for a reason. “It is not primarily a ‘business’ meeting; it is a revival. It is a rally around the Great Commission that our Lord has given us. Our churches spoke resoundingly through their messengers that we intend to continue cooperating together for the extension of our Lord’s Kingdom.”

The SBC of Virginia has been a “50/50” CP convention since its inception in 1996. At last year’s meeting, messengers voted to approve a special Vision 20/20 report that called for a 10-year increase of 0.25% each year of Cooperative Program funds to the Southern Baptist Convention. Early estimates indicate this will result in an additional \$1.2 million for national and international ministries by the year 2020. This year, chairman of the Executive Committee, Rev. Carl Weiser, pastor of the host church



(Hyland Heights Baptist), presented the final Vision 20/20 report. Messengers were asked to make a commitment to both pray for and lead their church to sponsor a new church plant, discover and take the next step to church health, engage actively in the Acts 1:8 network, and make a commitment to increase CP giving.

The first approved resolution encouraged churches to give at least 10% of their offerings to the CP

for the furtherance of God’s Kingdom upon the face of the earth. The second approved resolution affirmed the Great Commission Resurgence and challenged SBCV churches to increase their CP giving by 0.25% yearly until the year 2020 (this would be in line with the SBC of Virginia’s already approved commitment).

Attendance showed more guests were present this year than messengers—540 messengers and 637 guests for a total attendance of 1,177. Messengers elected by acclamation Dr. Mark Becton, pastor of Grove Avenue Baptist in Richmond, to a second term as SBCV president. Rev. Gordon Ellsworth, pastor of Virginia Beach Beacon



Liberty University
Center for Worship
Choir

2010 Eagle Award recipients



SBC of VA Messengers Reaffirm Commitment to CP

*...we intend
to continue
cooperating
together for the
extension of our
Lord's Kingdom.*

election of 2011 SBCV officers



Baptist in Virginia Beach, was also elected to a second term as secretary. Other officers elected were Rev. Stewart McCarter, pastor of Southside Baptist in Suffolk as 1st vice president, and Dr. Rick Ewing, pastor of Pleasant View Baptist in Lynchburg as 2nd vice president. Becton says the Annual Homecoming is about much more than a business meeting: "Annual Homecoming is a celebration. We praise God for allowing us to see lives changed, believers mobilized, and new churches birthed. When you have a convention of churches praying and working together to start 400 new churches in 10 years, there's an excitement about doing the impossible with God. I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

Messengers unanimously approved a \$9 million ministry investment plan for 2011, which is a 2-percent decrease. This includes the forwarding of 50.5% to the SBC while retaining 49.5% for SBCV missions and ministries. Almost 50% of the money kept in state will be invested in church planting. The Multiplying Churches Team has a Vision 20/20 goal of assisting SBCV churches to plant 400 new churches by the year 2020.

The theme for the Annual Homecoming was "Transforming Lives" from Romans 12:1-2. Many of the convention speakers tied their messages to this theme. Speakers included Mark Becton, Jeff Crook, J.D. Greear, Bobby Welch, and Vance Pitman. SBCV pastors Jonge Tate, Banks Swanson, Tim Piland, Brian Autry, and Wendell Horton also brought thoughtful challenges wrapped around



the main theme. Special singers included Leo Day, music minister of Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, FL; Charles Billingsley who sang with the Liberty University Center for Worship Choirs; LU Praise; the Hyland Heights Baptist choir; and a mass choir from churches in the area.

Ginn recognized top churches in CP giving and baptisms. The Macedonia Award for CP giving went to First Baptist of Roanoke (total giving) and Matoaca Baptist in Matoaca (per capita giving). The Pentecost Award for Baptisms went to Highlands Fellowship in Abingdon (total baptisms) and Discipleship Baptist in Buena Vista (per capita).

Longtime Women's Ministry strategist, Sue Sawyer, was honored after announcing her



retirement. Sawyer has led Women's Ministry for SBCV since 1998. She will stay on part-time with SBCV as associate church mobilization strategist for projects.

Messengers and guests once again had the opportunity to attend a variety of breakout seminars. A special Women's Ministry dinner featured Cheryl McGuinness, widow of one of the American pilots whose plane was hijacked on September 11, 2001.



**2011 SBCV Annual Homecoming
November 13-15**

Grove Avenue Baptist Church, Richmond

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Why Acts 1:8 Network?

