

visionvirginia

Proclaimer

ANNUAL
HOMECOMING
NOV 13-15, 2011
GROVE AVENUE BC
RICHMOND
p.12

Communities of Hope

Moving your members into
leadership roles and into
a life of sharing their faith

A Vibrant New
Generation of
Church Leadership

Jesus' Power to Give Life

Telling the Story of Life in South Africa

Transforming CHURCHES

Nov|Dec|Jan 2011/12

A PUBLICATION OF THE SBC OF VIRGINIA



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TRANSFORMATION



Brandon Pickett
bpickett@sbcv.org

*This is the second year
of a three-year emphasis
on Transforming:*

*2011
Transforming Lives*

*2012
Transforming Churches*

*2013
Transforming the World*

It's hard to imagine but we are nearing the end of another year. If you are like me, it seems we just blinked, and 2012 is almost here. But that also means we have the privilege of meeting together again for our Annual Homecoming. This is a time I always look forward to with anticipation. I love to hear the stories of what God is doing in and through your churches and ministries. That's why this year's theme is so poignant: *Transforming Churches*.

The SBC of Virginia is currently going through transformation.

■ Please be in prayer for the Executive Director Search Committee and Chairman Kelly Burris (sbcv.org/aboutus/article307614) as they prayerfully seek God's man to lead the SBCV now that Dr. Jeff Ginn has accepted a senior pastor role at Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, LA. (sbcv.org/staff/article295194).

■ After 10 years of leasing office space, the SBCV was able to purchase and move into its own facilities on Oct. 1, 2011—DEBT FREE! More than \$200,000 a year in savings will now be realized by owning instead of leasing. This is another step in the implementation of the Vision 20/20 Report adopted by the SBCV at its 2009 annual convention (sbcv.org/events/article199014). Part of the Vision 20/20 plan calls for a streamlining of convention expenses so that additional resources can be applied to missionary endeavors such as church planting, church health, and church mobilization. The new mission support center is located within a mile of the previous leased space. The address is 4956 Dominion Bld., Glen Allen, VA 23060 (map at: tinyurl.com/sbcvmap).

Dr. Mark Becton, pastor of Grove Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond and president of the SBCV, said, "When it comes to building churches of denominational buildings, there is a fine line between excellence and opulence. Our SBCV leadership has done a masterful job creating a building that enables us to offer the Lord our best without waste or excess.

Because the building was built debt free, we are now able to put \$25,000 a month back into maturing, mobilizing, and multiplying our churches. I'm both proud of and grateful for our SBCV leadership."

■ Another evidence of transformation is the very publication you hold in your hands. The *Proclaimer* continues to be the flagship publication of the SBC of Virginia. We are working diligently to keep it fresh with current design, informational helps, and inspirational stories. And, starting with this issue, you can now read the *Proclaimer* completely online. Scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone or type the URL on your laptop (tinyurl.com/sbcva) or iPad. Please feel free to email the link to a friend or co-worker!

I pray that you have seen a transforming work done in the lives and ministries of your local church so that, in turn, working with the Holy Spirit and other SBCV churches, we together can transform the world. When you have stories of transformed lives, please don't hesitate to let us know. We would count it a privilege to share those stories with the SBCV family and beyond.



Proclaimer

TELLING ABOUT THE AMAZING
THINGS GOD IS DOING
THROUGH HIS CHURCH

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12 Annual Homecoming *Transforming Churches*

With great excitement, we look forward to seeing what God will do in 2012 when our fellowship focuses on *Transforming Churches*. Please join us at our statewide gathering, where we will review the amazing things God has done through His Church and make plans for the future.

17 In Our Mailbox

A reader from Binghamton, NY is grateful for and amazed by Liberty University students.

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COVER LOOK

On this month's cover is "Transforming Churches"
Created exclusively for the SBC of Virginia by Innovative Faith Resources
Contract designer, Tisha Spencer

for information on Innovative Resources, email brandon@innovativefaith.org | chris@innovativefaith.org | ish@innovativefaith.org



"Our two groups are going well; the idea of CoH was the catalyst to get us to see two new community groups started. The Story of God was awesome for unbelievers and yet foundational to our believers who went through it."

Cliff Jordan
Movement Church, Richmond

"We [Creekside Community Church] just finished week five in our home CoH and week seven at work. Both are going very well. We hope to start two to three groups after this initial 12-week session."

Chris Bagley
Creekside Community Church, Suffolk

"Our Hope Community has grown from the original group from our church to 29 because of participants inviting their friends."

Randy Aldridge
Christian Life Fellowship, Jonesville

COMMUNITIES OF HOPE

Mark Custalow
Church Planting Strategist, Southeast Region

Christians Starting
New Congregations

Studies reveal that more people live in Virginia and Washington, DC than ever before. Furthermore, 7 out of 10 people are without Christ. What is your church doing to take the Gospel to those in your surrounding communities? This November, the SBC of Virginia is releasing a newly developed resource to assist you in that critical task.

Communities of Hope is a resource designed to assist pastors in "the training of the saints in the work of ministry" (Ephesians 4:12, HCSB). More specifically, *Communities of Hope* provides easily facilitated Bible studies and training material that can be used to equip believers to start new evangelistic Bible studies in homes and marketplace locations beyond the walls of the church. When used by a church or new church plant, this material will assist you in moving more of your members into leadership roles and into a life of sharing their faith.

Each Hope Community, by design, will have a leadership team of three: 1) a group facilitator; 2) a host; and 3) a hospitality coordinator. Each person will play an important role in creating a warm and inviting environment to which friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers can come to learn about the hope that can be theirs when they place their faith and trust in Jesus.

Picture in your mind a group of 15 people gathering weekly in the home of one of the families in your church who are well thought of in their community. Ten of those who are there every week are in no one's church on Sunday mornings. As the multi-week study draws to a close, six people accept Christ and experience life transformation that comes from the power of the Gospel. Now multiply this experience by six—the number of new small groups that were started simultaneously from your church—and you have the beginnings of a significant evangelistic movement throughout your community and an energized church body that is passionate about continuing to share their faith. This experience can happen in your church in your community as you utilize the resources available in *Communities of Hope*.

In addition to providing multiple evangelistic Bible studies, *Communities of Hope* includes resource segments such as:

How to Gather People into a Hope Community • How to Lead a Hope Community • How to Identify and Equip Congregational Leaders • How to Move from Community to Congregation • Suggested Timelines for Hope Communities

With our heritage in church planting, we are prayerful that many of the Hope Communities will become the starting points for new church plants. In keeping with a church planting focus, it is possible that one or more Hope Communities could combine to form the nucleus for a new church. Two particular church planters in the Hampton Roads area are using *Communities of Hope* as part of the "gather" phase of their new church plant.

You can follow the excitement of reports from Hope Community leaders on Facebook by searching "Communities of Hope."



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/multiplying and click on the Communities of Hope icon

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary



2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®
National Goal: \$175 million
Week of Prayer for International Missions:
December 4 – 11, 2011
SBCV GOAL: \$3 MILLION

TWO LIFE-CHANGING CALLS

Ron Kidd

Church Planting Strategist, Central-East Region

“The terror began when I answered the phone. When I hung up, our lives had changed forever.” Those are the chilling words of SBCV catalytic church planter, Fernando Mangieri. Fernando, his wife Marcela, and two small children were serving the Lord in Mexico. He tells their incredible and harrowing story:

“Until September 29, 2008, we were living a very comfortable life in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, where I was serving in a church as the pastor, teaching in the seminary, coordinating mission trips, and leading two church planting groups. My wife took care of our home, and we were enjoying our two kids and our own house that was a wonderful provision from God.

“When I answered the phone, an anonymous voice threatened my life and also my family’s lives. We would have to pay a certain amount of money in 48 hours or we would be killed. They said they would come to our house in 30 minutes; I could either give them a first down payment or one of my children. I hung up and, trembling, tried to explain to my wife what is unexplainable. In just a few minutes, we ran away with only what we were wearing.

