# PROCLAIMER

2023 | VOLUME 25, ISSUE 2 • Telling the stories of Vision Virginia

Raise Up Spiritual Leaders Pages 16-17

New Beginnings Pages 28-29



### **PROCLAIMER**

Summer 2023 — Issue 2

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The Proclaimer tells of the amazing things God is doing through His Church in Virginia and around the world. It is provided free of charge due to your generous contributions made through the Cooperative Program.

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The Proclaimer is created exclusively for the SBC of Virginia by Innovative Faith Resources.

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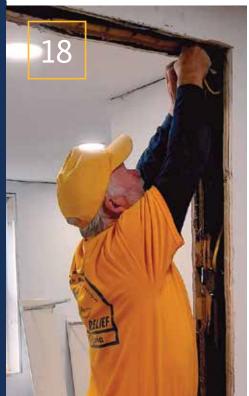
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### Summer 2023

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### From the Executive Director

## the Event of an **Emergency**

 $\operatorname{\mathsf{ur}}$  theme this year in the SBCV has been "The Lord Is with You." We began the new year emphasizing the truth of God's presence with a focus on prayer, and pastors gathered for a prayer event, where we had times of praise and worship; confession and repentance; thanksgiving; and intercession. This spring, we held prayer summits in various regions. Every ministry effort in which we engage is dependent upon the blessing of God.

This year's Annual Homecoming in November will continue to emphasize the truth, "The Lord Is with You," as we embrace our dependence upon His presence and power. This edition of the Proclaimer includes stories of pastors and leaders encouraging one another; churches engaging and mobilizing for ministry and missions; and churches planting and revitalizing. The bottom line is we must humble ourselves and recognize we are dependent upon the Lord every day in every way. Praying, seeking God's face, and abiding in His presence are not just for emergencies.

Many people view prayer like they view an emergency oxygen mask on an airplane. However, prayer is not an oxygen mask just to be used in times of emergency and crisis. We need to view prayer more like a scuba diver views oxygen—prayer is not just important but essential! In fact, prayer is more like breathing itself. Martin Luther wrote, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."1

The Apostle Paul prayed often and encouraged believers to pray. He was a person of prayer and called on churches to be people and places of prayer. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, he ends with simply asking them, "Brothers pray for us" (1 Thessalonians 5:25).

Please pray for churches in your community as they minister and serve. Please pray for pastors and their families, that they will not be weary in well-doing. Pray for mission trips, Vacation



Bible Schools, youth camps, and the many ministry opportunities we have.

You are not alone. The Lord is with You!

Your brother in Christ, **Brian Autry** 

- P.S. Here are "10 Scriptures to Pray for Lord Jesus's Church."
- 1. 2 Timothy 4:2 Pray that His church will preach the Word of God without apology.
- 2. Colossians 4:2 Pray that His church would devote itself to prayer.
- 3. Acts 4:12 Pray that His church will boldly share Jesus as the only hope for salvation.
- 4. John 4:24 Pray that His church will worship God in spirit and in truth.
- 5. **1 Peter 5:2-3** Pray that church leaders will serve humbly as godly examples to all.
- 6. Colossians 1:28-29 Pray that His church will labor and strive to present everyone mature in Christ.
- 7. Matthew 9:37-38 Pray that more workers step up to faithfully serve.
- 8. **Ephesians 4:11-12** Pray that our leaders equip the saints for the work of ministry.
- 9. Revelation 2:4-5 Pray that His church does not lose its first love.
- 10. Matthew 16:18 Pray that we will trust Jesus to build His church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Attributed to Martin Luther by George Sweeting, Talking It Over (Moody Press, 1979), 88.

# IMANIMO What God Might Do CHURCH PLANTING IN NORFOLK

early two million people live in Southeast Virginia, and over 230,000 live in Norfolk. For years, Norfolk has been given the ominous label, "where church plants go to die." But God is bringing new life to the city. On February 6-7, 2023, nearly 30 pastors and SBCV leaders from across Virginia gathered to catch a vision for church planting in Norfolk.