MOBILIZING



by Mark Gauthier, Director
of Mobilizing Churches

Churches cooperating together accomplish more. This missions-funding strategy has worked for years with the Cooperative Program, but why has it not been the strategy of missions networking? Such a network now exists—the Acts 1:8 Network (A18N)!

A18N's goal is to identify churches that are burdened and called of God to minister to specific people groups or geographic areas and connect them with each other to function as a network. For example, if your church feels called to minister in Nicaragua, wouldn't it be beneficial to be able to meet and talk with other churches that are active in missions there? To learn from each other, plan together, and perhaps expand your ministry to have a greater Kingdom impact?

Perhaps there is an individual or couple in your church sensing a call to serve in an area where the church is not engaged. As

AS A NETWORK CHURCH...

You are encouraged to connect with other churches in your network and engage in any or all of *Pray, Give, Do, and Go*.



PRAY for the work of that network (prayer concerns will be listed on the network webpage)



GIVE to Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, the Vision Virginia State Missions Offering, or give directly to support the missions efforts of the network



DO participate in projects that will support the on-the-ground work of the network



GO with other churches in the network or go with a team from your church

Be on mission!

members of an A18N church, they would have the opportunity to network with another church that already has an ongoing work in that nation.

AS YOU CONSIDER BECOMING AN A18N CHURCH, the first step is to **prepare** your members and identify who will

be the network leader for your church. Then **pray**, seeking God's guidance in moving forward. **Learn** about the people group or nation you feel burdened to serve, then **register** with SBCV as an A18N church with a specific network (yes, you can engage in multiple networks!).

RESOURCE

- **Website:**
www.sbcv.org/mobilizing/article181883.htm
- **Contact:**
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.
- **Consider:**
Has your church considered becoming an Acts 1:8 Network church?





APRIL 8-9, 2011
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMPTON
featuring
JAMES MERRITT & BRIAN BLOYE

Friday Schedule

9:00 AM - Registration Opens
10:00 AM - SESSION 1: Brian Bloye
12:00 PM - Affinity Group Lunches
1:30 PM - SESSION 2: James Merritt
3:00 PM - Affinity Groups
4:30 PM - Dinner Break
5:00 PM - Registration Reopens
7:00 PM - SESSION 3: Brian Bloye
9:00 PM - Adjourn

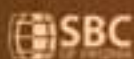
Affinity Groups

Pastors and Associates
Church Planter Network
Ministers of Worship and Music
Ministers of Education
Ministers to Students
Preschool/Children's Ministry
Missions Leaders
Ministers of Media
Men's Ministry
Women's Ministry
Disaster Relief Advanced Training

Saturday Schedule

8:00 AM - Registration Opens
9:00 AM - SESSION 4: James Merritt
10:00 AM - Ministry Tracks:
Breakout Session 1
12:00 PM - Lunch Break
1:30 PM - Ministry Tracks:
Breakout Session 2
3:30 PM - Adjourn

www.sbc.org/events





Our Christmas Gift to the Community

Salem Baptist Church
Crozier

by Steve Bradshaw, Church Health
Strategist, Central-East Region

Bethlehem Recreated
*offering everyone an opportunity
to walk Bethlehem's streets
during the Christmas season*

When I traveled to Israel in 2001, the Scriptures became more real and alive than I ever imagined. What I had trusted in faith

had been confirmed through sight. The song, "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked," came to mind throughout the experience. Being in Israel had such an impact on my life, I wanted everyone to go there to share in that same experience.

The reality is, most Christians will never go to the Holy Land, but Salem Baptist Church in Crozier offers everyone an opportunity to walk the recreated streets of Bethlehem during the Christmas season. The idea for an outside drama known as *Bethlehem Walk* was given to Pastor Zach Zbinden some twelve years ago by a friend in Atlanta, and he later experienced it first-hand at the church in Ringgold, Georgia, where he served previously.

Zbinden shares, "This venture involves the construction of a city landscape of Bethlehem circa 4 B.C. and additional venues for six to eight dramatic scenes. The setting is an interactive drama that gives participants a sense of the atmosphere into which Jesus Christ was born and then presents the reason He was sent—to die on the cross

to Christ, one of the most exciting benefits of working on this three-month project was the unity that was fostered among the volunteers. That year, we saw over 200 decisions for Christ and over 300 people who wanted to know more about growing closer to Christ that year. There was no way Salem could follow up with that many people alone, so we were thankful to have the additional partners."

