

# visionvirginia Proclaimer



## Embrace the Ends of the Earth

*How your church can embrace an unengaged, unreached people group*

## Families On Mission

*Seeing God work in an unexpected way*

## A Ripple Effect Caused by Caring

*How to make sure your community knows you love them*

Feb | Mar | Apr 2012

A PUBLICATION OF THE SBC OF VIRGINIA



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## SHINING THE LIGHT

The invitation was drawing to a close. Around 1,500 students from 52 churches had only been at London Bridge Baptist in Virginia Beach for a few hours, but already they had been led in worship by The Museum, taught through skits by the Clear Vision Drama Team, and challenged from the Word by Brent Crowe. As Crowe closed in prayer, I looked up and couldn't believe my eyes. More than 100 students were standing shoulder to shoulder, crowded right in front of the sanctuary platform. God was certainly moving in this year's Youth Evangelism Conference (YEC), the first SBCV event of 2012. When reports came back, we learned that more than 39 students accepted Jesus as their Savior that first night and around 100 rededicated their lives to Christ. What a praise-the-Lord moment! (Note: Please pray for YEC West coming up March 23 – 24 at First Baptist Church in Roanoke. For more information or to register, go to [www.sbcv.org/studentz](http://www.sbcv.org/studentz), then click on "Breakaway.")



**MOBILIZING CHURCHES**  
[sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)

Baptist Builders  
Campers on Mission  
Disaster Relief

English as a Second Language  
Families on Mission  
Mission Service Corps

This *Proclaimer* magazine is focused on Missions/Mobilizing. You may have heard the saying, "The light that shines brightest at home shines the furthest." That is certainly the case with the SBC of Virginia fellowship of churches. Events like YEC allow churches to evangelistically partner together in Virginia to reach hundreds of students with the Gospel. But these churches are also doing missions nationally and internationally. That's where the Acts 1:8 Network (A18N) comes in.

"The Acts 1:8 Network allows churches to work together to accomplish what they would not do on their own," says Eddie Urbine who serves as SBCV church mobilization strategist for partnerships. "Working

through the network, churches support each other and share resources and experiences to accomplish the work God has for them."

Mark Gauthier, director of Mobilizing Churches, says that even church leaders who feel called of God to serve in the same mission field as another SBCV church can benefit from the Acts 1:8 Network. "Doesn't it make more sense to network those churches so they can learn, pray, and possibly work together? That is one of the main emphases of the A18N, bringing churches together for greater Kingdom impact."

The main purpose and goal of the SBC of Virginia is to assist local churches in their task of fulfilling the Great Commission. The Acts 1:8 Network is one powerful tool to help us reach that goal. If you have a story of how the A18N has been an asset to your church's mission endeavor or would like more information about how you and your church can be a part of the A18N, please go to [www.sbcv.org/a18n](http://www.sbcv.org/a18n) or scan the QR code on this page with your smartphone.



## Proclaimer

TELLING ABOUT THE AMAZING  
THINGS GOD IS DOING  
THROUGH HIS CHURCH

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## Embrace: The Ends of the Earth

An embracing church is one that commits to reaching an unengaged, unreached people group (UUPG) to tell them about Jesus. Bermuda Baptist Church in Chester has learned that reaching a UUPG can change a church and open its members' minds to great things that can only be done with the help of God.

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## What Man Couldn't, God Could

Baptist Builders, knowing they had never built a steel church building, put their faith in God to do it and were in awe of His provision.

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## COVER LOOK

The cover, "Sports Shoes & Socks for Uruguay," was created from a photo used in an article found in the Aug/Sep/Oct 2011 *Proclaimer*. The cover was created exclusively for the SBC of Virginia by Innovative Faith Resources.

Designer, Partti Spencer

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# REACHING CENTRAL ASIANS THROUGH FOOTBALL

Cliff Jordan

*Church Planter/Pastor, Movement Church, Richmond*

At different moments in my life, I have felt God calling me to action, but I hesitated because the pieces weren't in the right place yet. In my mind, there is a logical order to follow, and when you get things out of order, difficulty usually ensues.

When I felt God calling us (Movement Church) to a large city in Central Asia, I realized I needed to pay more attention to His call than I did my preparations. Our desire was to begin intentional church planting work there. Unfortunately, the groundwork for that plan hadn't been laid yet. Rather than waiting, we decided to move in any way we could and trust that God knew how to open the right doors.

What started out as a desire to plant churches to see people far from God coming to know Him, turned into a football camp—not quite what I was envisioning, but those are the doors that opened. At our church, we constantly talk about joining God at His work, moving where He is already moving, and this was a prime example—a teachable moment for us.

For two years, we have been building relationships with local believers and putting on an excellent football camp. The workers with whom we serve there are now serving as the head coaches of a team made up of Central Asian young men. Each camp we do builds those relationships and deepens their credibility among the team, which helps develop more bridges for the Gospel to be shared. The coaches aren't the only ones who get to share. There is something about going to battle on the football field that connects players at a deep level, so our relationships with the players have deepened and grown into genuine friendships. It is in those relationships that we get to share the Good News of Jesus. We are all “friends” on Facebook with the team members and have had many opportunities to freely share the truth of Jesus to them because of the relational connection we have developed.

Our first year was primarily football related, but this year I led half of our team into the city to discover non-football-related opportunities for our church to take part in. As we searched the city for additional opportunities, God opened a door right in front of us. When you join Him where He is already working, that seems to happen very often. One of the head coaches began to share his heart for another part of the country. He had been burdened for a city a few hours away from where we were that contains three distinct unengaged and unreached people groups. In this city of two million, there are four known believers.



The worker wants to move there and take part in intentional church planting work. He invited Movement Church to be part of the coalition of churches to help in that work! We will shift our focus from the larger city to this smaller city when the doors are opened for this man and his family to make the move. This is the type of work we have always wanted to be involved in, and it is exciting to see the Father bring the Good News to people who have never heard.