Three church planters made presentations Monday evening: Tanner Hogue, planting Port City Church in Norfolk; Carey Julien, planting Pillar Norfolk; and Dylan Lebakken, planting through Little Creek Church in Norfolk. Those gathered learned of the deep lostness throughout Norfolk and received encouragement from the stories of God's calling on these church planters.

Tuesday included a bus tour led by Pastor Caleb Dininny (Little Creek Church), who pointed out aspects of the city: its historical roots, financial and cultural centers, and neighborhoods of great wealth and great poverty. The tour periodically stopped at strategic locations for the group to pray for God to raise up and strengthen new churches in Norfolk. Participants then had lunch with international students from Old Dominion University at the Global Friendship Venture ministry center. Over 25 nations were represented, displaying the Great Commission opportunity to plant churches in Norfolk.

The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 contends, "It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations" (Article XI). SBCV's partnership with the North American Mission Board through Send Virginia has opened up new channels of prepara-

tion and support for church planting in Hampton Roads.

How can your church get involved? Below are three ideas to consider.

First, pray that God would continue to raise up laborers for the harvest (Luke 10:2).

Second, give through Vision Virginia and support church planting across the state.

Third, build a relationship with an SBCV church planter and lead your church to support spreading the Gospel through church planting in Norfolk.

Imagine what God might do as your church and other SBCV churches make disciples in Norfolk and Greater Hampton Roads!

### RESOURCE:

For more information or to connect with a church planter in Norfolk, email Jeff Mingee:



jmingee@sbcv.org

Pastors from around Virginia gathered to learn of the deep lostness throughout Norfolk.





### SUNDAY SCHOOL **ESSENTIALS**

A FREE two-day event that equips participants to revitalize their Bible study ministries

Featuring Ken Braddy Director of Sunday School, Lifeway





sbcv.org/ssessentials

Lifeway adults



### If you happened to die logay, do you know if you will go to heaven?

God says you must be born again. The Bible gives us a simple plan of salvation.

Admit that you're a sinner who needs to be saved. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Believe that Jesus died for you and rose again. "If you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

Commit to accepting Jesus as your Savior and Lord. "For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

Claim His gift of salvation. Believe, and you will be saved. All that's left for you to do is to receive Jesus into your heart as your personal Lord and Savior. If that is your sincere desire, then talk to God from your heart. Contact us today to let us know your decision and any questions you have: info@sbcv.org.



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# PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES around he gippe

"Then Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (HCSB)



### Dave & Brie Jacobson



Wisconsin

Let's pray for two of our missionaries, Dave and Brie Jacobson, who are church planters in the Madison, Wisconsin area. They have already planted one healthy church and have started planting a second. Let's thank the Lord for their first church and ask Him to grow the next one, so thousands can come to faith in Christ.



### Sam & Lydia



Central Asia

Let's pray for two of our missionaries in Central Asia. We'll call them Sam and Lydia. They graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and they reach Deaf people with the Gospel and plant new churches for them. Support Sam, Lydia, and Southeastern through the Cooperative Program.



Each missionary highlighted in 52 Sundays is supported by your church's giving through the Cooperative Program. Find more missionaries to pray for by visiting sbcv.org/52sundays.



# A MEN MISSION FIELD DISCOVERED





ometimes God reveals the harvest and then calls the worker; other times, He calls the worker and then reveals the harvest.

Jared and Danielle Via and two other families obeyed God's call in 2018 to plant Hope Valley Church in Christiansburg, VA. God has transformed many lives and is expanding the church's reach yet again!

Unsure about their next ministry assignment, Rodrigo and Carol Ferreira came to the US from Brazil. Rodrigo was a former ministry colleague of Pastor Via. The Ferreiras' tentative plan was to stay in Christiansburg for about six months while learning English, then go to the mission field somewhere in the world. While in the US, the Ferreiras wanted to minister to other Brazilians in the Christiansburg area. Unfortunately, Pastor Via only knew of one Brazilian family nearby.





### The couple met with one Brazilian family, then another, then another."



Rodrigo Ferreira (left) and Jared Via (right)

So, the Ferreiras began looking for ways to find, connect, and serve people through Facebook. There they found local groups dedicated to Brazilians. The couple met with one Brazilian family, then another, then another.