The 2010 invitation read:

"We invite you to take a trip with us and experience the true Spirit of Christmas. Your trip will take you on an adventure to first-century Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born. As you enter the city, allow the sights, sounds, and smells to carry you to a period of time that changed the world. Expect to be met by Roman soldiers and counted in the census. Journey through the heart of the city to the marketplace that is bustling with activity from over a dozen authentic shops; enjoy samples from the baker's shop, marvel at the potter's crafts, and listen for the rumor of a 'king's' birth from excited townspeople. Continue your journey to the Nativity where a very special Baby was born in the stable. Here you can reflect on the blessed birth of Christ—the greatest Gift that has ever been given. Bethlehem Walk is our Christmas gift to the community. Many families will take their children to see Santa Claus at the mall this year. Bethlehem Walk is a way to experience the real side of Christmas."



Bethlehem Walk



for our sins. The focus is to share Christ with those who would not normally darken a church door. This ministry continues to greatly affect our community and the hundreds and now thousands who travel to witness and be reminded that Jesus is the focal point of Christmas."

Because the Bethlehem Walk ministry grew so rapidly, the church invited five other local churches to join them in 2006. Zbinden adds, "We needed assistance with decorating sets, drama, tour guides, etc. ...even though the focus for the entire production was to win the lost

Salem Baptist Church is reaching its community by providing an opportunity to "see" the town in which Jesus was born and hear the Gospel message. How can your church partner with other nearby churches to reach your community for Christ?

RESOURCE

Website:

www.salebaptistchurch.info

Contact:

Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.



Going Home On a Mission

by Darrell Webb, Church Health Strategist, North Region

Sharing the Gospel with people close to home is often viewed as challenging. However, for retired pastor, Dr. David Johnson, going back to his homeland of England was a transforming experience with eternal value.

During the summer of 2010, five SBCV churches, two of which Johnson previously pastored, partnered together to take the Gospel to public schools in Hartlepool and Liverpool, England. God gave Pastors Robert McTurnal from Ebenezer Baptist Church in Gloucester and David Johnson the vision to lead a mission team comprised of students from the camp that Pastor David has led for the past 30 years. Twenty-six teenagers and adults formed two teams to partner with churches in these British towns. God opened the door for the teams to be invited into the local public schools to share the Gospel with students from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM for more than a week!

Pastor David shares, "We were invited to lead the morning assemblies and take up to four classes each day. Our theme was 'In God We Trust.' We went armed with literally hundreds of bright, shiny, new pennies with this motto, which we were able to give out liberally to each student. The principals and staff of the schools were very

helpful and cooperative. They gave us freedom to share testimonies and Bible stories, provided that we emphasized that it was in our opinion that they needed to believe in Jesus for salvation. In all, we were able to minister in eight different schools and reach out to approximately 3,000 students."

Using Vacation Bible School as a tool, the teams were able to minister to students in both of Pastor David's former churches in Liverpool and Hartlepool. The Gospel message brought forth precious fruit. Salvation decisions numbered 57, and 500 Good News booklets were distributed. Pastor David shares of one young new convert who "stood in a worship service and gave her testimony. She asked the church to pray for her family, that they too would come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior." After the teams returned to the States, the churches in England were faithful to follow up on the decisions for Christ.

The Lord opened the door for Pastor David to share the Gospel in his homeland. Ask the Lord to pave the way for you to share Christ in yours. Just see what He will do!

RESOURCE

Website:
www.sbcv.org/mission_opportunities

Contact:
For information on how to join a future England mission team, call Dr. David Johnson at 540-743-4445 or email him at pastordave@centurylink.net

Consider:
When will you be going home?
Will you let God pave the way for you to share Christ?

2011 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

A PART OF visionvirginia



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**Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering**

March – April
**Blankets for Childcare
Disaster Relief Trailers**

April – May
**Southern Cross Bible
Distribution**

June – July
**Back-to-School
Backpacks for
DC Children**

August – September
Hygiene Kits for ARM

September – October
**Vision Virginia
State Missions Offering**

October – November
Eyeglasses for Uruguay

November – December
**Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering**

www.sbcv.org/mission_opportunities



MOBILIZING



MULTIPLYING



SERVE RICHMOND

Serving Outside the Walls

by Ron Kidd, Church Planting Strategist, Central-East Region

In a population of over 204,451, thousands of Richmonders have not yet discovered a personal relationship with our Lord. Over the last several years, God has been doing a new and exciting thing in our state capital! He has raised up five SBCV church plants and ten passionate church planters to reach Richmond for Christ.