The biggest thing I am learning is just to go and let the details figure themselves out. If our little church plant can be involved in what God is doing globally, then any church of any size can get involved in the mission of God around the world. You don't have to have it all figured out—you just need to move where God is moving and be comfortable not knowing all of the details. One thing I can tell you for sure is that God's plan is bigger and better than anything you can dream up, so stop trying. Just join Him in what He is doing to draw all people to Himself.



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [sbcv.org/a18n](http://sbcv.org/a18n)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary



## AN INTERVIEW with CORRIE TEN BOOM: Evelyn Hinds Debuts in Richmond

Tammy Bennett  
Women's Ministry Strategist

On November 15, 2011, the SBCV was privileged to have Evelyn Hinds share her awe-inspiring portrayal of Corrie ten Boom at the Annual Homecoming Women's Ministry Luncheon. Those in attendance were spellbound by Evelyn's performance, as she shared unforgettable lessons on forgiveness and God's faithfulness in the words of Corrie ten Boom. Kim Ball from Grove Avenue Baptist Church said, "Words can't express Evelyn's presentation. It was truly meaningful, powerful, and amazing."

Evelyn Hinds is an internationally acclaimed actress, speaker, and author and is the founder of Arts Touching Hearts,

Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to aligning the message of God's Word with the arts. Her love for the stage began when she landed a lead role in college, where she graduated summa cum laude with a BA in English and literature. It would be 30 years later before she donned the costume and acted in her starring role as the person Evelyn describes as her "spiritual grandmother," Corrie ten Boom.

In the early 1980s, Evelyn was first introduced to Corrie ten Boom through the movie, *The Hiding Place*, produced by the Billy Graham organization. The movie reenacted the true story of Corrie ten Boom's Holocaust experience. Evelyn recalls: "As the lights came on, I picked up my purse, retrieved my keys, and soberly walked towards my car, playing the scenes over and over again in my mind. Here was an ordinary old woman still believing and holding onto her faith even after all she had been through, and I believed this dear old soul knew something about living the Christian life that I needed to know."

Evelyn then began talking to people who knew Corrie personally and reading books and listening to tapes by Corrie ten Boom, but it wasn't until 1997 that Evelyn gave her first performance as Corrie. Since that time, she has had the opportunity to impersonate Corrie throughout the world and has even portrayed her at Corrie's home, "Beje," in Holland. When recently asked what her greatest blessing is in impersonating Corrie ten Boom, Evelyn responded, "I have the joy of using my God-given talent to introduce new generations to Corrie ten Boom and touch people's hearts with the love of God."

Evelyn's journey as Corrie ten Boom can now be relived through her new book, *The Weaving*. The book depicts the story behind her performance. It is filled with the hope and inspiration of Corrie's own message: "God has no problems with our lives, only plans."



### RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [sbcv.org/mens\\_and\\_womens\\_ministries](http://sbcv.org/mens_and_womens_ministries)

**CONTACT** You may contact Tammy at [tbennett@sbcv.org](mailto:tbennett@sbcv.org) or by telephoning her at 888.234.7716.

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Pastors' resources, leadership guides, and study materials are available online at [sbcv.org/multiplying](http://sbcv.org/multiplying).







# FAMILIES ON MISSION MULTIPLICATION

Sue Sawyer

*Associate Mobilization Strategist, Projects*

**MISSIONS IN ACTION**—that is what we saw during the 2011 SBCV Families on Mission (FOM) week in Big Stone Gap. Seventy-two participants included parents, grandparents, children, and teenagers from seven different churches that helped with small construction projects, community VBS, food pantries, a block party, and much more. FOM is a fantastic opportunity for family members to go on mission together and for parents and children to be introduced to missions—some for the very first time. Families are able to have fun together while making a difference in someone else's life—helping with a need that may open a door to share the Gospel.

At FOM 2011, we saw God work in an unexpected way. Some of the families participating in FOM were leading a VBS at one of the apartment complexes. Several were from Second Chance Baptist in Prince George (a small church), and some were from

Bethel Baptist in Chesapeake (a larger church). As the pastor of Second Chance helped with VBS, he mentioned that he'd never thought his church could host a VBS—the church is only two years old, and he didn't think there would be enough workers. As he observed a team of just six to seven people carry out VBS during FOM, he and his church members began to think they may be able to do it at home. Members from Bethel Baptist encouraged them and even



donated all of their VBS materials to give them the extra confidence they needed.

Upon returning home, Second Chance began making plans to conduct a VBS on the nearby Ft. Lee Army base. They secured the permissions needed to have it there, reserved the building, enlisted workers, and prepared the materials. The first day began with much excitement and enthusiasm by the children and workers alike.

At the end of the first day, however, they were notified that they could not hold VBS on the base any longer even though they had gone through the proper channels to receive approval. Ft. Lee officials said they could not allow the VBS to continue without also allowing other religions to use the base's buildings for the same types of activities.

Nevertheless, Second Chance was committed to continue the VBS, and the Lord provided another location close by. Woodlawn Christian School (operated by Woodlawn Baptist Church, Second Chance's mother church) graciously allowed the use of its building even though the school had a daycare operating at the same time. That night, phone calls were made to all of the VBS participants to let them know of the new location, and the small church that thought it could not hold a VBS overcame all of the obstacles and had 60 children participating by the end of the week. Sixteen of those children made a profession of faith by the end of the week, and several have been baptized!

### NOW FOR THE REST OF THE STORY:

Second Chance Baptist Church continues to provide transportation on Wednesdays and Sundays in order for these children to participate in the church's children's activities. They transport an average of 25 – 30 children each week. This ministry all began with the vision they received at FOM and from Bethel Baptist. Praise the Lord!