Ferreira reported to Via every week, "Praise the Lord, we met another Brazilian family!"

Hope Valley Church decided to host a party and invite anyone from Brazil to come. Expecting 15-20, they were shocked when 80 Brazilians attended. Suddenly, they realized they had tapped into a mission field they didn't even know existed in their community. After discovering dozens of Brazilian families, they learned the local Volvo plant had a work exchange program with Brazil.

In partnership with Hope Valley Church, the Ferreiras have started a small group Bible study in Portuguese that grows each week. The Ferreiras came to Christiansburg temporarily to get retooled for ministry elsewhere. But God revealed the harvest to them and called them to plant a Brazilian church in partnership with Hope Valley Church. ■



by Jamie McClanahan, Pastor, Wayne Hills Baptist Church, Waynesboro, VA

here is a unique power that comes from pastors helping pastors. I have benefited immensely from friendships with other pastors in my 22 years of ministry. The Apostle Paul gave instructions to the believers in Colossae (Colossians 3:13) and Ephesus (Ephesians 4:2) to "bear with one another in love." Additionally, Paul instructs the believers in Galatia (Galatians 6:2) to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." The notion of burdenbearing applied in pastor-to-pastor relationships is vital to their resilience.

I want to share four ways pastors can help other pastors:

First, be available and intentional with your time. It is hard to minister to other pastors without a margin for it in your calendar. Set aside an appointment with a pastor every other week. Consider times when pastors may feel overwhelmed or drained, such as beginning a week, after a funeral, following a family crisis, or following significant events. Proverbs 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, and

a brother is born for adversity."

Second, ask questions and listen actively and empathetically. Pastors often listen when counseling others, but how often do they have someone who asks them questions and listens? Active listening means fully engaging verbally and non-verbally with the pastor before you. Empathy is not about solving a problem or giving sage-like advice; it is hearing a brother out fully and praying with him. Take the approach of Samwise Gamgee in the Lord of the Rings, who said of his friend Frodo's great burden, "I cannot carry it for you, but I can carry you."

Third, prayerfully consider whom you will contact and let the Holy Spirit direct your attention. Never

assume a pastor is okay or healthy because of his church size (small or large), its location, or visible growth factors. All pastors grow weary from time to time, and they equally need Jesus and to be around other pastors who recognize





their need for Jesus. I am reminded of C.S. Lewis' statement on friendship and burden in his essay, "The Four Loves." He wrote, "Friendship arises out of mere Companionship when two or more of the companions discover that they have in common some insight or interest or even taste which the others do not share and which, till that moment, each believed to be his own unique treasure (or burden)."

Fourth, examine the possibility of starting a pastor gathering at your church or attending a pastor gathering for fellowship, testimonies, and prayer (SBCV has these kinds of pastor network meetings are all around the state—probably one near you). Avoid a focus on numbers, nickels, and noses. Consider guarding the meetings against becoming event-oriented or politically focused. The relationships born at these meetings can be lifelong. And these meetings are beneficial to pastors, their churches, and to the Kingdom of God.

### RESOURCE:

For more information on attending a pastor gathering or starting one, contact Don Cockes or Jamie McClanahan by email at:

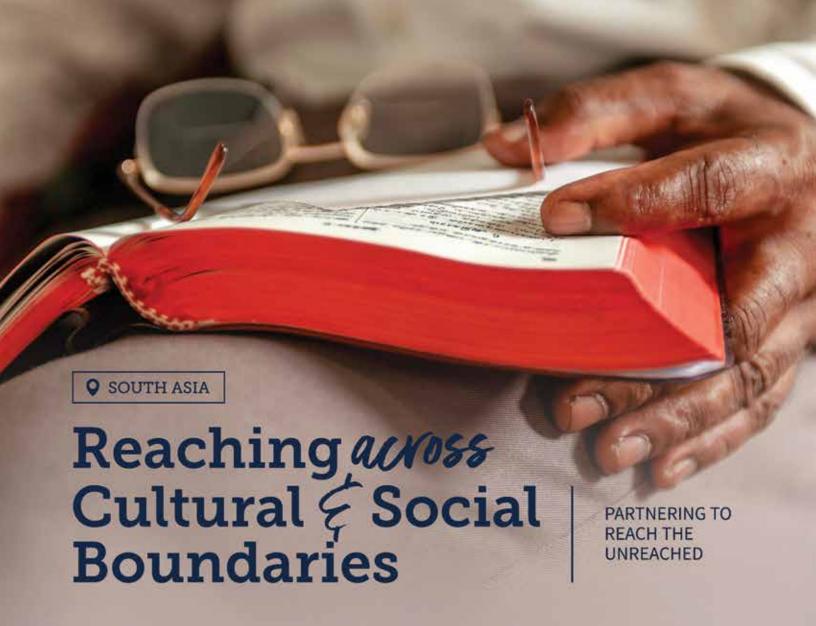


dcockes@sbcv.org



jamie@whbc.net





2017, Maysville Baptist Church in Buckingham, VA was heavily involved in local missions. God began opening their eyes to see the need to be involved in His global mission too. With a new vision to reach the lost around the world, the people of Maysville lifted heartfelt prayers that the Lord would open doors.

God answered by opening a door to India, and Pastor Westly Yoder soon discovered that other SBCV churches in his area had the same desire. Yoder, along with a few other pastors, traveled to India to begin making partnerships and training pastors. The goal was to cast a vision for Indian pastors to reach across cultural and social boundaries

to proclaim the Gospel to new peoples and places. During a period of two and a half years and several trips, God allowed this new partnership to train over 200 local pastors and leaders in basic church planting strategies. Out of this training, God began to raise up indigenous leaders and other believers who began to share the Gospel.

But 2020 changed everything. Maysville and the other church partners were devastated that their trips had to stop. Questions began to rise: Isn't this part of God's mission? Aren't these the plans we have from God's Word—to raise up and plant leaders who can continue the work far beyond our personal influence?

They thought of what the Apostle

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 10:15-16: "... we have the hope that as your faith increases, our area of ministry will be greatly enlarged, so that we may preach the gospel to the regions beyond you." Through these times of uncertainty and questioning, Maysville and their partners came to the understanding that COVID-19 didn't affect God's sovereign plan to reach these people, and it also didn't hinder God using them in His plan.

From 2020 to 2022, SBCV pastors continued to mentor several of the pastors who had been trained. Yoder continues to meet monthly with Pastor V, one of the leading pastors. Pastor V and several other faithful indigenous

### God opened doors to share the Gospel with people who had never heard and to see them come to Christ."

pastors in India, with the help of Maysville Baptist Church, were able to facilitate training in new villages and new outreach programs in remote areas. During brief reprieves in the numerous COVID lockdowns and local restrictions, these pastors would often drive and hike into the areas around their cities. Maysville Baptist sent financing to Pastor V and his team for Christmas and Easter programs in remote villages. These events provided opportunities to share the Gospel and establish a presence among the unreached. Discipleship groups have formed and new believers are being baptized. These pastors used the biblical training they had been given and faithfully stayed on God's mission during some of the most difficult times of their lives. God opened doors to share the Gospel with people who had never heard and to see them come to Christ.

The opportunity for Maysville Baptist Church to travel back to South Asia finally arrived in January 2023. Pastor Yoder traveled to India and spent time with many of the pastors who had been trained before COVID. "It was wonderful," said Yoder, "to be in person and to speak God's encouraging Word, evaluate the work that had been done, and celebrate the victories God had

brought over the last few years.

God used this time to filter through those trained in order to find men who were passionate about the Kingdom, and to identify pastors who had a true heart for reaching people for Christ and leading others to do the same."

The South Asia Partnership is planning more trips for 2023 and beyond, where SBCV churches will continue training and mentoring these faithful pastors and leaders. The hope is to see churches planted among these unreached peoples. This hope is not blind hope. God's Word promises in Revelation 7:9 that there will be a multitude from all peoples worshiping Him.