“After leaving my family in a safe place, I headed to the United States Consulate, since my wife and children are American citizens and I had already applied for a residency petition. They suggested that my wife and kids cross the Juarez-El Paso border into the US, but they were not able to help me. After leaving the Consulate, there were days of fear, tension, confusion, and feeling powerless. We spent the night at a friend’s house in a secure neighborhood. We spent the next night in another house. Our children were confused—they just couldn’t understand why we could not go back home. The next day I said goodbye to my family as they went to the US. The people from our church were my only support.

“Hours and days went by, and nothing seemed clear. My family was in another country praying and crying, and I was still in danger. God calmed my spirit; the Psalms were of encouragement, consolation, and support in the moments when tears would

pour out from the depth of my heart. I interpreted moments of silence from God as meaning: ‘My grace is sufficient for you; for my power is made perfect in weakness’ and ‘Be still and know that I am God.’

“Meanwhile, the people of God were praying for us. Our church was praying continuously and I was told people were praying and interceding for our situation in Mexico, the US, Argentina, Spain, Uruguay, and other countries. Knowing this refreshed my heart and brought peace in the midst of the storm.

“We could see the Lord’s hand moving through His church in the US. Key people used by God reached a Texas senator’s office, and he promised to help. He kept his word and expedited the residency petition. Miraculously, in less than two weeks, the American Consulate in Ciudad Juarez granted me American residency. God is the God of the impossible, the Almighty!

“On Thursday, October 17th, I received a visa. That same night, I was crossing the international bridge and reuniting with my family. There are no words to describe the feeling of seeing my two-year-old boy as he ran to me. I hugged him, then my wife who, with eyes filled with tears, was holding my baby with a big smile on her face. All we could do was hug each other, cry together, and thank God for freeing us from death.”

Through a series of events, God led the Mangieris to Virginia. In September 2009, Fernando was approved as a catalytic church planter with the SBC of Virginia. He felt a strong burden to reach the multitude of Hispanics living in the Richmond area.

Kingsland Baptist Church graciously opened their arms and hearts to partner in and help sponsor this ministry. Other Hispanic churches in the area also gave sacrificially to help. Kingsland provided the use of their building for



FACTS

God has done incredible things through the Mangieris’ desire to reach the lost and plant a church!

- They began this church plant with no one but their family—it now averages 80 to 100 in their worship gathering.
- Nueva Esperanza is largely made up of new believers they have led to Christ.
- At the time of this writing, eight small groups have been formed and are meeting regularly.
- ESL classes have been effectively used as a tool for evangelism and church growth.
- They are presently training leaders to plant multiple churches in 2011 and 2012.
- Having a burden to train Hispanic leaders, Fernando started a Bible Institute in 2009.
- The Bible Institute meets weekly and is helping train 20 – 25 pastors and leaders.
- Using his musical gifts, Fernando has helped other Hispanic churches with their music ministries and corporate worship.

the new church plant (Iglesia Bautista Nueva Esperanza, which means New Hope Baptist Church). They also offered housing for the Mangieris in the church’s nearby parsonage. “Pastor Fernando and Nueva Esperanza have been a tremendous blessing to me and to the Kingsland family,” says Pastor Pat Fiordelise. “They are reaching people that we have never been able to reach. Also, there is a sweet spirit of unity between our two churches.”

Fernando stated in his testimony that a phone call changed his life forever. Thanks to another call—God’s clear call to Virginia—lives are being changed daily for all of eternity!

TELLING THE STORY

Life in South Africa



Anna, above and left, with a group of neighborhood kids on the evening we first met them.

The people of South Africa have a phrase—roughly translated, “swallow your liver”—which means to man up and do something you’re afraid to do. On a bright Tuesday morning this past May, I stood looking out at several hundred eager faces and reflected that the description was apt. It felt as though my stomach and kidneys had joined my liver for a samba somewhere high in the back of my throat. Maybe that was why it was so hard to swallow.

It was the last day of a week-long vision trip to Diphagane (pronounced, Dee-pah-hah-nee) in the Limpopo province of South Africa, and I was about to address the entire student body of the local primary school. I was there to tell them the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. I had no idea why the Lord had led me to this particular story, but as I looked out at all of those kids, I caught sight of a familiar face. Abruptly, the choice of this story took on a sharp new significance. In the crowd was a teenager named Anna.

Our team had met Anna and her friends while prayerwalking early in the week. Later, they had come to visit us at the missionary house. I had been burdened with a need to share the Gospel, but I had felt uncomfortable and had let the opportunity pass.

Sunday evening, the kids had visited us again. We went with them to the top of a rocky hill in the middle of Diphagane. As we marched through the wild grass and scrambled over large rocks, I had prayed silently that the Lord would show Himself. I knew I had a mission, but I faced more than weeds and stones as obstacles. These kids spoke a different language, had a completely different worldview, and had almost no similar life experiences. How would I even begin to share something that would make an eternal difference in their lives?

At the crest of the hill, we sat down atop some house-sized boulders. From our perch up there, we had a fantastic view of the surrounding area. We talked about the vista, about the lives of local people, about the neighbors blasting their radio so loud the whole village could hear.

There was a river winding through the valley before us. Anna pointed to a place where it curved around the edge of the village and said, “That place is dangerous.”

“Why?” I wondered aloud.

She said that only a month before, two children her age had drowned there in treacherous eddy currents. I was thunderstruck. Then she told me how deeply it had impacted her.

I asked her if she believed in life after death. “No,” she said. I told her that my hope was in Jesus—that He could give life so that even when we died physically, we would have life in Him. She was noncommittal. I could almost feel her shrug, “I hope so.”

After that, the conversation turned to other things. The rest of the week, we hadn’t had any chances to follow up with her. But there she was, standing at a school assembly, waiting to hear what the Christian from America would say. God had chosen the story of Lazarus—a story of Jesus’ power to give life—for me to share that morning.

So I told them the story. I told them about Martha’s confession that Jesus was the Christ. I told them about how Lazarus was dead and came to life. I told them Jesus could do the same for us.

Did it change things for Anna? I don’t know. Months later and back here in the US, I’m still overwhelmed by the impossibility of the task before us. How can we communicate enough truth to overcome generations of darkness? How can boys and girls like Anna find hope in the face of a culture driven by fear and surrounded by so much death?

The simple answer is that we can’t. But the God who led me to tell the story of Lazarus to those kids—to Anna—is the same God who raised Lazarus. He’s a God who conquered death forever, and He can give these people life.

Anna’s name means “born again.” Pray that she and her people will be. They need the One who gives life—and so do we.

J.L.
Media Ministry



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/mobilizing
CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region’s missionary

TRAINING OTHERS TO SERVE

Mark Gauthier
Director of Mobilizing Churches



In the northwest Nicaraguan village of Somotilla, 15 pastors are gathered to receive training in theology and church management. They come from villages in the surrounding area, meeting monthly with pastors and mission team members from Bedrock Community Church in Bedford, VA. During their monthly meetings, the pastors meet for three consecutive days, five hours a day, receiving instruction in worship, theology, and leadership. The primary objective of this training is to equip men of God who will return home and lead the transformation of their villages by training others in the accurate teaching of the Word of God. The goal is to prepare Nicaraguans to serve Nicaraguans.



order to reach specific people groups and regions. Through the A18N, churches can learn about other churches and individuals that feel the Lord's calling to reach the same target people groups. They can meet each other, pray for each other, and pool their experience and resources for greater Kingdom impact.

More information about these opportunities is available through the Acts 1:8 Network.