What a marvelous example of a larger church going the extra mile to help a smaller church do ministry in a way it didn't think it could do! FOM not only helps the community where it is held; it also helps multiply the ministry of those who attend as they minister to their own communities.

Register today to participate in the 2012 SBCV Families on Mission in Bluefield where we hope to have 1,000 children in our largest VBS. We need you to help make this possible. Your family can be part of a God-sized opportunity.



### RESOURCE

#### WEBSITE & REGISTRATION

[tinyurl.com/2012Bluefield](http://tinyurl.com/2012Bluefield)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

# VBS TRAINING CLINICS 2012

### Brand-new format:

- Learn basic techniques for teaching children; techniques for children's evangelism; and techniques for follow-up with prospects once VBS is over.
- Choose from one of four curriculum overviews:
  - LifeWay's "Amazing Wonders Aviation"
  - LifeWay's "Space Quest"
  - Standard's "Adventures on Promise Island"
  - Group's "Sky"



- Pastors, there's a special breakout session just for you!
- Get a chance to receive great giveaways—just for attending!

Registration begins at 9:00 AM.

Program runs from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

### Dates and Locations:

#### April 14

- Southwest: Highlands Fellowship, Bristol
- Central-West: Timber Ridge Baptist Church, Bedford
- Central-East: Monumental Baptist Church, Petersburg
- North: Ramoth Baptist Church, Stafford

#### April 21

- Southeast: Bethel Baptist Church, Yorktown
- Southwest: Christiansburg Baptist Church, Christiansburg
- Central-West: Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox
- North: Emmanuel Baptist Church, Manassas

#### April 28

- Southeast: River Oak Church, Chesapeake
- Central-West: Woodlawn Baptist Church, Danville
- Central-East: Staples Mill Road Baptist Church, Glen Allen
- North: Northside Baptist Church, Charlottesville





# LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED!

## CHI ALPHA

David Bounds  
*Church Health Strategist, Southeast Region*

"Let's get this party started!" The upbeat, rockin' song, "Get This Party Started" by Toby Mac, opens the service—not the typical way you would start a youth choir concert, but this is not your typical youth choir. This is Chi Alpha, the high school student choir of Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton. They are 97 students who, through the use of contemporary Christian music, choreography, and personal testimonies, are taking the Gospel message to the streets. They're loud and energetic. But they are also relevant to young people without compromising the truth. One can readily see that this is more about the mission than the music.

Jeff Askew, worship pastor at Liberty and director of Chi Alpha, started this unique ministry in the fall of 2010. He explains that the name in Greek means "Christ First." This is evident in the choir's mission statement: "To train young people to worship the Lord and lead others to worship Him, to share their faith, and to impact the world with the message of Jesus Christ." This purpose guides the students wherever they go and in whatever they do—in the choir as well as in their individual lives.

One of the main ways they fulfill their purpose is by going on mission tours. This summer, they went on mission to Atlanta, GA. Besides ministering at the headquarters of Chick-fil-A and singing the national anthem at an Atlanta Braves game, they performed in three homeless shelters, two maximum-security prisons, and three detention centers.

Entering such a mission field was not an easy task for the choir. When they went to Paulding Youth Detention in Dallas, GA, not only did they have to go through security checkpoints to get into the facility, but security officers stood with their backs to them—constantly monitoring the inmates while the choir performed. But when the concert was over and the invitation was extended, the young people filtered into the audience and led receptive inmates to a saving faith in Christ. What a scene to behold—the physically incarcerated being spiritually set free by the Gospel of Jesus Christ! By the time Chi Alpha returned to Hampton for a homecoming concert, 300 people throughout the mission tour had made decisions to receive God's salvation. Not only were lives changed by the Lord working through the choir, but the lives of the choir had also been changed because of their service for the Lord.

As Askew reflected on all that had happened that week, he was asked, "What was the greatest moment?" Without hesitation, he responded, "It was watching God break hearts." That is when another party gets started—the one in heaven Jesus told us about in Luke (15:10): "In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."



### RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [lbcmin.com](http://lbcmin.com)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary





*David Johnson amongst some of the prisoners who attend the Tuesday night Bible study*

*Would you like to involve your church in prison ministry?*

## SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

Darrell Webb

*Church Health Strategist, North Region*

**T**hough the prison doors are securely fastened, God is opening the hearts of inmates at the Page County Jail to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Just over five years ago, God gave Rileyville Baptist Church member John Thomas a burden and vision to follow the heart of Jesus (Matthew 25:36) and visit and share the Gospel with the 70 inmates of the Page County Jail in Luray. Since then, God has called out several more men from Rileyville (J.R. Anderson, George Cummings, David Johnson, and Paul Strassner) to leave their comfort zones to go behind those prison bars. This jail ministry team ministers to an average of thirty to forty



*John Thomas*

male inmates for two hours every Tuesday evening. Cummings explains, "These men are lonely and feel that everyone (including their family) has deserted them. We want them to understand that they are not alone and that our team shares their struggles. These men need to know the forgiveness of God."

Although the team has experienced opposition from a few inmates, the Good News of the Gospel has fallen on receptive hearts. Recently, in just two months of ministry at the jail, they saw more than twenty-five prisoners set free from their sins by repenting and placing their faith in Jesus! Fourteen of those precious souls have taken the first step of obedience by professing their faith through believer's baptism. Some were immersed in a tub at the jail, while the trustee inmates were baptized before the congregation at Rileyville. Johnson testifies about the transformation that has taken place in the lives of men like Michael. "Michael, who has cancer, had not spoken to his wife in 19 years. He came to Christ in jail through the ministry of

Rileyville. He is now out of prison, committed to his wife, and leading his family to Christ." God is at work transforming the lives of convicts and their families for eternity through this ministry.