One of these vibrant church plants effectively ministering in Richmond is Remnant Church. Bryan Laughlin, Remnant's lead pastor, shares what motivates and drives them:

"The call of the Gospel to love our neighbors is often readily affirmed yet scarcely lived out in the lives of the Church. Unfortunately, too many times this charge

manifests itself only through verbal Gospel proclamation without any tangible love to our neighbors through sacrificial service. Jesus' love for the people extended to both areas—through serving their needs and proclaiming the Gospel of His Kingdom. At Remnant Church, this neighborly love shown by Jesus resulted in the formation of Serve Richmond."

WHAT IS SERVE RICHMOND?

Beautifying: An effort launched in the summer of 2010 to help with the beautification of Carytown (a sub-community in midtown Richmond)

Renewing: A multi-year, multi-faceted service project to renew the city for all people through a movement of the Gospel that brings personal conversion, community formation, social justice, and cultural renewal

Serving: The avenue through which Remnant Church seeks to touch the city of Richmond with the love of Jesus

Sharing: Part of the Gospel mission of Remnant—for the Good News of Jesus to be lived out in hopes of seeing God create a restored Richmond



URUGUAY

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Register through March 15th » For more information, visit:
sbcv.org/studentz | goIWC.org



HOW IS REMNANT CHURCH USING SERVE RICHMOND TO REACH THE CITY FOR CHRIST?

Partnering: By partnering with other churches, schools, and organizations throughout the city to accomplish the task

Working: By working alongside the Carytown Merchants Association to remove graffiti (There is now a flourishing partnership between Remnant and the merchants. The graffiti abatement has led to decreased occurrences of new graffiti, the beautification of the area, and increased commerce for the stores.)

Helping: By serving with several organizations that help the homeless and poor in the community

Through Serve Richmond, Remnant Church has seen relationships built, a part of the city restored, and people come to Jesus. May God help the Church to "leave the building," tangibly demonstrate the love of Christ, and effectively preach the Gospel!

RESOURCE

Websites:
www.remnantrichmond.org/
liferemnant/serve-richmond/
www.facebook.com/remnantchurch

Contact:
 For more information, email seanpyle@remnantrichmond.org or call your SBCV region's missionary at 888-234-7716.

Consider:
 How can you demonstrate the love of Christ and tangibly love your neighbors through sacrificial service?



Want to see healthy growth in your church?

Why not attend one of the **Church Health Workshops** coming to your region in 2011? Pastors, staff, and lay leaders are all invited.



You'll get an overview of the Church Health Life Cycle as well as an introduction to LifeWay's research through the *Transformational Church* book and discussion guide.

www.sbcv.org/nurturing



**START
HERE.**
 MATTHEW 9:36-38

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IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY

CROSSPOINTE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP / MOUNTAIN VIEW BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

by Randy Aldridge, Church Planting Strategist, Southwest Region

Mountain View Baptist Fellowship in Bluefield was without a pastor, and a number of church members had left. The building was in need of many repairs, and the church needed help.

At the same time, Crosspointe Community Fellowship in Tazewell, led by church planter Roger Cook, was growing, even though the majority of its membership was from the Bluefield area rather than Tazewell. Its current facility was no longer available, so the church plant needed to find another place to meet. By the Lord's leading, Crosspointe moved from Tazewell to Bluefield in the summer of 2010. Its first meeting at the new location resulted in doubled attendance! The small conference room filled to capacity with standing room only, as worshipers crowded in the space.

Through God's divine direction and providence, Crosspointe and Mountain View partnered together and eventually merged to become one church. In the Lord's perfect timing, the transition went smoothly, and the vote was unanimous to unite under one ministry philosophy and name (Crosspointe Community Fellowship).

Together as one, Crosspointe has continued the mission



2011 VBS TRAINING CLINICS

Clinic Locations and Dates:

- April 2 - Cedar Bluff Baptist Church, Atkins
- April 9 - Liberty Baptist Church, Hampton (E412)
- April 16 - COMMUNITY Church, Salem
 - Swift Creek Baptist Church, Colonial Heights
- April 30 - Pleasant View Baptist Church, Lynchburg
 - Spotswood Baptist Church, Fredericksburg

VBS Training Clinics are presented by SBCV teams who have been personally mentored by LifeWay trainers.

www.sbcv.org/children



baptizing in the river

of reaching its community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "We are seeing lives changed as Christ-followers are born and bondage to darkness and sin is broken," says Pastor Roger. "We are servant-evangelism-focused, discipleship-focused, and Gospel-driven." Since coming to Bluefield, the congregation has seen over 50 salvations and 13 baptisms. Pastor Roger shares, "We are seeing men called to the ministry who will likely become church planters. Crosspointe is currently in the planning process of planting at least two more churches, with more to come as our Lord provides."