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/a18n

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

In addition to theological training, agricultural training has been developed and brings local leaders together, teaching them how to improve farming techniques within the context of their local villages. This system teaches a family to survive on one-tenth of an acre of land and includes instructions for building a compost heap, keeping a small garden, and raising chickens and rabbits. Once an individual completes the agricultural training, he is empowered to go back to his home village and train others. Currently, 20 individuals are participating in the agricultural training at a farm located near Somotilla. In July 2011, a mission team from Oasis Church in Amherst, VA spent a week working at this farm training locals.

The pastoral and agricultural training can be reproduced both in and out of Nicaragua by other churches that may be interested. Please pray for these ministries as the theological training continues to be developed and for the resources necessary to build and distribute the supplies for the agricultural program.

Currently, there are more than 12 SBCV churches working in Nicaragua that form the Nicaragua Acts 1:8 Network (A18N). If your church is working there or feels God's calling to begin work there, consider joining the network.

The A18N is a missions-oriented ministry of the SBC of Virginia. It connects churches and individuals in

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STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

CHURCH LENDS A HAND

Several years ago, Faith Bible Church in Harrisonburg was at a desperate point in its history. Attendance had dropped to under 50, down from hundreds. Members were scattering. Spirits were low, and hearts were breaking as they crumbled under a debt far beyond their ability to pay. They were without a lead pastor and had no hope of securing one, given their greatly reduced tithes and offerings. For a while, the only seemingly viable option was to sell the property and land, but a huge debt on an incomplete shell building would have limited its marketability. The church prayed and worked, but it didn't appear relief was on the way.

Finally, in the spring of 2009, they approached Calvary Baptist Church in Staunton and Pastor Randy Spencer to see if they could assist. Would Calvary's members be willing to send a pastor to preach at Faith, less than 30 minutes from their own location? Calvary and Pastor Randy were more than willing. They jumped in feet first, offering their time, their talent, and yes, their treasure to assist Faith Bible Church to once again become a vibrant ministry.

When Calvary came alongside Faith Bible Church, it was necessary for the Harrisonburg church to suspend its constitution and bylaws as Calvary took the incredible steps to provide leadership and ministry for the disheartened congregation. The deacons and leadership of Calvary invested their time to selflessly minister to and serve the Faith Bible Church family.

In addition to investing time, Calvary Baptist Church generously shared their talent and made accommodations to do so. They changed the Sunday morning service time to

10:00 AM to allow the pastor and minister of music to serve in two locations. As soon as the worship music was completed, the musicians and singers jumped in a van and headed the 30 minutes up the road to Faith to begin the service there. Pastor Randy did the same as soon as he'd finish preaching at Calvary.

One of the most critical resources Calvary provided was that of their treasure. When things were going well, Faith Bible had begun construction on a 30,000-square-foot multi-use facility. While it was being built,

the church experienced some difficult circumstances, which limited their ability to complete the project. The new facility then sat vacant as the then small church family continued to make incredible monthly mortgage payments. They were

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

paying on something they could not use but neither could they gather the funding to complete any part of the building to make it usable. The strength of Calvary allowed Faith to refinance their debt, freeing up funds for staff, ministry, and cooperative giving.

Over the two-and-a-half years since Calvary began helping Faith, God has done an amazing work! Faith Bible Church has a new name, a new attitude, a new pastor, a new building, and a new hope for the future. When driving along Highway 11 south of Harrisonburg, you can see the sign for Calvary Crosslink.

This newly named church welcomed Pastor John Welborn in October of 2009, and they've already witnessed many victories. The most significant was Resurrection Sunday 2011 when 440 people showed up and seven came to faith in Jesus Christ! In addition, the church happily dedicated 13,000 square feet of its 30,000-square-foot multi-use building in June 2011. The once-vacant space is now being used for God's glory. Pastor John from Calvary Crosslink and Pastor Randy from Calvary Baptist maintain the churches' bond and share a mentoring relationship. Faith Bible Church (now Calvary Crosslink) just needed, explains Pastor Randy, "the strong leadership of a mother church—a church with reproduction in its makeup, willing to provide a support system to a congregation that needed assistance in building confidence in leadership."

It's hard to believe that this growing congregation consisted of just 50 people a few short years ago. Pastor John is casting the vision for Calvary Crosslink's slogan, "Impact the Valley and Bless the Nations," to become not just a slogan but a reality.



In addition to assisting Calvary Crosslink, Calvary BC has already started a new church (Engaged) on its Staunton campus. Engaged will venture off the property when it reaches around 100 in regular attendance.



RESOURCE

WEBSITES

Calvary Crosslink: calvarycrosslink.org
Calvary Staunton: cbcstaunton.org

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary



STUDENT NETWORKS

and the missional church

Steve Maltempi
Student Ministry Strategist

It appears we are living in a time when God is working to adapt church structure and our understanding of missions. It seems He's also changing the way Student Ministry is expressed missionally in communities—now more than ever, student ministers are networking together for the Kingdom.

What is a missional Student Ministry? While there are many definitions, a common element is that a missional Student Ministry engages its community with the intent of being a blessing. It looks for ways to connect with the world beyond the walls of the church's real estate and programs. It finds its expression through service, not more "services." It networks with other churches, which allows it to "be" the church not just *in* the community, but *for* the community. This type of dynamic ministry advocates for cross-domain (territory/congregation) collaboration with other student ministers, groups, and churches in the community. Such collaboration enables the church to begin to address challenging issues that threaten the welfare (spiritually and otherwise) of students.

Many churches are crossing into the missional field through community events led by a network of Student Ministries. It seems we are entering into a post-congregational era. Put another way, churches are finding ways to be present in populations of students who are not likely to become "church" people (their spiritual journeys aren't dependent on the goals and rhythms of an organized congregational church). There have always been many great reasons to network, but the added benefit is that it helps churches be more missional! This perspective leads to lives coming to know Christ, communities being changed, revivals occurring, and movements of the Holy Spirit taking place!

In June 2011, several Student Ministries joined together to be missional in and for the communities of south Chesterfield County and Colonial Heights. The following churches networked to host a youth event called Thirst: Ironbridge Baptist Church (Chris Palmer, student pastor), Colonial Heights Baptist Church (Jerry Witte, high school pastor; Andy Huff, middle school

pastor), Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (Joe Mayes, student pastor), and Smyrna Baptist Church (Sweh Velilla, student pastor).

Jerry Witte, Colonial Heights BC — On networking with other youth pastors and what it meant to him personally:

Coming together with other youth pastors in my area for an event like this has been a huge blessing to me. First, I was encouraged to see other youth pastors with the same passion for Student Ministry I have and to share ideas with each other about how best to reach our community of students. Secondly, getting to know each youth pastor gave me the opportunity to see how God has worked in their lives. We all come from different areas of the country, and it was great hearing how God led each of us to Virginia. Thirdly, we all become friends while planning Thirst together. I feel our Thirst event really gave each of us a bigger vision of reaching students in our community, not just the students who come to our church.

On Thirst's impact on the students:

Our students really enjoyed the change of pace and appreciated having the opportunity to meet students from other churches. Each evening, I saw our students talking to and hanging out with students from other churches and enjoying the fellowship.

In my ministry alone, we have students in 20+ schools. By hosting joint events with other area churches, my students have a better opportunity to meet other believers who may not attend their church but attend their school. My hope is that no matter which school they attend, students will feel connected to other believers they meet at events like this one...and that through that connection, they will be encouraged that they are not alone in their schools and community in their efforts to live for Christ.

Joe Mayes, Mount Pleasant BC — On networking with other youth pastors and what it meant to him personally:

It's great to be able to get together with like-minded youth pastors who are more concerned with impacting students for the Gospel than making their specific group bigger. This is what I believe we saw in the early Church in Acts—people coming together for one common purpose—the glory of God. The more churches get together like this, the better impact we can make in our communities because we become one church and not a bunch of churches working against each other. This meant a lot to me personally [because] we are all in this journey together and we want to impact the lives of the students around us.

On Thirst's impact on the students:

Our students have responded with much joy. Seeing other students praising and worshipping God has given them excitement knowing there are more students on the same journey that they are. This has been a wonderful experience, and I pray that we see the entire state of Virginia and the SBCV continue to do these types of events. God bless.