Not only have prisoners been transformed—the Lord has also transformed the church through the jail ministry. Rileyville has a renewed attitude towards the inmates, now seeing them through the eyes of Jesus. Those who were baptized at the church were embraced by the congregation. "After the three trustee inmates were baptized at the church," says Cummings, "three-fourths of the congregation formed a line to welcome into the family of God these former captives to sin. With a radiant glow on their faces, [these men] saw the goodness of God through their brothers and sisters at RBC." Rileyville members pray weekly for the jail ministry, occasionally visit the inmates, and have donated money for Bibles; sent encouraging letters to the men; and provided note pads for their spiritual diaries.

God has birthed a desire in the hearts of the RBC jail ministry team to see this outreach spread to other towns throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. God may be calling your church to reach the lonely and hurting with the hope of the Gospel in your local jail. Rileyville Baptist Church would like to partner with you to take the Gospel to those who are longing for hope, purpose, peace, and life.



### RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [sbcv.org/maturing](http://sbcv.org/maturing)  
**CONTACT** George Cummings at  
 540-421-4117



# EMBRACE... THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Eddie Urbine  
*Church Mobilization Strategist, Partnerships*



In the world today, there are 7 billion people, and approximately 1.7 billion of those will die without once hearing the name of Jesus. This is unthinkable and unacceptable for us as Great-Commission Christians. What does “embracing” have to do with the lost? An embracing church commits to reach one of the 3,800 unengaged, unreached people groups and tell them about Jesus. What is an unengaged, unreached people group (UUPG)? There are 6,734 people groups in the world. For a staggering 3,800 of those groups, there is no one with a strategy to reach them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No evangelical group is working with them to share the simple story of Jesus.

**How can your church embrace a people group?**

## PRAY

Have a fervent, focused season of prayer for God’s vision and leadership as to where your church should work

## STUDY

Research about the UUPGs of the world.

## LEARN

Find out how your church can go about reaching a UUPG

As Tom Elliff, president of the International Mission Board, said, “Beg God that He will give you a strategy for getting boots on the ground for sharing the Gospel.” If soft drink companies and other marketers can reach these people, shouldn’t we have reached them too? We must also remember that some of these groups are unreached because their countries are closed to Christian work or the people are geographically hard to reach. With God’s help, we can reach all of these people for Christ.

As Bermuda Baptist Church in Chester has learned, reaching a UUPG can change a church and open its members’ minds to great things that can only be done with the help of God. In 2009, this small congregation of 60 began to pray that God would lead them to a UUPG. On a vision trip that same year, the church became aware of the Pedi people of South Africa. After returning home and praying, God led them to embrace the Pedi people. The church faced several obstacles that may have stopped





some churches, but Bermuda pressed forward knowing God had called them to these people. In 2011, Bermuda has twice been to the Pedi people and is now in the final stages of developing a strategy to reach them with the story of Jesus.

Bermuda has become part of the Acts 1:8 Network of the SBC of Virginia, where they are seeking other churches to come alongside them and partner to reach the Pedi people. As a first step to reaching a UUPG, you may want to join with another church already embracing a people and help them as you take steps to embrace your own UUPG in the future.

What steps will you take to reach the unengaged and unreached people groups of the world?



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITES** [sbcv.org/a18n](http://sbcv.org/a18n) | [call2embrace.org](tel:call2embraceorg)

**CONTACT** Eddie Urbine at [eurbine@sbcv.org](mailto:eurbine@sbcv.org)  
or 804-972-5254



## Meet Isaac.

Isaac is a member of Bermuda Baptist Church, a small church in Chester, Virginia.

Alone, Bermuda doesn't have many resources for international missions, but in 2009, they connected with Kingsland Baptist Church to go to Southern Africa.

Because they worked together, Isaac got to share the gospel overseas. He and his pastor developed a passion for the people there, and they keep going back.



## Now meet the Acts 1:8 Network,

a new way for churches, individuals, and missionaries to connect with each other for missions—at home and abroad—similar to the way that Kingsland and Bermuda did.

Learn more at [sbcv.org/a18n](http://sbcv.org/a18n).



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# A TORNADO TWIST

Randy Aldridge

*Church Planting Strategist, Southwest Region*

## On April 28, 2011, the unimaginable happened...

for the first time in recorded history, a tornado hit Glade Spring, a small town nestled in the Appalachian Mountains. The tornado devastated the area, killing three, injuring dozens, and destroying businesses and homes.

The cost of recovery will be in the millions, but the emotional and spiritual scars can only be healed by God's grace. Through His grace, Southern Baptists were on the scene immediately and were able to share His love by helping hurting people with material necessities and ministering to their spiritual needs.

Another positive twist to this disastrous tornado was the way God used it to grow a group of young believers. In July, a crew of high school and college students traveled from Christian Life Fellowship in Jonesville to Glade Spring to help with the recovery. They connected with John Stapleton, pastor of Church of the Crossroads, a church plant in the area. Pastor John supervised the team as they repaired a home and witnessed to the residents. The trip had such an impact on the students, they have already committed to another mission endeavor for this coming summer.

One team member whose life was changed forever is Mickey Collier. A 22-year-old from a broken home and a lifestyle of drugs and violence, he explained, "My rap sheet is pretty long, and my future was dark." Although he surrendered his life to Christ in March 2011 and was baptized just a few weeks later on Easter Sunday, he still struggled with his attitude and worldview. The trip to Glade Spring radically changed him in two noticeable ways. "First," said Mickey, "I see myself differently. I'm not just a piece of skin—but I'm a

*Mickey Collier*



person for whom Jesus died, and my future is bright. In fact, it seems as though a light switch was turned on. Second, I see others differently. Driving into Glade Spring and meeting the people affected by the devastating tornado caused something inside of me to change. The anger and hostility that had controlled so much of my life melted away, and my heart was broken for people." Mickey recalled, "I think this was the first time I ever saw the human race as individual people with real needs and [realized] I had the power to help."