Crosspointe members mobilize for evangelism by conducting an intentional community outreach project each month. They've hosted a kids' fishing derby, a National Day of Prayer event, block parties, free car washes, holiday dinners, dramas, cookouts, a free monthly movie night, and outdoor concerts. They've even offered gift wrapping and provided a Santa Claus at area businesses. Many who have come to Christ and to Crosspointe are mobilized by the need to reach their community and are eager to work in these events. Crosspointe's relationship with local schools is growing too through summer projects like clothing, toy, and blanket drives and painting. These service projects have opened the door for Pastor Roger to speak with students and faculty in the schools. The church's community

presence is strong and appreciated by the public. The town council has publicly thanked them for their community service, and the local police force often stops by during events to thank them for providing something safe for the community to enjoy.

"Jesus is being proclaimed," explains Pastor Roger, "and lives are being eternally transformed by the joining of two churches to serve the Kingdom of God. As the darkness is penetrated, we are fighting on the front lines, and we recognize it as spiritual warfare (1 Cor. 16:9). It is only through Jesus Christ, the Crosspointe family, and the support of our partner churches that this mission is possible."



Pastor Roger preaching



Trunk and Treat



RESOURCE

■ **Website:** www.crosspointeva.com

■ **Contact:**
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your SBCV region's missionary.

■ **Consider:**
How can your church partner with others to impact your community for Christ?

How do you get
HIGH SCHOOL
 + **Middle School Students**
 invested in **MISSIONS?**
Church Planting?
 Let them see & **themselves.**

missionplant
 www.sbcv.org/multiplying

MOBILIZING



WorldChangers Changing Roanoke

by Jack Noble, Church Health Strategist, Central-West Region

In 2002, Pastor Joe Greene, then pastor of Preston Oaks Baptist Church in Roanoke, found his church with no student pastor or summer plans. Wanting to provide the students with a strong summer program but not having much time, he opted for World Changers, a prepackaged event in Virginia Beach sponsored by the North American Mission Board (NAMB). Pastor Joe was certain that exposure to a short-term mission project would change lives, so it seemed to be a perfect fit. Through the experience, Preston Oaks caught a vision of how it could be used to challenge others to be on mission. When the church called Allen Krueger as its student pastor, Pastor Joe tasked him with bringing the evangelism and social ministry of World Changers to Roanoke.



e



The church wanted its mission experience to be local.

Allen quickly jumped on the assignment, as it matched his passion for missions and heart for students. He began meeting with the City of Roanoke and Blue Ridge Housing Development to prepare for hundreds of students to descend upon Roanoke. In 2004, Preston Oaks hosted its first local World Changers event.

The planning and logistics necessary for such an event are incredible. The church must:

- ▶ Be behind the idea and willing to volunteer. From the oldest to the youngest, everyone needs to be involved.
- ▶ Organize enough hands-on projects and funding to keep several hundred students busy for a week.
- ▶ Not only secure housing and three meals a day for 300 people, but help make it all happen the week of the event.

For Preston Oaks, 2002 was just the beginning of an increase in mission activities. They have now hosted seven World Changers events and are planning an eighth for 2011. The church has also participated in World Changers events in Virginia Beach, VA; Raleigh, NC; Portland, ME; Baltimore, MD; Ft Pierce, FL; St. Louis, MO; Charleston, WV; Watertown, NY; Savannah, GA; and Columbia, SC. In addition, Preston Oaks, now pastored by Shawn Dobbins, has taken a lead in Disaster Relief and invested in missions work in Nicaragua.

Pastor Joe and Allen have both moved on to other churches, but the seeds they planted in 2002 have multiplied and spread throughout the world. Their legacy of being on mission continues! Will your ministry continue when you have moved to another place of service?