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/studentz

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary



THE NEW FACE OF WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Tammy Bennett
Women's Ministry Strategist

The face of the SBC of Virginia's Women's Ministry is changing. Considering the size of the state and the ever-increasing number of churches being added to the convention, there is a need for a Women's Ministry representative in each of the five regions. The following ladies will serve as your Women's Ministry Team:

Sylvia FREJD (North)
Tammy BENNETT (Central-East)
Teena PAXTON (Southwest)
Teresa SOURS (Central-West)
Sandy FORD (Southeast)



Aside from the statewide strategist, these ladies will not be on SBCV's payroll. Although they will receive an honorarium, they are serving out of a selfless heart to see Women's Ministries flourish throughout Virginia and beyond.

The team recently got together to discuss the future of Women's Ministries and how to better engage, equip, and encourage girls of all ages to live as godly examples in Christ. After opening the strategizing session in prayer, the gals commenced with introductions.

From the North Region: Dr. Sylvia Frejd was born and raised in South Africa and currently serves as the director of Heartbeat Ministries, which offers counseling and coaching from a biblical perspective. Sylvia has been involved with Women's Ministry for more than 26 years, leading Bible studies, worship, and women's conferences. She enjoys playing the piano, knitting, shopping, and making jewelry. Sylvia is an accomplished speaker, and her spiritual gifts include leadership, encouragement, and exhortation. She is married to Russ and together they have three children. Sylvia Frejd makes her church home at Spotswood Baptist Church in Fredericksburg. When asked what her greatest life lesson is thus far, she responded, "God is my Rock—my only true security." You may contact Sylvia at WomensMinistryN@sbcv.org.

From the Central-East Region: The SBCV Women's Ministry strategist, Tammy Bennett, will also serve as the regional representative for the Central-East Region. Tammy is the founder of MakeOver Ministries, which encourages gals to look

good from the inside out and be super (role) models for Christ. As a makeover consultant, author, and international speaker,

Tammy teaches girls of all ages how to make the most of what they've been given—both body and soul. Tammy's motto is, "Be all that you can be from the inside out." Tammy and her husband Ed reside in Richmond and are part of Grove Avenue Baptist Church. They have two adult children and a very "blond" lab named Bailey. Tammy is addicted to coffee, cheesecake, and shoes. She also loves spending time with family

and friends. You may contact Tammy at tbennnett@sbcv.org or WomensMinistryCE@sbcv.org.

From the Southwest Region: A pastor's wife of 36 years, Teena Paxton is a mother of three, a grandmother of four, and is presently serving as Women's Ministry coordinator at Rosedale Baptist Church, where her husband Don is the senior pastor. Teena is a gifted organizer, teacher, and speaker and is the founder of D.E.A.P.'n M.E. Ministries, which inspires Discipleship, Evangelism, Accountability, Prayer, Missions, and Encouragement. Teena's vision and passion is "to be an encourager and mentor" to women of all ages. She has traveled the Western Hemisphere on short-term mission trips and has a passion for Deaf Ministry. Teena is a registered nurse and has had training in sign language. She loves to cook, sew, sign songs, and go on adventures with her hubby, grandchildren, and dog Ulesies. You may contact Teena at WomensMinistrySW@sbcv.org.

From the Central-West Region: Teresa Sours was born and raised in Love, VA and still lives just a short distance down the road from where she grew up. Teresa is a lay counselor and uses her own past traumatic grief to minister to others in the areas of sexual abuse, miscarriage, terminal illness, and untimely death. She is

a breast cancer survivor and, through it all, has gained deeper insight and understanding into God's grace, redemption, and miraculous healing. Teresa has been married to her high school sweetheart for 24 years, and together they have a grown daughter (and a new son-in-law) and a son who passed away at the age of six. Teresa has spent the last 20 years teaching Bible studies and equipping women in the areas of ministry and mentoring through the Titus Women's Program she started at her church. Her best advice is, "If you have to err, err on the side of grace." She is currently on staff at Wayne Hills Baptist Church and enjoys reading non-fiction, sitting at the beach, and casual conversation over a "venti" cup of Starbucks coffee. You may contact Teresa at WomensMinistryCW@sbcv.org.

From the Southeast Region: Sandy Ford, the pastor's wife at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Gloucester, has been involved in Women's Ministry for over 27 years. Over those years, God has given her a mission "to help women walk in freedom, knowing they are loved and valued by God." This year, Sandy and her husband Richard will celebrate 35 years of marriage. Her best marriage advice is, "Always build up your husband. Be his support and make your home a place he wants to come home to." Sandy and Richard have raised three daughters together and are grandparents to five grandchildren. When Sandy is not busy teaching Bible studies or speaking at conferences, she loves to read, hang out with her family, and spoil her grandkids. You may contact Sandy at WomensMinistrySE@sbcv.org.



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/mens_and_womens_ministries

FACEBOOK SBCV Women's Ministries

Titus 2 Model

These regional reps are poised and ready to serve Women's Ministries within their appointed regions and beyond. Their shared goal is simple: "We collectively desire to exemplify the Titus 2 model—women of all ages mentoring women of all ages."

In the same way, older women are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not addicted to much wine. They are to teach what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands and children, to be sensible, pure, good homemakers, and submissive to their husbands, so that God's message will not be slandered. — Titus 2:3-5 (HCSB)

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**ANNUAL
HOMECOMING 2011
NOVEMBER 13-15**

Transforming CHURCHES



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RICHMOND

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Two different groups, MESSENGERS AND GUESTS, attend the Annual Homecoming of the SBC of Virginia:

MESSENGERS are selected by SBCV affiliated churches to represent their churches at the Annual Homecoming. They may vote, make motions, speak to motions, propose/make resolutions, and hold office within the SBC of Virginia. Each church affiliated with the SBCV may send at least two messengers. A church may send up to fifteen messengers based on the amount of Cooperative Program giving in the most recent twelve-month period. Each messenger must be a member in good standing with his/her church.

GUESTS are also welcome to attend the Annual Homecoming of the SBC of Virginia. They may attend the general sessions, participate in worship, attend luncheons, and enjoy the display area. Guests are welcome to stay during all business sessions, but they cannot vote, make motions, speak to motions, make resolutions, or be nominated for office. If space is limited, messengers will be given seating priority over guests, but otherwise, there is no limit to how many guests may attend. All interested parties are welcome!

TOP ROW:
Herb Reavis Jr.
Kevin Ezell

BOTTOM ROW:
Mark Becton
Tom Elliff
Stephen Rummage



SCHEDULE

Nov. 13, 2011

Sunday Evening, 6:30 – 8:45 PM

This session includes:

- Praise & worship and special music led by Grove Avenue BC choir and praise team
- Special music by No Other Name
- **President's message: Dr. Mark Becton**

Nov. 14, 2011

Monday Morning, 9:00 – 11:45 AM

This session includes:

- Praise & worship led by the Convention Praise Team
- Recognition of seminaries
- Breakout seminar 1 (9:15 – 10:15)
- Breakout seminar 2 (10:30 – 11:30)

11:45 AM

Seminary luncheons (reservations/tickets required) or lunch on your own

Monday Afternoon, 1:30 – 4:45 PM

This session includes:

- Special music by No Other Name
- Praise & worship led by the Convention Praise Team
- Call to order:
 - » Introduction of business and reports
 - » Approval of 2010 Annual Homecoming minutes
 - » Executive Director's and Treasurer's Reports
 - » Special recognition: The Nehemiah Awards for Service
 - » Executive Board Recommendations
 1. Affiliation Requests
 2. Ministry Investment Plan
 3. Nominating Committee Report
- The Macedonia Awards for Cooperative Program Giving
- State Ministry Report, **Mobilizing Churches**
- **Message: Dr. Stephen Rummage**

5:00 PM

Dinner on your own
Church Planter Dinner (by invitation only)

Monday Evening, 6:45 – 7:30 PM

This session includes:

- Special music by No Other Name
- Praise & worship led by the Convention Praise Team
- Special music by combined church choirs and the Convention Praise Team
- Focus on international missions
- The session will adjourn at 7:30 PM.