Maysville Baptist Church and its partners can move forward in confidence, knowing that nothing can thwart the plans of God to reach the nations. As churches align themselves with God's mission, Gode will continue to open doors for them to spread the Gospel among the nations. ■

### RESOURCE:

For more information to get your church involved in the South Asian Partnership, contact Brad Russell or Westly Yoder at:



brussell@sbcv.org



westly.yoder@gmail.com





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## Inspire A word of hope, support, and encouragement

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and will dine with him, and he with Me. He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Revelation 3:19-22 (NASB)

"Repent and return to Me, says the Lord." It is time for God's Church to hear and obey the Lord. I write this word of encouragement with much love and fervor of obedience to proclaim its urgency! The fire of God's command to be "zealous" to repent is tempered only by His mercy. As the Apostle John writes what he sees (Revelation 1:11), he opens with God's love for those who are His (Hebrews 12:5-6). God expresses His love explicitly through His pursuit, patience, and promise.

First, God's love is always in pursuit of those He loves; hence, His intimate, natural expression of discipline is always noted in dealing with His children (Hebrews 12:7). Secondly, in patience, the Lord says, "...Behold, I stand at the door and knock...." Brothers and sisters, don't be deceived—while God will never knock the door down, His patience does have a shelf life, and our time is here; our obedience is now! Finally, God is faithful (Deuteronomy 7:9) in all His promises. He promises us, "I will come into him and dine with him...." God's love speaks to His desire for a genuine relationship. One of the most significant stumbling blocks in the Church today is being numb in hearing God and, even worse, not responding with obedience to what

we hear. So if we "...hear His voice and open the door," we must be earnest when we hear His voice and open the door.

If we want God to send revival, we must repent! If we long for genuine fellowship (1 Corinthians 1:9) with God our Father and want to grow in our faith and glorify Him (Isaiah 43:7), we must repent! From the pulpit to the parking lot, we must ask God to grant us repentance (2 Corinthians 7:20).

Pastors, with urgency and zeal, will you lead us in repentance (Hebrews 13:7)? Will you teach us to repent before God and let Him usher in a time of refreshing or, shall I say, revival (Acts 3:19)? ■

Love you all!



**Milton Harding** Prayer and Care Minister mharding@sbcv.org

# Caise / P SPIRITUAL **LEADERS**

The internship allowed me to be financially supported ...and allowed me to be personally mentored in pastoral ministry by my pastor..."

hile watching a Billy Graham Crusade on TV at the insistence of his godly grandmother, 13-year-old John Hare had a vision that God was calling him to spend his life sharing the Good News.

Although God had called him, Hare was admittedly a hypocrite in his late teen years. "Ironically, I still believed I was called to ministry and decided to go to Liberty University," recalled Hare, "but my heart was a mess and not right with God."

At Beulah Baptist Church in Lynchburg during his freshman year of college, the Gospel finally clicked, and he surrendered all to the Lord and let Him change his life and clean up the mess.

God opened the door for Hare to be trained through a ministry internship at Beulah, where his spiritual journey had begun. Beulah had received a summer internship grant through SBCV's Vision Virginia State Missions Offering, which helped the church hire Hare as an intern.

"The internship allowed me to be financially supported for the summer with no financial stress and allowed me to learn about ministry as a student," said Hare. "It also allowed me to be personally mentored in pastoral ministry by my pastor, Dennis Hollandsworth."

Through the SBCV internship grant, Hare served at SBCV's Student Fusion Camp and got to know SBCV staff. Through their influence and that of others, such as the late evangelist Bob Davis, God placed on Hare's heart a vision to pastor an SBCV church in Central Virginia.



John Hare, Pastor, Cardinal Baptist Church, Ruther Glen

The internship at Beulah Baptist Church opened the door for Hare to serve there for two years as the part-time associate pastor to students. As John Hare watched revitalization occur at Beulah, God put a vision in his heart to pastor and revitalize a local church that would bring about a Gospel movement in a community.

In 2021, God gave Pastor Hare the desire of his heart as he became the senior pastor at Cardinal Baptist Church in Ruther Glen and began the work of revitalization in this normative size church. Hare found a people at Cardinal who, as he described, "had a hunger to grow spiritually and go missionally."