RESOURCE

■ **Website:** www.world-changers.net

■ **Studentz International World Changer Event:**
for information:
www.sbcv.org/studentz/article254525.htm



MISSIONS TO

Hanover County & Beyond

by Steve Bradshaw, Church Health Strategist, Central-East Region

MOBILIZING



In 2001, Beaverdam Baptist Church, just east of Montpelier in Hanover County, began *Mission to Beaverdam*, an annual one-day mission trip to the surrounding community. "From humble beginnings of helping people with winterization, general cleanup, and minor repairs," says Pastor Gary Stewart, "we have seen God do great and mighty things. We have seen the *Mission to Beaverdam* grow each year with hundreds of church members involved annually and dozens of homes impacted."

People in the community have begun identifying Beaverdam Baptist as "the church that helps people!" "What a wonderful comment to be made about our church! We thank God for the privilege to serve our community," adds Stewart. Buster Buchanan, a resident of the area for over 50 years but not a member of the church, says, "Beaverdam Baptist Church is the greatest thing that has ever happened to Beaverdam, Virginia." Steve Woods, another non-member resident comments, "You can't live in Beaverdam and not be touched by Beaverdam Baptist Church."

In 2006, God directed the church to expand its efforts and make the mission trip a



county-wide event, inviting other churches to participate. On August 23, 2006, the Hanover County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution establishing the

second Saturday in November of each year as *Mission to Hanover Day*. This special day has helped hundreds of families and seen thousands of volunteers from churches all over the county participate in this great mission

opportunity. Pastor Stewart shares, "We believe God is now directing our path to take this event statewide with *Mission to Virginia*, and we know the best is yet to come."

Jay Smith, the newly named director, is now offering leadership to this growing mission endeavor.

"Mission to Virginia," he explains, "has given me the unique opportunity to help the church fulfill the commandment to serve the poor and needy. There is a lot of talk these days about the obligations the government has to its citizens. I personally do not believe that it is to take care of the social issues such as the downtrodden. That is the Church's responsibility. It is an awesome undertaking and one Christians need to take seriously, especially in these economic times. I know I am blessed to be able to give from my abundance and to praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Pastor Stewart gives God all the glory for how He's used Beaverdam Baptist Church. "As God has allowed us to be used in this service, we have received some of the greatest blessings: watching our children begin to

understand the importance of being a servant of God, seeing the faces of those we have ministered to, and sharing the love of Jesus Christ with those who do not know Him."

“
We have seen
God do great
and mighty
things.

”



RESOURCE

■ **Blog:** www.mission2virginia.org

Tools:

To help your church develop such an event, request a manual at: info@mission2virginia.org

"Ministry to Others" — www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_MinistryToOthers-Week3.pdf

Missions Can Be Contagious

Is God calling you to take an overseas trip?

MOBILIZING



MATURING



by Gary Horton, Church Health Strategist, Southwest Region

For years, the South Fork Baptist Church family in Marion prayed for missionaries and gave to missions through the Cooperative Program and other special missions offerings. Although praying and giving, they had not yet sent anyone on mission outside of Virginia. That was about to change.

In February 1991, Pastor Mark Totten and his wife Linda were called to serve at South Fork. Their bodies may have been called to Marion, but their heart for missions reached far beyond southwest Virginia. "I began praying for missions and missionaries during college," says Pastor Mark. This burden for missions carried over into his ministry at South Fork, and the Lord paved the way to challenge him and the church even further. At an SBCV Annual Homecoming, attendees were asked how many had ministered on an overseas mission trip. A number of hands rose. Then they were asked how many would like to go and would if the funding were available. More hands were lifted. Sensing God's call upon him to go, Pastor Mark raised his hand. "Within two minutes' time," he testifies, "all the money was there."

After returning from his first trip, Pastor Mark's passion for missions became contagious. This passion is now part of South Fork's DNA,

and almost all of the adults in the church have been involved in various mission projects over the last 20 years. South Fork groups have taken trips to Kentucky, New Orleans, Mississippi, West Virginia, Arizona, Ukraine, and Zambia and have served in numerous local projects. In 2009, the church sent a team of 14 to repair a pastor's home in Mississippi that was damaged by a tornado. In 2010, they sent a team of five to Zambia. The church believes in "simultaneous missions," the idea that it should be serving "in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" at the same time. The church should not wait to complete one area before moving to the next—all peoples should be reached simultaneously!

Within South Fork Baptist Church is a contagious zeal to reach the world for Christ. Does your church have that same passion?

RESOURCE

Website: www.sbcv.org

Contact:
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.