7:30 PM

International Mission Board's installation of its new president, Dr. Tom Elliff

Nov. 15, 2011

Tuesday Morning, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

This session includes:

- Praise & worship led by the Convention Praise Team
- Special music by No Other Name
- Call to order:
 - » Executive Board Report
 - » Resolutions Committee Report
- SBCV partner reports:
 - » LifeWay Christian Resources
 - » GuideStone Financial Resources
 - » The Baptist Banner
 - » SBC Executive Committee
 - » Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission
 - » North American Mission Board
- State Ministry Report, **Multiplying Churches**
- Eagle Awards
- **Message: Dr. Kevin Ezell**

12:00 PM

Fellowship Lunch (tickets required)

Tuesday Afternoon, 1:25 – 4:30 PM

This session includes:

- Praise & worship led by the Convention Praise Team
- Special music by No Other Name
- Call to order:
 - » Unfinished business
 - » Election of officers
- The Pentecost Awards for Baptisms
- State Ministry Report, **Maturing Churches**
- Women's Ministry Highlights
- Student Ministry Highlights
- **Message: Dr. Herb Reavis Jr.**

Fellowship Lunch

Lunch lines will form in the lobby based on your pre-order (\$9/person or \$12/person for Women's Ministry meal).

Seating will be available in rooms 105, 205, 166/167, and the café. Specific tables will be reserved for the following affinity groups:

Preschool and Children's Ministry
God's Plan for Sharing
Ministers of Education
Ministers of Music & Worship
Ministers of Media
Missions Leaders
Church Planters
Student Ministry
Women's Ministry
All Other Guests and Messengers

NO OTHER NAME



For information or to register:
sbcv.org/events



LAUNCHING OUT

Darrell Webb
Church Health Strategist, North Region



Stafford Baptist praying over Jessup family

While prayerwalking the streets of Reykjavik, Iceland, in 2005, God called Pastor Bill Jessup to lead his Stafford Baptist Church congregation to go on mission to this unevangelized European island—specifically the University of Iceland. Bill wasn't sure what plans God had in store, but he obeyed and led his church of approximately 200 people to “launch out into the deep” with God and believe that He would do far more than they could ever think or imagine.

When Pastor Bill came to lead this Northern Virginia church 12 years ago, he challenged the congregation to embrace the “nevertheless” principle of

Luke 5, where Jesus told Peter to “launch out into the deep” with the nets. Although he'd had no success all day, Peter replied, “nevertheless at Your word” and obeyed... and the Lord blessed.

“I want to be so far out in the deep,” says Jessup, “that if God removes His hand, we will sink.” Stafford Baptist Church has truly embraced that vision, partnering with the SBC of Virginia and the International Mission Board (IMB) to help plant five churches in Northern Virginia, two in Ukraine, one in Russia, and one in Romania.

In 2005, Stafford and two of the church plants it helped start (Pillar Church and The Church at Quantico) launched out to embrace the country of Iceland where, to that point, there had not been an IMB missions presence. Since they began serving there, they've discovered that only 1% or less of Icelanders profess to be born-again Christians. The church plants' staff (Clint Clifton, Colby Garman, and their families) have rotated years of missions service in Reykjavik, and God has given them specific favor at the University of Iceland. “In a brief period of time,” marvels Pastor Bill, “God has allowed Stafford and two of its church plants to see miraculous works in a place where it is difficult to share the Gospel.” He has used them to produce some amazing results.

After the Garmans returned from two years on mission in Iceland because their daughter needed heart surgery, the question became, “Who will go in their place to continue the work?” That was when God birthed in Pastor Bill Jessup and his family the call to leave their long-

tenured ministry at Stafford and “launch out into the deep” to carry on the mission in Iceland for the next three years. The Jessups' response to God was, “nevertheless at Your word,” we will go (Luke 5:5).

The IMB has been developing a new hybrid partnership model where churches will work alongside the IMB to send missionaries. The Jessups will be going to Iceland with this new paradigm. Pastor Bill explains, “the IMB will provide training, housing, and work-related expenses within the area and [will connect us with] ongoing cluster and affinity meetings. Stafford Baptist Church will provide our daily living expenses.”

The Jessups have recently been commissioned as IMB missionaries and are eager to start their new work in Iceland. “Our focus,” shares Bill, “is to minister where God has given us favor—the university. Our desire is to reach, teach, equip, and send church planters throughout the country.”

FACTS

- Over 35 people have gone on mission to Iceland
- Stafford Baptist, Pillar Church, and The Church at Quantico encouraged a new evangelical church plant; an English-speaking service that has touched at least six countries; and several other Great Commission missionaries in the area
- Hundreds of Icelanders have heard the Gospel
- Multiple home Bible studies have been conducted
- Two Icelanders have received salvation
- A number of Icelanders have gained a burden to share Christ with their fellow countrymen
- Four additional churches and a university group helped minister in Iceland



RESOURCE

WEBSITE pillarchurchsbc.com

CONTACTS Stafford Baptist Church, 540-659-7517 | Clint Clifton, clint@pillarchurchsbc.com | Colby Garman, colby@pillarchurchsbc.com

PLEASE PRAY for the Jessups as they prepare to go to Iceland.

CONSIDER partnering with the Jessups to reach Reykjavik, Iceland, with the Gospel.

CHIEF'S KIDS

GOING WHERE THEY ARE

Gary Horton
Church Health Strategist, Southwest Region

Is it better to take people out of their own environment to teach them or is it better to go to where they are? This is a question Pastor Bill Houck had to address as he and members of NorthStar Baptist Church in Bristol prayed about partnering with the chief of police.

The chief was looking for someone to invest in the lives of children in some of the poorest housing projects in town. As the Holy Spirit led, NorthStar and the chief developed a program called Chief's Kids to introduce children to five truths each week: Christ, Character, Community, Citizenship, and Challenge. The church felt it would be better for the kids to learn in their own environment rather than being bussed to NorthStar, so volunteers go to where they are. Since Chief's Kids typically meets in the laundry area of the apartment complexes, older youth and adults are also affected as they see the group, notice the love expressed by the church members, and hear God's Word.



Bible study is an important part of each week's session, and Christ's love exhibited through the workers is having an impact—boys and girls are giving their lives to Him. Volunteers also help the children with their homework and challenge them to work towards the A/B honor roll. The children earn "Coalition Cash" each week as they wear their uniforms, have perfect attendance the past week in school, and do community projects. They can spend it on backpacks and back-to-school items in the fall and at a Christmas store in December. Chick-fil-A meal cards provide added incentives for perfect attendance and the honor roll.

Started in the fall of 2007, this ministry continues to grow each year. At the time of this writing, Chief's Kids meets in three locations every week. "The children," says Pastor Bill, "have grown and developed into successful young

boys and girls as they've learned what it means to be a part of their community and to be good citizens," which will change their future for the better. "They are also learning a more important lesson—the love of Christ."

Pastor Bill and members of NorthStar are praying for God to use the ministry He has given them to help boys and girls come to Christ. Are you willing to go into your community to impact lives for Christ?



RESOURCE

WEBSITES

northstarbristol.org
sbcv.org/maturing

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

CONSIDER Are you willing to go into your community to impact lives for Christ?