A missed opportunity to witness to a young girl in Glade Spring still nags at him, and he vows never to let it happen again. Mickey's friends assert that he witnesses to everyone he meets, including his friends who are still living destructive lifestyles. "For the first time, I don't feel like it's me against the world...I have real friends and a church family that I can belong to."

As I interviewed Mickey in preparation for this article, I noticed that he placed very little distinction between his conversion and the Glade Spring mission trip. When I questioned him about it, he responded, "You really can't be a follower of Christ without being on mission."

Matthew 9: 37 (HCSB) "...The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." Pray for Mickey and many others who will hear, receive, and tell the Good News.



### RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary





# REACH 2011

Mark Custalow  
*Director of Multiplying Churches*

**In** 2006, Daniel Floyd was approached by a group of 50 people with a desire to plant a church that would make a difference in the city of Fredericksburg. Since that time, the Father has brought to life a vibrant body known as Lifepoint Church. Since its inception, Lifepoint has experienced amazing growth, seeing hundreds of lives changed by the power of the Gospel. Amazingly, Lifepoint is still mobile—meeting in the auditorium of Riverbend High School where more than 1,500 worshippers gather weekly in one of two Sunday services. Pastor Daniel is a gifted leader and communicator with a passion to lead a generation to reach people who are far from God.



*Pastor Daniel Floyd,  
Lifepoint Church*

In 2010, Daniel began to talk with me about a dream to create and host a one-of-a-kind church planting equipping experience for portable churches in a portable setting. This dream became a reality, largely due to the generosity of Lifepoint Church in its recent capital campaign. They chose to invest 10% of their capital campaign receipts to help other church plants. One way to do that was by hosting REACH 2011, the very type of event Pastor Daniel had been envisioning.

SBCV was also able to assist financially, and REACH 2011 came to fruition on Saturday, August 27, despite an earthquake the week before and a hurricane the day of. More than 200 Lifepoint volunteers at Riverbend High School interacted with church planting teams,

teaching from their own experience. REACH attendees numbering 250 experienced five and a half hours of opportunities to engage Lifepoint volunteers and learn how to operate successfully in a portable-church setting. Planting teams left the event loaded with helpful resources, including a USB drive with all of the documents and forms developed and used at Lifepoint; a list of recommended vendors for ministry resources; and a link to access sermon series graphics/splashes developed by Lifepoint's creative arts team. One winning planter left with an iPad 2 loaded with a stellar leadership book library.

If you missed REACH 2011 or would like to design an equipping time for your church ministry team, be sure to check out the archived video recordings of the two plenary sessions featuring Daniel Floyd or the audio recordings of the breakout sessions led by Lifepoint ministry leaders. The audio and video recordings can be found at [reach2011.tv](http://reach2011.tv).



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITES** [reach2011.tv](http://reach2011.tv) | [visitlifepoint.org](http://visitlifepoint.org)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

# What Man Couldn't, **GOD COULD!**

Mark Gauthier  
*Director of Mobilizing Churches*

On a cold November morning as I drove out of Christiansburg on Route 11 heading north, I passed Good Shepherd Baptist Church. As I looked at the church, I marveled at the transformation that had taken place. The new multipurpose building that had been erected over the last several months dwarfed the original church. It was amazing to see what God had built.

The church had been meeting in two services for some time. They had outgrown their small church building and wanted space to raise their children and others in the community to walk with Jesus! They asked Baptist Builders (BB) to help build a metal building, including a basement for classrooms, a kitchen, and a fellowship hall. The upstairs would be the multipurpose area they needed for worship services, AWANA games, and Upward basketball.

SBCV's statewide BB coordinator, Nancy Dunford, initially thought BB could not help because they had never done this before and did not have the expertise. They couldn't, but God could, for He is the Builder of all things (Hebrews 3:4)!

The faith of many Baptist Builders and church members grew as the plan developed. God provided 118 volunteers and the leaders needed to guide them. Workers came from seven states and seventeen churches, arriving over a five-week period. Some came with the experience to erect a metal building, and others were ready and willing to learn the tasks God had called them to do.

When Baptist Builders began the project in June, the worksite was little more than a hole in the ground. They began working with contractors, placing and tying rebar in preparation for pouring the concrete that would form the floor and walls of the basement. As they unloaded the metal, laying it out and screwing it together—one piece at a time—their faith grew—one step at a time. "Day by day," said Dunford, "we met in the morning for devotions and prayers, thanking God for the work of the day before and asking for strength for another day—it was hard work! He showed us that He was faithful and would indeed provide one day at a time! We were all in awe of the progress!"

Is God calling you to volunteer  
your time and talents?

In the weeks ahead, the upper floor would begin to take shape, the steel-framed building coming together much like an erector set. At the end of the five-week project, a 26,000-square-foot multipurpose building was under roof. Volunteers provided over 6,000 hours of labor, equivalent to three full-time employees working for one year. We praise God for the passion He gives the volunteers who serve faithfully!

These volunteers grew together as brothers and sisters in Christ, sharing their faith with others, always on mission to tell people about Jesus! They experienced God working in a way that many had never known before. They were stretched mentally, physically, and spiritually! "...but those who trust in the LORD will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint" Isaiah 40:31 (HCSB).



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [sbcv.org/baptist\\_builders](http://sbcv.org/baptist_builders)  
**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from  
your region's missionary



# TAKING WORSHIP TO THE STREETS

Darrell Webb  
*Church Health Strategist, North Region*

Since its genesis in 2000, Iglesia Bautista Hispana Emmanuel (IBHE) has been faithful to preach the Word of God and worship Jesus Christ at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Manassas. This local Hispanic church, however, has learned that true worship is not just what we do on Sundays in a church building—it's so much more.