“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

Jim Elliot

MOBILIZING



MULTIPLYING



by Larry Black, Church Planting Strategist, Central-West Region

THE COST

Much has been written about the need for new churches. We have all read or heard testimonies about how God has used a new church to transform a life and even a community. But what is the cost of starting a new church? If the results are measured by changed lives, the following story of faith on the part of a leader and a sponsor church should be convincing.

With God's vision, a group of men and their families counted the cost of leaving their home in Texas. A church in Virginia had a lot of heart but very little financial resources. The Lord planned to use them both to accomplish great things for His Kingdom.

Kyle Hoover had been serving in a successful collegiate ministry in Texas. With the conviction that God wanted them to take the Gospel to Charlottesville, he and a team of friends packed their belongings and moved to Virginia. The new plant, Charlottesville Community Church (CCC), sought to reach both the University of Virginia and the adjoining community. They had no sponsor church in Virginia, so their home church in Texas sponsored the plant in partnership with the SBCV.

Pastor Mike Palmer of Green Ridge Baptist Church in Roanoke heard about the need for an SBCV church to sponsor the Charlottesville plant. His initial response was, "We have already committed our budget for the coming year," but the Lord led him to see what else could be done. Pastor Mike led the Green Ridge family to find funds to provide support but, more importantly, the church committed to do hands-on mission work with the new plant.

CCC had been having a difficult time engaging the city on a mass basis, but the Lord was about to open a door of opportunity. Due to budget constraints, the city welcomed the church's offer to help with the children's outreach during the July 4th city park celebration. But how would this new church care for what would be more than 2,500 kids and family members? Green Ridge readily stepped up to help, providing more than 30 members to assist with balloon animals, sports outreach, games, and inflatable moon bounce machines. Between CCC's "every member on board" and Green Ridge's help, there was a small army of witnessing servants.

THE RESULTS

- ★ **CCC WAS ENCOURAGED** that an SBCV church would commit to step up and help when help was so critically needed. This outreach propelled them into the next mass outreach, where many families were touched.
- ★ **CCC BAPTIZED** more than 24 people in 2010 from its outreaches, some of whom came through the July 4th event. The new church experienced a surge in every area of ministry.
- ★ **GREEN RIDGE'S YOUTH PASTOR**, Scott Hamilton, says, "Our members are beginning to understand that we need to take the church out into the community. The community does not have to come to church to hear the Gospel." Hamilton has now stepped out in faith to start a church where the Gospel is needed.
- ★ **THROUGH ITS COMMITMENT** to hands-on missions, Green Ridge is now sending out two of its finest families to start churches in Salem and Roanoke: Scott and Shawn Hamilton and Jamie and Sandy Butler. God has groomed both men, preparing them for church planting.
- ★ **GREEN RIDGE IS NOW** sponsoring churches in South Dakota, Washington, DC, Charlottesville, and Roanoke. Pastor Mike says, "One of the most fulfilling things that happens in ministry is the development of others that sense God's call to missions." He testifies that his life has been changed through the church's partnerships. "What a joy to be connected to the Gospel in these regions!"

What is the cost of investing in new churches? Transformed lives and transformed communities by the power of the Gospel—could there be anything worth more? God has a way of providing for his churches when they walk by faith. Dollar for dollar, there isn't a greater investment.

RESOURCE

■ **Website:**
www.churchplantingvillage.net
(see 5/52, "How Any Church Can Afford to Sponsor a Church Plant")

■ **Contact:**
Call 888-234-7716 for details
from your region's missionary.





MOBILIZING



2011

CALENDAR

Experiencing God at Work

by Mike Smith, IMB Missionary to Zambia

In December 2004, I graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. On January 1, 2005, I preached my first sermon as pastor of Deerfield Baptist Church. In April 2005, I was asked to be part of an SBCV vision team of pastors to form a new partnership with Zambia. In September 2005, I stepped foot in Zambia for the first time... life has not been the same since.

God blessed me with a beautiful wife, two healthy children, a good education, and a great church to pastor. However, I was not satisfied to simply read the stories of others serving around the world—I wanted to experience God at work firsthand. God allowed us to die to self and the comforts of America and passionately embrace the peoples of western Zambia.

We are church planters with the International Mission Board (IMB), and I am the exegete/project coordinator for the Nkoya Bible Translation Project. During our first two years on the field, we have planted two churches.