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 - Timber Ridge Baptist Church, Bedford
 - Monumental Baptist Church, Petersburg
 - Ramoth Baptist Church, Stafford
- April 21
 - Bethel Baptist Church, Yorktown
 - Christiansburg Baptist Church, Christiansburg
 - Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox
 - Emmanuel Baptist Church, Manassas
- April 28
 - River Oak Baptist Church, Chesapeake
 - Woodlawn Baptist Church, Danville
 - Staples Mill Road Baptist Church, Glen Allen
 - Northside Baptist Church, Charlottesville

www.sbcv.org



WHAT THIS OLD PREACHER LEARNED AT (REGIONAL CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK)

As the church health strategist for the Central-East Region, I have the privilege of attending regional Church Planter Networks (CPNs) coordinated by my partner in ministry and colleague, Ron Kidd (Central-East church planting strategist). There is something about these meetings that I look forward to. For one thing, I feel younger just by being around these fine church planters. But secondly, there is a great deal that this old pastor can learn from the vibrant new generation of church leadership.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE BUILDING

Although many church planters would love to get beyond the setup and take-down of a portable church, those who have acquired buildings wrestle with “church” becoming routine, stagnant, or just a tradition, and some are concerned with the sense of confinement that four walls often bring. Not having a permanent building frees many church plants to live among, work alongside, love, and serve their community.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE CLOTHING

While it is difficult for me not to wear a coat and tie to church, I know it is not about the clothing. After all, we would rather have someone join us for worship than not, regardless of his/her attire. And to be honest, just as it is custom when traveling abroad to wear native clothing to worship, why isn't it appropriate to wear what our communities are wearing (taking modesty into account, of course)?

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MUSIC

This old geezer has to get past my preference for music and pray the Lord will use all styles to reach people for Him. If that means not singing all four stanzas, a choral anthem, and the doxology, then so be it. If that means having a praise team lead the worshipers—which, by the

way, is a large choir—then so be it. But I must admit, I get excited when a hymn or a praise chorus that is straight from Scripture is used in the mix, or should I say “remix”?

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY

Church planters rely on the financial support of sponsoring churches and SBCV churches that give through the Cooperative Program. Offerings help offset ministry expenses, space rental, etc.... For most planters—out of necessity and because of their intentional strategy—are bi-vocational.

IT'S ABOUT JESUS

Since it is not about a building, clothing, music, money or, for that matter, programs or traditions—the very things that can distract us from doing ministry—for church plants, it's all about Jesus: knowing Him, sharing Him, and serving Him. If they want to grow a church, they have to be evangelistic. It is not an option for them. They preach, talk, and live Jesus.

IT'S ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

What I have discovered among church planters is that they are willing to meet people where they are—the street, the marketplace, the schools. You name it, they are there. They are a vital part of and a contributing factor to their communities. In some regard, these relationships often earn them the privilege to share with people about the most important relationship in their life—their relationship with Christ. Let me also pause here to say a couple more things about relationships. Church plants are literally like New Testament churches that break bread together from house to house, have all in common, sell their goods to feed the poor, meet one another's needs, rejoice, and weep with each other. They live and do life together in community. They are accountable to each other. Speaking of accountability, church planters desire and seek out mentoring relationships with other church planters and with seasoned pastors who have “been there and done that.”

IT'S ABOUT WORSHIP

Church planters take seriously the ingathering of people for worship, and they prepare all of the details—from a warm greeting to welcome attendees; to upbeat and meaningful music; to the creative presentation of God's Word; to life-changing response and counsel; to follow-up.

Let's connect.

Statewide CPN is a chance to meet church planters.

Upcoming statewide CPNs:

- ☉ Thursday, February 23, 2012
- ☉ Thursday, April 26, 2012

Both will be at Staples Mill Road Baptist Church in Glen Allen.

sbcv.org/multipling



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/multipling

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

THE CPN

Steve Bradshaw
Church Health Strategist, Central-East Region

IT'S ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP

While the primary focus of the gathering each week is worship and the message's focus evangelism and discipleship, church plants place great emphasis on the value of small groups. These groups meet throughout the week in homes, coffee shops, restaurants, and the workplace. It's not my typical Sunday School hour, but hey—it's about growing people in stronger, richer, and deeper relationships with Jesus and each other.

IT'S ABOUT SERVICE

Church plants take to heart "being doers of the Word and not hearers only." As a matter of fact, in many cases, church plants are recognized by local governments, schools, and emergency response agencies as contributing organizations in their communities. Why? Because they are so service oriented. They see a need and, with God's help, are resourceful enough to meet it.

Now I know it is difficult to teach an old dog new tricks, but I have to tell you, this old dog learned some valuable ministry lessons at the CPN, and the Lord reminded me of some others that I learned from being in the pastorate.

BTW...

If you are reading this article from the hard-copy magazine, more than likely you are getting older like me. Otherwise, you would have read it online; heard about it on Facebook, a blog, or Twitter; or clicked on the QR Code on your smartphone to download it.



in our mailbox...

HELP WAS ON THE WAY

DISASTER RELIEF—LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

from Melody Keegan

Vestal, NY



To all those Liberty students who came to Binghamton, NY:

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

People here are so devastated, not just by their physical loss but by the enormity of the clean up and recovery!!! I am very blessed to have no flood damage in my home although I live less than 1 mile from the river. However that is not the case for many of my church family and my co-workers. Those of us who are not effected have been trying to help with the clean up since we have been allowed back in to the flooded areas. However, we are still required to go to our everyday jobs, so trying to help our community when we must also work a 40 to 50 hour a week job becomes very difficult. As my husband and I removed people's belongings, tried to clean and disinfect what we could, haul out wet stinky wall board and flooring etc. etc., I kept wondering, "When will help come? Samaritan's Purse came in 2005, when will they show up. This is worse than 2005!!"

Then I went on the Liberty website as my son is a student there and I saw that help was on the way in the form of young able enthusiastic college students. Praise Jesus! Today I saw the photos both on the Liberty website and also on your website. It was such an encouragement to see them hard at work and "loving" on people who had no hope.

Please tell them thank you so much for their time, energy and sacrifice!!!





STUDENTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

MISSIONS TRACK 2011

Larry Black
Church Planting Strategist, Central-West Region



CONSIDER

- 17** participating churches
- 354** students and leaders
- 1,416** hours of missions service to **3** communities
- 1** new field of ministry evaluated for a new church
- 2** new churches assisted with their community outreach
- 3** public schools helped (they had requested assistance with mulching and outside cleanup)
- 4** backyard Bible clubs
- More than **1,500** homes surveyed
- An estimated **6,000** warm greetings, assistance with groceries, and gifts being given at supermarkets

What incredible numbers that came as a result of the Missions Track option at the SBC of Virginia's Studentz Camp, July 11 – 15, 2011! As noted in the sidebar, 17 church groups of 354 students and leaders chose to spend part of each day at camp on mission for Christ. The Missions Track component of camp is designed for students to experience hands-on missions and, at the same time, help start new churches and assist with penetrating communities with the Gospel. These staggering statistics don't even begin to tell the story of all that God did through Missions Track that week. Student groups from around the state made a difference and were changed in the process!



One example is Mount Lebanon Baptist Church from Boston, VA. Although he's worked with students for a number of years, student pastor Jon Morton was uncertain about the abilities of his middle school group. How would they handle doing community surveys, knocking on doors, and asking questions? In addition to that, how would they do being stationed in front of a major supercenter to hand out cold water on the hottest day of the year and ask for three minutes of people's time to conduct a survey? He was about to be surprised.

His church's middle school students set up the display and, with disarming kindness, smiled and greeted more than 2,000 people; conducted a large volume of surveys; carried groceries; cleaned the parking lot; removed shopping carts; and gained a "well-done" by the store's management. But the surprises didn't stop there! On day three of field work, they volunteered to go to a public elementary school (at the request of the superintendent's office) and landscaped the front of the school. The end result (take note, parents) was what looked like a professional job—shrubs trimmed, weeds removed, and five yards of mulch spread.