In 2011, Pastor Eliezer Pérez and the church's evangelism ministry team led the congregation to take worship services outside the walls of the building into the streets of Manassas. "We decided to dedicate three Sundays over the spring and summer of 2011," says Pastor Eliezer, "to hit the streets and share the Gospel of Christ instead of

having our usual Sunday morning service."

During the month of March, the adult and youth Sunday School classes became training centers to equip church members with confidence and competence to share their faith. Amazingly, more than 70 percent of the believers from IBHE went to the streets on the first Sunday in April, June, and August to share the hope that is only found in Jesus. "We had ten teams of six to eight members that were assigned specific areas of the city where large concentrations of Hispanics can be found—in parking lots of ethnic supermarkets, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, and strip malls with Hispanic businesses. Church members used Four Spiritual Laws tracts and their personal testimonies to share about Christ."

As church members saw what God did through the spring and summer outreach, many were led to help with the church's 7-Eleven outreach during the cold, dreary weekdays of winter. Says Pastor Eliezer, "A number of 7-Eleven convenient stores in our city are gathering places for laborers hoping to be picked up for temporary jobs. On cold winter mornings, we offer hot coffee and bread as a simple breakfast to reach out to those men and share the love of God."

The precious seeds of the Word of God are being sown through the seasonal outreach ministries of Iglesia Bautista Hispana Emmanuel. People are coming to know Christ, the church is growing, and believers are finding new confidence and determination to share the Gospel. They see these outreach ministries as an additional way to worship the Lord. Their pastor exclaims, "As a result of these ministries, many of our church members have been encouraged to continue to share Christ with their friends, families, and neighbors!" Two men have come to faith in Christ and have professed Him through baptism, and two other new families are attending the church.

Pastor Eliezer concludes, "We hope to continue to be creative in our outreach efforts this coming year and that many more will join us to reach the Hispanic community of Northern Virginia for the glory of God. We also hope to plant a new church where the Lord leads."



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITES** [sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)  
[sbcv.org/maturing](http://sbcv.org/maturing)

**CONTACT** Eliezer Pérez at 703-368-9176  
or [elipe2004@yahoo.com](mailto:elipe2004@yahoo.com)



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### Upcoming ESL Training Dates:

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- May 3 – 5, 2012 | Fishersville Baptist Church



# REACH (verb)

## reach [reech]

1. stretch out
2. put forth
3. extend

Steve Bradshaw  
Church Health Strategist, Central-East Region

Upon reading the definition of the word, reach, your mind wouldn't imagine a stay-at-home youth missions camp. But in Powhatan County in 2011, under the direction of Old Powhatan Baptist Church, that's what REACH 2011 was, and that's what the students learned to do throughout the week. The venue might have been the familiar facilities of the church—evening worship in the sanctuary, breakfast and dinner in the fellowship hall, sleeping quarters in Sunday School rooms, showers in neighboring homes—but the mission reached their “Jerusalem” and “stretched out” or “extended” to Richmond.

The idea for REACH began in 2009 as a servant-evangelism mission project but grew to over 100 students and adults from five churches in 2011. With the partnership of neighboring churches like Red Lane Baptist, Fine Creek Baptist, Grace

Bible Church, and Powhatan Christian Fellowship, REACH was expanded to a week-long true camp experience.

Brad Russell, pastor of Old Powhatan Baptist Church, explains, “The purpose of REACH is not just a gathering of students for camp. The purpose is to send out a group of students into our schools and our community who are united around the purpose and the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Oh, and we get to have a blast doing it.”

A typical day consisted of breakfast; a time for personal devotions; Bible study with ministry teams; community mission projects with the sole purpose of giving away the Good News of Jesus Christ; recreation; showers; dinner; and evening worship.

### There were four REACH ministry teams:



The **RePLAY** team worked with children from the Blue Sky Fund in Richmond, teaching the children about Christ through His creation.



The **ReLATE** team worked with several nursing homes in the Richmond region, spreading love and mercy to people who are often lonely.



The **ReSTORE** team worked alongside Remnant Church in Richmond, an SBCV church plant, to clean up the streets and parks as a service to the city and shop owners in Carytown.



The **ReNEW** and **RePAIR** teams worked in Powhatan and Amelia Counties, serving families by doing home repairs and yard work, as well as doing trash pickup in local parks and on the streets.

But encourage one another daily,  
as long as it is called Today . . .

HEBREWS 3:13a NIV

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Gary Jenkins, a deacon and team leader, shares, “I have had two homeowners call me thanking us for the work at their house and [telling me] how great the kids were and how much they enjoyed the fellowship.”

The missions week included a concert by Nashville recording artists Andy Gullahorn and Jill Phillips; evening worship led by a special REACH praise band; and Curtis “Voice” Allen, pastor and rap artist from Solid Rock Church in Prince Georges County, MD, who challenged the students from God’s Word. Students were consistently prompted towards love, action, and worship. Praise band leader Daniel Long was encouraged by the students. “It was great to see students get so excited about worshipping Christ.”

REACH culminated with a large block party at a vacant lot and park in the old downtown section of Richmond.



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [tinyurl.com/FBreach](http://tinyurl.com/FBreach)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

There was free food and a concert, and those in attendance heard about God’s grace through the guest pastor and artist. The love shown to the community through the block party will likely make inroads for the Gospel for years to come.

Pastor Brad testifies that a mission week like this could never have happened without the dedicated efforts of volunteers from Old Powhatan and Red Lane Baptist Churches. Those behind the scenes who cooked, cleaned, worked, and prayed helped make it possible for the Gospel to “reach”—stretch out;

put forth; extend—to the community, the schools, and beyond.



# WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY?

Shawn Ames

*Associate Church Health Strategist, Central-West Region*

**DID YOU KNOW** that your community has something in common with an '80s pop song by the now-infamous Janet Jackson? Both ask the question, "What have you done for me lately?" Most likely, your church claims to love its community. The question is, does your community know it?