Long-lasting results do not come easy. "Drive-by" missions is not an option if the fruit is going to remain. As a pastor, the more volunteer trips that I led, the clearer it became that the work was too great for us to try to do missions from afar. Missions requires "incarnational" ministry. We don't know if God will keep us in Zambia for three more or 30 more years. What we know is that He has changed us, He continues to change the lives of Zambians, and that we will stay in Kaoma, Zambia, as long as He keeps us there.

Please pray for us daily. The only thing that keeps us on the field is prayer! Please pray, not only for my wife Amy and me, but pray especially for our children, Tyler and Evie. Please subscribe to our e-prayer letter at smiths4zambia@gmail.com; see pictures and updates on my wife's Facebook at "Amy Wiley Smith"; or visit our blog at www.smiths4zambia.blogspot.com. May Christ be glorified among the nations, beginning in Virginia and extending to the very ends of the earth!

The Smith family



RESOURCE

■ **Blog:**
www.smiths4zambia.blogspot.com

■ **e-Prayer Letter:**
subscribe to the Smiths' e-prayer letter at smiths4zambia@gmail.com

■ **Facebook:**
updates and pictures at "Amy Wiley Smith" — become a friend!



FEBRUARY

Jan/Feb Mission Opportunity:
VA Soldier R&R Kits

DR Training	12
Student Pastor Retreat.....	18-19
DR Training	26

MARCH

Mar/Apr Mission Opportunity:
Blankets for Childcare DR Trailers

Spring Basic Training	4-5
Statewide SWAT	5
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering & Week of Prayer for N. Am. Missions	6-13
DR Training	12
Spring Basic Training	25-26
DR Training	26
Start a Church Sunday	27

APRIL

Apr/May Mission Opportunity:
Southern Cross Bible Distribution

VBS Clinic (SW region).....	2
SBCV Golf Open	7
E412	8-9
Statewide CPN (at E412).....	8-9
VBS Clinic (SE region, at E412).....	9
Cooperative Program Sunday.....	10
GPS: Praying Across N. Am./Prayer Walk....	10
Spring Basic Training	13-15
Women's Conf., "Going Beyond"	15-16
VBS Clinics (CW & CE regions)	16
GPS: Door-to-Door Gospel Distribution....	17
VBS Clinics (CW & N regions)	30
GPS: Follow-up.....	25-30

MAY

Bible Drill & Speakers' Tournament	21
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JUNE

June/July Mission Opportunity:
Back-to-School Backpacks for DC Children

Studentz Mission Plant Week	6-11
Crossover	11
SBC Annual Convention	14-15
IWC/Studentz Uruguay Trip	25-7/2



PROCLAIMER

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A detailed poster for "Mission 2: Camp" featuring a collage of gears, a map, and various images. The central text reads: "MISSION ②: CAMP", "DATE: JULY 11 - 15, 2011", and "LOCATION: LIBERTY UNIVERSITY LYNCHBURG". Below this is the website "www.sbcv.org/studentz". To the left, a circular logo says "studentz CAMP" and "PROJECT CODENAME ECHO". To the right, a quote from Psalm 145:1-5 is displayed: "ONE GENERATION WILL DECLARE YOUR WORKS TO THE NEXT AND THE NEXT WILL PROCLAIM YOUR MIGHTY ACTS. I WILL SPEAK OF YOUR GLORIOUS SPLENDOR AND YOUR WONDERFUL WORKS." Below the quote is a portrait of a man in a military uniform. At the bottom left, there are three photos of women, one labeled "Barlow Girl". At the bottom center, a photo of a man is labeled "Andy Kirk". At the bottom right, a framed photo of a man is labeled "HARRIS II". A yellow price tag graphic says "REGISTER BY APRIL 29* FOR \$250.00 *ETS. 00 THROUGH MAY 31". A QR code is in the bottom right corner. The name "Tony Nolan" is written in the bottom right corner.

studentz
CAMP

PROJECT
CODENAME
ECHO

**MISSION ②:
CAMP**

DATE:
JULY 11 - 15, 2011

LOCATION:
**LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
LYNCHBURG**

www.sbcv.org/studentz

ONE GENERATION WILL
DECLARE YOUR WORKS
TO THE NEXT AND THE NEXT WILL
PROCLAIM YOUR MIGHTY ACTS.
I WILL SPEAK OF YOUR
GLORIOUS SPLENDOR
AND YOUR WONDERFUL
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PSALM 145:1-5

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Barlow Girl

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