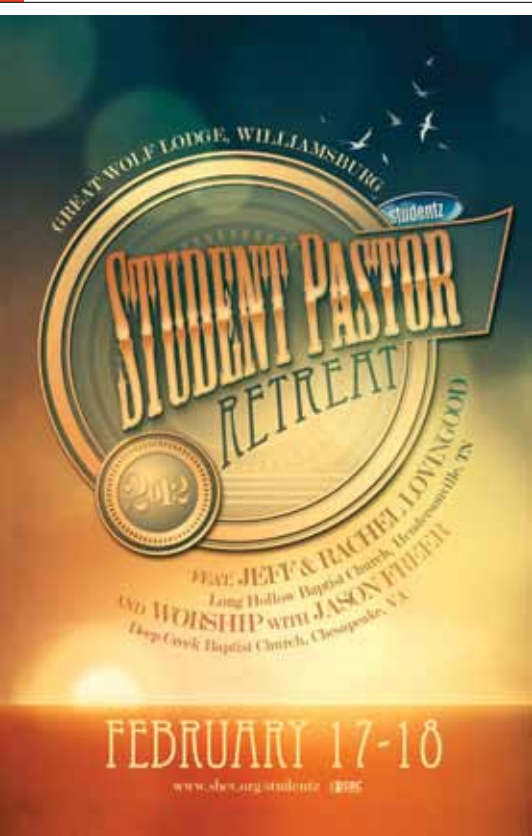
Students can make a difference. They just need to be given the opportunity. The Mount Lebanon Baptist Church middle school group proved that they are difference-makers and that there is no limit to what they can do for the Lord.



RESOURCE

WEBSITE For 2012 Studentz Camp information, go to sbcv.org/studentz

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary





BLANKETS, BLANKETS, & MORE BLANKETS!

Sue Sawyer
Associate Church
Mobilization Strategist,
Projects

The need was made known, and the blanket brigade went to work. You wouldn't believe how many blankets we received at the SBCV office! All were in response to the March/April Hands-on Mission Opportunity—supplying blankets for the new Disaster Relief (DR) childcare trailer.

The SBCV DR Ministry recognized the need for a way to minister specifically to children in the wake of disasters. Such traumatic events deeply impact the children affected. They often lose everything they own. While their parents are dealing with the details of those losses, there is a need for childcare services. The new unit will be well-equipped with everything needed to reach out and minister to children. It will be a place where they can go and have fun with other children. Leaders will be trained to minister to their needs and interact with them.

In preparation for this new unit, we recognized the need for a stockpile of blankets. A “blankie,” as many young children call it, offers a sense of comfort and security, and we wanted to be able to give one to each child who visits the trailer.

Once the need was announced, SBCV church members all across

the state went to work knitting, crocheting, quilting, fleece-tying, and purchasing blankets. When the blankets started arriving at the SBCV office, they just kept coming and coming until we had over 3,000 blankets—some of the cutest, most creative that I have ever seen. It was such fun opening every box and bag and imaging the smiles that will be on the children's faces when they receive them. Thank you, thank you! Thank you



to all who participated in this project.

Many thanks also to the women at Swift Creek Baptist Church in Midlothian who sewed labels on each blanket and prepared them to go on the trailer. Each blanket has a label on it that reads: “To a very special person. This prayer blanket is an expression of God's love for you. We pray that it will bring you comfort. When life gets tough, wrap yourself in it and remember you are loved. ‘Casting all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you’. 1 Peter 5:7 Your Friends at SBC of Virginia Churches”

I am not sure why, after all these years, I still stand amazed at the generosity of the churches that are part of the SBCV. You have once again given “beyond measure” to help those in need. Thank you!



You can reach the world from your hometown by sharing Christ through teaching English.

Upcoming ESL Training Dates:

- Jan 12 – 14, 2012 | Pillar Church
- Mar 1 – 3, 2012 | Brambleton Baptist Church
- May 3 – 5, 2012 | Fishersville Baptist Church

sbcv.org/mobilizing



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/mobilizing

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary



Pastor Ken and Beth Nienke

MULTI-SITING—A CALLING AND

Some of the most exciting days of a new church are the first few years when the church thrives on a sense of calling and adventure—a calling to reach a new group of people and a sense of adventure, being fully dependent on God. Fellowship Community Church (FCC) in Salem, pastored by Ken Nienke, recently relived those early years of calling and adventure by starting a second location just 9 miles away in the Hollins community of Roanoke. Doing so has allowed a new group of people to become fully engaged in Kingdom work.

In 2010, 35 families from the Salem location decided to be a part of the new fellowship being developed in Hollins. These families were given the opportunity to replicate what God was already doing at the Salem Campus. They knew that the North Campus would be a great place for the DNA of their church to foster and bring people to Christ. “Many who were not engaged in leadership positions at the Salem Campus have blossomed as leaders,” shares Pastor Ken. For

him, there is a sense of victory in “seeing our families in the North Roanoke and Botetourt area reach their neighbors and friends for Christ.”

The John and Shelly Obenshain family had the opportunity to use the new campus as an excuse-remover for their neighbor, Anna Lee Jones. The Hollins location eliminated her excuses of distance and time by bringing the church closer to home.

MEET Shelly Obenshain

In the summer of 2005, I was very excited to have a new neighbor. Anna Lee had a little boy who was near the same age as my youngest, so I introduced myself and hoped to build a relationship. Nothing seemed to come of it, but the following spring, I invited her to come to Community Celebration Day, as did her co-worker, Pete Tingler. I was very happy to see her there and was positive that she would surely visit FCC Salem Campus soon after. Let's just say I was a bit disappointed!

Every now and again, I'd mention FCC and the exciting things that were happening just to keep the invitation open to her. In the fall of 2007, our boys went to preschool together, so I was

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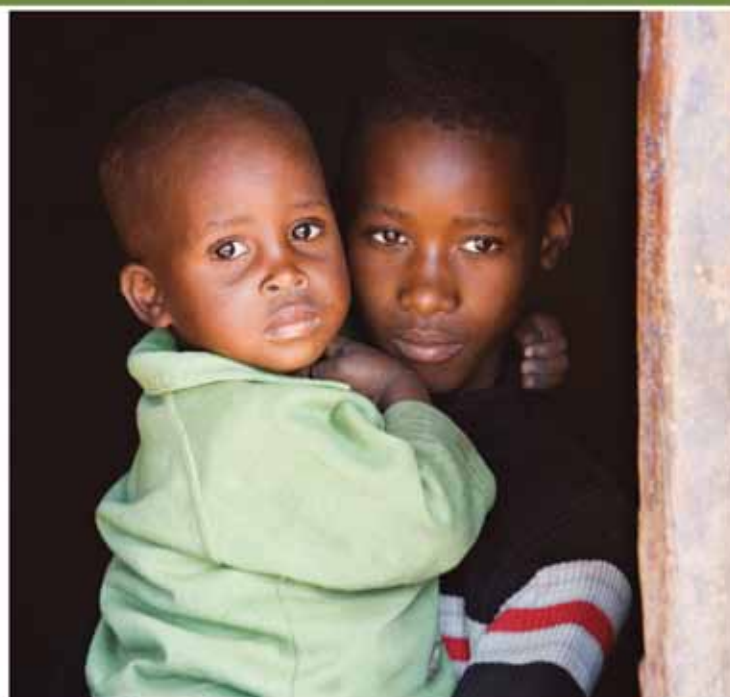
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ID ADVENTURE

Jack Noble
Church Health Strategist, Central-West Region

able to spend more time getting to know Anna Lee, and I just knew she needed to be here with us! Time passed, and I continued the mentioning.

By late 2009, [my husband and I] followed God's leading to help with our new campus. When I told her about this and [how] we were praying to have something in the Hollins area, she said she might check it out. I was skeptical but hopeful and prayerful. God had impressed on my heart to trust Him and to not give up on her.

Through many messages and life group studies, I knew that the mission field does not [necessarily] mean we have to travel abroad—it can begin right in our very own homes and overflow into our neighborhoods. I like to think of it as a ripple effect! As we prepared for our launch date, she kept telling me she'd be there.