Last year, the Forest Baptist Church family began wondering the same thing—what had they done for their community lately? Although this congregation of approximately 350 people sent two teams to Africa and one team to Thailand last year; has seen nine people from the church commissioned as IMB missionaries in the past five years; and has adopted an unreached people group in Nigeria, they were not content with their efforts. The leadership of this Central Virginia church began asking

what more they could do to reach the world with the Gospel.

Pastor Tyler Scarlett recalls wondering what would best fit their community. His goal was to plan a prayer-centered effort to serve the community and lovingly engage the people with the Gospel of Christ. The result of their strategizing, praying, and planning was a week-long emphasis called "Hope4Forest."

For two mornings, the church transformed its parking lot into a free-coffee-and-donuts drive-thru. Their location on a busy stretch of road was the perfect spot. At first, people were surprised and a little confused. One person asked, "You mean you're just giving coffee and donuts away to anyone?"

Forest, VA is home to a thriving small-business community, and the church found a way to minister to those businesses. Members baked homemade cookies, and teams went out to introduce their church and leave a delicious gift for businesses and their owners/employees—bankers, brewers, and baristas, to name a few.

The church also did a "gas buy-down" at a local gas station, where they offered to pump gas, wash windows, and contribute \$0.25 toward each gallon of fuel purchased. They targeted communities where they prayer-walked in the morning and knocked on doors in the evening. At each event throughout the week, people were invited to a community carnival on church property and to a special celebration service on Sunday morning.

At the service, visitors heard the message that hope is not just an emotion or simply an idea, but hope is a Person—Jesus. The message had been lived out in front of the community by church members even before Pastor Tyler preached it.

Pastor Tyler describes the results as a ripple effect. Joe Veres, Forest's minister of missions, commented that when knocking on doors, some would say, "Oh, you're the church that was giving away donuts earlier this week." The coffee and donuts giveaway had a trust-building effect for the church. In addition, even the most resistant people in the community were willing to accept the \$0.25-per-gallon gas buy-down.

After the week of Hope4Forest, church members have met some who were impacted by one of the events, and comments have

*"The men were amazed and asked, 'What kind of man is this?—even the winds and the sea obey Him!'"*  
MATTHEW 10:1 (KJB)

**2012 Disaster Relief TRAINING DATES**

- North: Mar 24
- Central-East: Mar 10
- Central-West: Feb 25 & Mar 24
- Southeast: Feb 11 & Mar 31
- Southwest: Mar 10 & Apr 14

Host locations TBD.  
[sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)

**DISASTER RELIEF**  
SBC of Virginia





Most likely, your church claims to love its community. The question is, **does your community know it?**



been very positive. Both inside and outside of the church, the response has been overwhelming. Over 80 church members went through evangelism training, and so many church members showed up for door-knocking that a nearby subdivision of 145 homes was completely canvassed in just fifteen minutes! Extra greeters have been needed to help steer visitors in the right direction on Sunday mornings. Both of the church's Sunday morning services have shown a rise in attendance, and Forest has seen new families sign up their children for mid-week discipleship activities.

Pastor Tyler believes that the ideal thing is for church members to love their community and share Christ organically—as part of their natural day-to-day activities. He sees a week of emphasis like Hope4Forest as a shot in the arm for his members to gain confidence and experience in reaching out.

Forest Baptist Church's balanced approach involves praying, serving, and lovingly engaging the community with the Gospel of Christ. They are building a reputation as a church that loves the community and is a place where hope can be found. This balanced strategy works for individuals and churches both at home and abroad. How is your approach? Does your community know that your church loves them? Do your neighbors know that you love them? If not, how can you get started?



*photos courtesy of Caleb Rainey*



## RESOURCE

### WEBSITE

[forestbaptistchurch.org/2011/08/why-i-love-forest-virginia](http://forestbaptistchurch.org/2011/08/why-i-love-forest-virginia)

**MESSAGE OF HOPE (AUDIO)** [forestbaptistchurch.org/downloads/08-21-2011.mp3](http://forestbaptistchurch.org/downloads/08-21-2011.mp3)

**CONTACT** 888.234.7716 for details from your region's missionary

# THE EVIDENCE OF **VISION**

Larry Black

*Church Planting Strategist, Central-West Region*

**H**ow important is visionary leadership in the Lord's work today? Much has been written about the need for visionary leaders in order to successfully guide churches. For lead pastor George "Bubba" Rose, vision goes to the core of his journey to effectively plant Oasis Church in Amherst County. His journey began with what he calls a "seed of vision" while stuck in an airport in North India. While praying, he saw a sea of lostness and heard God calling him to plant a church without walls. The vision would "take his feet beyond where his shy self" would go...boldly

trusting God for people, resources, and physical and spiritual strength to start a church from nothing.

## ● **Prayer Preceded Vision**

While Bubba Rose attended a pastors' conference, the Lord visited him in a way he had never experienced before. It was as if he and God were the only ones present at one point during the conference, and the Lord brought back to mind the North India day of prayer. While prayerfully weeping, Rose filled a journal with thoughts and the names of 24 individuals whom he would later

contact about the new church—people wandering as sheep without a shepherd. Because of the clear vision God had burned into his heart, he knew he could expect to walk through "hellish times" down this path. The vision, however, burned within him and would not let him go.

## ● **People Drawn to Vision**

Rose followed up on those whose names God had impressed upon him—people from a community where Bubba Rose and his family had once lived. He had seen the lostness of the Amherst area and

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had witnessed to and disciplined many of those people when he lived there. In the fall of 2008, he gathered them and found that they had indeed been discouraged and broken—sheep without a shepherd. They heard his vision for a new church and committed to help.