Over the past two years, the Lord has brought steady growth to Cardinal Baptist. Pastor Hare has cast the vision to center all the church does around "making disciples who make disciples who make disciples."

"I have watched God continue to produce a discipleship heart in our church, and I have watched Him teach our people how to live on mission," said Pastor Hare.

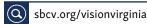
He is leading the congregation at Cardinal to give, not only through the Cooperative Program, but through the

SBCV Vision Virginia State Missions Offering as well. Pastor Hare's prayer is that God will use Cardinal's gifts to help raise up young men and women to fulfill their calling and be trained for the work of ministry.

If you would like to see your church help raise up the next generation of spiritual leaders, please consider participating this year in the SBCV Vision Virginia Offering and Week of Prayer.

#### RESOURCE:

Consider participating in this year's Vision Virginia Offering and Week of Prayer:





John Hare, as an intern at Beulah Baptist Church, enjoyed interacting with the local people on his first mission trip.





I live in an area I was told would never flood."

la Hall never expected she'd ed flood insurance, but after rrential rains, July 25-30, 2022, e and many others in Eastern ntucky and Central Appalachia ced the unthinkable.

In Collins was awakened at 2:00 A to his heat pump making loud ises. When he investigated, found water coming through e vents in his bathroom, and nen he opened the door, water me rushing into his home. He rambled upstairs and got onto e roof.

"It was a terrifying situation. We were sitting smack-dab in the middle of a river," Collins recalled. "If we hadn't had a two-story house, we would've had to swim to get the kids out."

The devastation and sense of loss were overwhelming. "I worked hard many years to buy that house," Collins said of his two-story coal-camp house. "I was bad off mentally, emotionally... What were we going to do?" His insurance company didn't even offer flood insurance. They had lost everything.

Thanks to SBC of Virginia churches' generosity through Vision Virginia and flood recovery gifts, SBCV Disaster Relief (DR) teams were able to help the Collins family gut and clean out

the damage caused by two feet of water in their home. DR teams made up of trained SBCV church members volunteer their time and expertise to help disaster-affected families put the pieces of their lives back together. As DR teams serve, they share the Good News of God's love.

"I can't describe it to you," Collins shared. "Unless you've lost everything, you can't understand."

When John Collins met Herb Hamlett, leader of SBCV DR Rebuild, he learned that SBCV Rebuild teams would help rebuild the home—above and beyond the repairs SBCV DR had already done. Due to SBCV churches' generosity, the team was also able to replace some of the furniture, a stove, and a refrigerator.

"We are Christian people, and we see that God has taken care of us," Collins expressed. "Thank God for Southern Baptists—they are out here doing legit work."

Although Eula Hall thought she would never experience flooding,

she found herself in need of help. Her truck was moved 200–300 feet from her carport by the powerful flood waters. SBCV DR and SBCV Rebuild teams were able to help clean, repair, and replace the interior of her home.

"It's hard for me to express the gratitude I feel for them," Hall said. "I prayed a lot for God to send help and along they came...I am sure God sent them."

If you or your church would like to support the important work of Disaster Relief and Rebuild teams, consider giving to *Vision Virginia* or designating additional gifts to SBCV Disaster Relief. ■

### RESOURCE:

If you would like more information on getting trained as a DR volunteer, visit:

sbcv.org/disasterrelief



An SBC of Virginia Disaster Rebuild team is on the scene in response to the flooding in Eastern Kentucky on July 29, 2022.





### **Featured Speakers**

### 2023 ANNUAL HOMECOMING



Hance Dilbeck Guidestone Financial Resources



Vance Pitman Send Network



Chuck Lawless Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary



Noe Garcia North Phoenix Baptist Church



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Brian Autry SBC of Virginia

Find out more at sbcv.org/homecoming





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1942

2023

Tuesday, March 21, after 81 years of life, Doyle Chauncey went home to heaven. On February 21, 1942, he was born the fifth child and only son of Horace and Hannah Chauncey. Doyle was a late surprise for them and, as a result, he found himself with four doting older sisters ready and willing to help raise their precious little brother. His sisters, Dorothy Duff and Norene Jackson, have gone to heaven; his other sisters, Audrey Conner and Jean (Jack) Kinser, live in Chattanooga, TN.