"And now the rest of the story..." as Paul Harvey would say.

MEET Anna Lee Jones

I knew I needed to be a part of a church; however, I had some reservations about actually going to a church. For example, I didn't want to have to get up early; I didn't want to have to get dressed up; I didn't want to have to drive far; and I didn't want to walk into a church where I didn't know anyone and feel like an outsider. My friend and neighbor, Shelly Obenshain, had been after me to attend FCC Salem Campus for years to "just go to one service and see what you think."

When they decided to open a North Campus location in the fall of 2010 and she told me that the service didn't start until 10:45, I could wear jeans and flip flops if I wanted to, and she would sit with me... what could I say? Every excuse I had given myself, I couldn't use anymore. The church location was literally about seven minutes from my house; I could still sleep in if I wanted to; I could sit with John and Shelly; AND I could wear comfortable clothes! WOW! So, on September 12, 2010, I made the decision to see what FCC North Campus was all about. I was amazed from the time I pulled into the parking lot until I pulled out of the parking lot at how friendly and welcoming everyone was. The entire church congregation made my family feel at home. To be honest, I couldn't wait until the next Sunday.

One day last year, after attending FCC North Campus since day one, I realized it was time for me to let go and let God. I wanted to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior. This is something my family had been after me to do for some time, but it was important for me to wait until the time was right for me. On April 9, 2011, with my family on-hand and Pastor Ken by my side, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior, and it was the most amazing event. I honestly felt like a weight had been lifted off of my shoulders. Several weeks ago, my seven-year-old son, Connor, asked me about being baptized, and I wanted to make sure he wanted to be baptized for the right reasons and not just because he had seen me be baptized. He looked at me with all seriousness and stated that he wanted to learn more about Jesus and wanted to be friends with Him forever. Connor and I participated in the parent/child dedication service at the North Campus—this was another proud moment for my family.

Not only has FCC made a life-changing impact on me but also on my son and my parents. For that, I am eternally grateful. I have met some wonderful people through FCC, and I look forward to meeting many more. I am so thankful that Shelly never gave up on me.

The goal of multi-siting is exactly what the Obenshains were able to do for Anna Lee—incarnational ministry—having a presence among the people you are seeking to reach through dwelling in their context and telling them the Good News of the Kingdom. The North Campus serves as another step in FCC living out the calling and adventure of incarnational ministry. Through the lessons learned at this first multi-site, the church is already looking to multi-site in southwest Roanoke in 2013 and downtown at some point in the future.



Salem Campus



North Campus



The Acts 1:8 Network
helps churches and
individuals connect
for missions.



sbcv.org/a18n



RESOURCE

WEBSITE fcclife.org

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from
your region's missionary



visionvirginia calendar

NOVEMBER

- 11-12 Wildfire Men's Conference
- 13-15 SBCV Annual Homecoming
- 17 Serving Your Community Day

DECEMBER

- 4-11 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering & Week of Prayer

JANUARY 2012

- 12-14 ESL Regional Train-the-Trainer
- 13-14 YEC East
- 26 Regional Church Planter Network

FEBRUARY

- 11 Disaster Relief Training, Southeast Region
- 17-18 Student Pastor Retreat
- 23 Statewide Church Planter Network
- 25 Disaster Relief Training, Central-West Region

MARCH

- 1-3 ESL Regional Train-the-Trainer
- 2-3 Sunday School (Small Groups) Growth Conference with Allan Taylor
- 2-3 Church Planter Basic Training
- 4-11 Week of Prayer & Mission Study for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 10 Disaster Relief Training, Central-East and Southwest Regions
- 23 YEC West
- 24 Disaster Relief Training, North and Central-West Regions
- 31 Disaster Relief Training, Southeast Region

APRIL

- 14 Disaster Relief Training, Southwest Region
- 14, 21, 28 VBS Clinics
- 19 SBCV Open
- 26 Statewide Church Planter Network

MAY

- 3-5 ESL Regional Train-the-Trainer
- 7-8 Executive Board
- 19 Bible Drill
- 22 Intern Training
- 24 Regional Church Planter Network

JULY 9 - 13, 2012

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY, LYNCHBURG

FEATURING SPEAKER **ED NEWTON**

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AND

BYRON "MR TALKBOX" CHAMBERS IN CONCERT

WWW.SBCV.ORG/STUDENTZ

INCLUDES **STATEWIDE SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT**
JULY 11, 2012, DURING CAMP FREE TIME

JUST IN TIME

CENTERS FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Randy Aldridge
Church Planting Strategist, Southwest Region

Have you ever felt called to serve in ministry but wondered how you could receive appropriate training? A new ministry of the SBC of Virginia may be just in time! SBCV is opening Centers for Leadership Development (CLDs) around the state to equip lay ministry leaders. CLDs are designed for missional believers in the church who believe God is calling them to ministry leadership but may lack the skills or training to equip them for the task.

In 2011, SBCV piloted CLDs in the Southwest and North Regions, with a goal to launch statewide in 2012. If the pilot year is any indication of the future success of the program, CLDs have a bright future. We began with two teaching centers in the Southwest—one in Bluefield and one in Jonesville—with a total of 14 students. Jesse Frazer, church planting apprentice with Christian Life Fellowship in Jonesville is one of the teaching professors. Jesse graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary with his M.Div. and is excited to have the opportunity to merge his seminary education with practical ministry while training leaders for future ministry. Roger Cook is the professor in the Bluefield area. Roger is a catalytic church planter with Crosspointe Community Fellowship. He received his M.Div. from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary and is also grateful for this ministry opportunity.



James Roberts, professor | Jared Taylor, student | Jesse Frazer, professor

“CLD is allowing me to dig deeper in God’s Word while I consider my options for seminary,” explains Jared Taylor, a college student who feels God calling him to student ministry. He is currently serving in a church plant, assisting with student small groups.

“I’ve read the Bible from cover to cover at least 12 times, but I’ve never really understood how to put it all together,” says James Roberts, lay pastor of Emanuel Baptist Church near St. Charles. “This training helps put the Bible in perspective...to my knowledge, this is the first time Bible classes of this depth have ever been offered. Without CLD, I would not have the opportunity to receive theological training.” James only regrets that he didn’t have this type of training when he first began in ministry.

Pastors, please suggest CLDs as an option to church members who may need some just-in-time training as they answer God’s call to live as missionaries among a people to whom He is sending them. Training through CLDs comes just in time and is already paying huge dividends for the students attending. Look for a CLD in your region in 2012!



RESOURCE

WEBSITE sbcv.org/multiplying/cld

CONTACT 888.234.7716 for details from your region’s missionary

do Mission Projects

Support missions in Virginia and around the world.

JAN – FEB	Evangelism Packs for Hikers
FEB – MAR	Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
MAR – APR	Supplies for Ocoee Outreach
APR – MAY	BGR Kits for Kids
JUN – JUL	Bibles for Southern Africa
AUG – SEP	Baby Kits for ARM
SEP – OCT	Vision Virginia
	State Missions Offering
OCT – NOV	Gleaning for the World
NOV – DEC	Lottie Moon
	Christmas Offering

sbcv.org/mobilizing



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The logo for "Unchained" features the word "Unchained" in a stylized, metallic, blocky font. A large, white, paper airplane is flying upwards from behind the text. Several small white birds are also visible in the background.

UNCHAINED

EAST

studentz
YEC

WEST

BREAKAWAY

WWW.SBCV.ORG/STUDENTZ

JANUARY 13 - 14, 2012

LONDON BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH, VIRGINIA BEACH

MARCH 23 - 24, 2012

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ROANOKE

BRENT CROWE | CLEAR VISION DRAMA
THE MUSEUM | FIREFLIGHT

ED NEWTON | DREW WORSHAM | ATTABOY
CHASE GENTES | HUMBLE TIP | MANAFEST