During his special time with the Lord, Rose also wrote down the names of eight pastors and business owners he trusted who had provided wise counsel in the past. As he began laying the foundation for God's vision, he told these godly men what the Lord was doing in his life—about the vision of starting a church without walls in Amherst and about his step of faith to leave a comfortable position. These brothers discerned and affirmed God's work in Rose's life by committing to support him in fulfilling

that vision. They provided wise counsel during the transition and early period of the new Oasis Church.

Bubba Rose knew that he would need co-laborers in addition to his supportive wife, Nedra. He began to pray for these important God-called men. Within a week, Steve Harman, a friend whom Rose had discipled, called from North Carolina and asked if he could serve as the new plant's administrator. A month later, at a Liberty University (LU) class, Rose shared his vision with the students, and Professor David Earley challenged them to step up and serve. Brad Mullinax, who had been seeking the Lord



Nedra and Bubba Rose



## RESOURCE

**WEBSITE** [oasischurchlive.com](http://oasischurchlive.com)

**BOOK** *Visioneering: God's Blueprint for Developing and Maintaining Vision* by Andy Stanley

*What a Blessing*) opened its doors at no cost for the Sunday gatherings. When the new church outgrew the bakery, the town library opened up. Due to further growth, a frantic search for an even larger location ensued, and one week before the new church launched, the local high school miraculously became available. After two and half years of meeting at the high school and thousands of man-hours setting up and clearing out, the call came. A local church was closing and wanted to know if the new church would be interested in its property. All they had to do was assume the mortgage, which only totaled 10% of the property's value!

Oasis Church began with vision from God, Bubba Rose's obedient heart, and much prayer. God beckons His servants to seek Him. Why? Because He "know[s] the plans [He has] for you...plans for welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope" Jeremiah 29:11 (HCSB). Is God stirring your heart?



Brad Mullinax, Bubba Rose, Steve Harmon

about serving in a new church, committed to help. The next week, student Stephen Richardson sought Rose out and asked if he could serve as well.

## ● God Resources His Vision

During the lean days of the new church, Rose held to the vision God had given him. "Vision," says Bubba Rose, "is what makes you know you're going to be there next week." As Oasis began to meet, it was clear that finding a place would be difficult. The team prayed, and a local bakery (called



Are you walking in the plans the Lord has for you?



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## visionvirginia calendar

### FEBRUARY

Regional Pastors, Staff, & Wives Connection Tours  
Regional Church Health Workshops  
"True Love Waits" Emphasis Month  
*Mission Projects: Evangelism Packs for Hikers & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering*

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

### MARCH

Regional Pastor & Staff Power Meals  
*Mission Projects: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering & Supplies for Ocoee Outreach*

- 1–3 ESL Regional Train-the-Trainer, Central-West
- 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 Regional Women's Conference, North
- 10 Disaster Relief Training, Central-East and Southwest
- 11 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 22 Regional Church Planter Networks
- 23–24 YEC West
- 24 Disaster Relief Training, North and Central-West
- 24 Regional Women's Conference, Southeast
- 25 Start a Church Sunday
- 30–31 Church Planter Basic Training
- 31 Disaster Relief Training, Southeast
- 31 Regional Women's Conference, Central-West

### APRIL

Regional Pastors, Staff, & Wives Connection Tours  
GPS Emphasis Month — Attractional Events  
*Mission Projects: Supplies for Ocoee Outreach & BGR Kits for Kids*

- 8 Easter Sunday
- 14 Disaster Relief Training, Southwest
- 14, 21, 28 VBS Clinics
- 19 SBCV Open Golf Tournament
- 21 Regional Women's Conference, Central East
- 22 Cooperative Program Sunday
- 26 Statewide Church Planter Network
- 28 Regional Women's Conference, Southwest



# BACKPACKS REACH COMMUNITIES

Gary Horton  
*Church Health Strategist, Southwest Region*

Last spring, when tornadoes hit southwest Virginia, no one even thought of the impact it would have on students as they returned back to school in the fall. As SBCV staff prepared for Studentz Camp last summer, the Lord gave a vision to Steve Maltempi (Student Ministry strategist) and Mark Gauthier (director of Mobilizing Churches) to use the missions offering from Studentz Camp to provide backpacks for students affected by the tornadoes. As the church health strategist for the Southwest Region, I immediately started contacting nearby



churches and schools to determine what was needed. Every school was open to having local churches provide for the needs of their students for the fall.

As I started sharing the need, pastors quickly picked up on the vision and started giving it feet. Rosedale Baptist Church, Abingdon; First Baptist Church, Damascus; Grace Baptist Church, Abingdon; Memorial Baptist Church, Pulaski; and Covenant Baptist Church, Pulaski reached out in the name of Christ to make a difference not only in the students' lives, but also in the staff's lives. I am especially thankful for one of SBCV's newest churches, Grundy Baptist Church in Grundy, for their willingness to help with funding so more students could be reached. In the end, these churches were able to provide enough backpacks to minister to 270 students.

Through this process, my prayer was for this opportunity not to be a one-time event for disaster assistance, but that it would become an ongoing outreach for the local churches to the schools in their communities. The Women's Ministry of First Baptist Damascus felt called to do that too! They have adopted all three of their local schools and begun a ministry to the teachers and staff. They are baking cakes for the teacher/staff birthdays; sending cards of encouragement to let them know someone cares and is praying for them; and hosting a luncheon for them. Are you willing to reach out and touch the lives of students, teachers, school administrators, and staff in your community?



## do Mission Projects

- April – May - **BGR Kits for Kids**
- June – July - **Bibles for Southern Africa**
- August – September - **Baby Kits for ARM**
- September – October - **Vision Virginia State Missions Offering**
- October – November - **Gleaning for the World**
- November – December - **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

[sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)



### RESOURCE

#### WEBSITES

[sbcv.org/maturing](http://sbcv.org/maturing)  
[sbcv.org/mobilizing](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing)  
[sbcv.org/mobilizing/article258182.htm](http://sbcv.org/mobilizing/article258182.htm)

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