Doyle married his high school sweetheart, Sharon (Collier), nearly 60 years ago. They have two sons, David and Jeff Chauncey. David and his wife, Sara, gave them five grandchildren: Andrew, Caleb, Luke (Savannah), Stephen, and Hannah. Jeff supplied three more: Brooke (Samuel) Yang, Mason, and Parker. Doyle is also survived by his sister-in-law, Virginia (Collier) Bales, along with many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Doyle graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and business management. By the age of 29 he was a successful and rising businessman in the community and had begun serving as a deacon at White Oak Baptist Church in Chattanooga. But also rising within his spirit was a strong sense of calling to vocational ministry. This passion for Christ began at the age of 17 when he accepted Christ as savior at a weekend youth event—one he attended in pursuit of the pretty young lady who eventually became his wife.

### **Humble Servant of Christ**

In the summer of 1971, Doyle gave up his business career, packed up his wife, his two little boys (who were five and three), and set off for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. While there, Doyle was ordained by Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, where he had served as business administrator. In 1974, having earned his Master of Divinity, Doyle and his family moved to Virginia, where he was called to pastor Liberty Baptist Church in Appomattox.

In 1978, Doyle moved his family to Richmond to become the treasurer of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. He returned to the pastorate in Richmond, serving New Covenant Baptist Church and planting a new church called Christian Life Fellowship. In 1989, he was called to serve on the pastoral staff of First Baptist Church in Norfolk.

When the Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia constituted in 1996, Doyle was unanimously elected to be the first full-time executive director-treasurer. He led the convention of churches in this role until 2008. Doyle then transitioned to focus on the development of the SBCV Foundation and continued as treasurer until 2014.

Doyle was known for his passion for evangelism, missions, and particularly, planting churches, which became one of the SBCV's core objectives. He often said that "the future of the SBCV was tied to church planting." Doyle was also on the planning team that pioneered and implemented the decentralization

concept to place state convention field staff across the state to make them more accessible to churches and leaders. He was an entrepreneur at heart and helped start Innovative Faith Resources, providing financial and media services to churches and organizations across the nation.

### Faithful and Fruitful

In 2014, Doyle and Sharon moved to Gainesville, FL to be closer to family. For the past eight years, Doyle continued finding ways to serve the Lord. He was the senior adult coordinator, a deacon, a Lifegroup leader and, most importantly, a husband, father, and grandfather.

Doyle's was a life well lived. He was not afraid to follow the Lord, make sacrifices for the Gospel, and start new and often untested ventures. He was an effective and beloved leader. He possessed a unique combination of qualities: administratively gifted, hard-working, and yet gentle, kind, and loving. Even as the effects of declining health affected his mind and body, his joy, his quick humor, and his engaging smile never diminished. Although he is gone from us, the fruit of his ministry and life will live on and on. He will be deeply missed by so many.

A celebration of his life was held at Westside Baptist Church, Gainesville, FL on Friday, March 31. ■

In an induction ceremony, Doyle Chauncey (second from left) became the first full-time executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia (1996) as Sharon (having just received roses) proudly looks on.









for women who lead

July 28-29, 2023

Swift Creek Baptist Church Midlothian

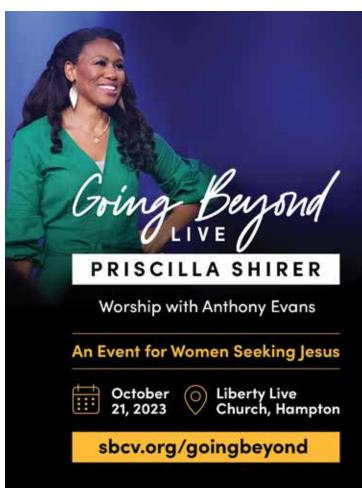


Amy Whitfield



Jeanine Martínez de Urrea

find out more at sbcv.org/encounter





The threat of winter weather did not deter women from attending the Equip Conference at **Bethel** Baptist Church in Yorktown on Saturday, February 25. Over 400 women from 170 churches registered for the free one-day event.

Awaken, the theme for this year's Equip events, was based on Isaiah 43:19a and set the tone for women to be awakened to all God has planned for them as new creations. Attendees were invited to start the day with a light breakfast then gather for worship led by Bethel Baptist's praise team members. Teaching from Jeremiah 20:9, keynote speaker Rachel Lovingood, a pastor's wife and Lifeway trainer, used the acronym FIRE to encourage women to live like His Word is a fire in their bones. In addition to hearing from Lovingood, guests filled classrooms throughout the building to spend time in the Scriptures.

Designed for all women, not just those in leadership, Equip featured breakout sessionssmall groups focused on particular topics. In addition to the sessions led by members of the SBCV Women's Ministry Team, the event was enriched by teachers from the host church, Bethel Baptist Church.

New this year included representation from SBCV's Kids Ministry (Cindy Middaugh) and SBCV Compassion Ministries

(Cindi Melvin). Rounding out the sessions was a presentation by Jeff Mingee, SBCV regional strategist for the Southeast Region.

"I think it's healthy for women to see that we all work together for the glory of the Lord," said Dolly Mink, SBCV Women's Ministry Team coordinator. "God has equipped our state convention with various ways to serve and to grow."

The SBCV Women's Ministry Team is already in the prayer and planning stages for the Equip events for 2024.

### RESOURCE:

If you would like information on upcoming events or to register, visit:



sbcv.org/women



hat started as a youth event for one church became a Southwest Region DNOW weekend!

After several scheduling conflicts and through the Holy Spirit's leading, Pastor Allen Roberts and Pastor Forest Mills from Euclid Avenue Baptist Church in Bristol, VA began to see an opportunity for a regional youth event. They quickly reached out to their SBCV regional strategist, Travis Ingle, and began contacting pastors and youth leaders and organizing video calls to determine interest and begin planning.

With a high level of excellence and a spirit of obedience to the Holy Spirit's leading, the first Southwest Region DNOW weekend took place in the fall of

2022. Two other churches joined Euclid Avenue: First **Baptist Church** (Damascus) and Gethsemane Baptist Church (Richlands).

Speaker Chris Miller, discipleship pastor at Northside Community Church in Johnson City, TN, shared from 1 Samuel 17, which highlighted the theme, Wear Your Own Armor. Miller is an excellent communicator of God's Word and gifted at reaching teens. He challenged those in attendance to "live with

purpose" and to know that they are "seen, known, and loved fully by God."

BJ Sinclair and his band led worship. Sinclair serves as the associate pastor at First Baptist Church of Damascus. Sinclair and his band have led worship for many years and are sensitive to how the Holy Spirit is moving and make adjustments accordingly.

"There was evidence of a sanctifying work throughout the weekend," shared Pastor Roberts, who looks forward to this becoming an

annual event and gathering more churches to participate.

"We do not want this to be a **Euclid Avenue Baptist Church** event but a Southwest event that anyone in the region can host... We hope to form an advisory council of 8-12 youth pastors and leaders from across the region to pray for, plan out, and participate in the next Southwest Region DNOW weekend.

"We know we can do more together than we can on our own. We began with three churches participating in the first DNOW weekend, [and] we believe we have laid a healthy foundation for this to grow among our regional churches.

"Our goal is for youth leaders and youth groups to join [us] and experience the power of 'not alone.'" ■



# YOU LEAI

One-Day Training to Grow Every Woman's Leadership Potential

**OCTOBER 20, 2023** LIBERTY LIVE CHURCH, HAMPTON

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Lifeway



Encouraging and equipping kids' leaders to reach and teach children in regions all over Virginia.

### **Connect with leaders** in your area!

**Euclid Avenue** Baptist Church,

August 25 | 7-9 PM

Green Ridge Baptist Church, Roanoke

August 26 | 1-3 PM

First Baptist Church, Charlottesville September 8 | 7-9 PM

First Baptist Church, Norfolk September 9 | 1-3 PM

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Minister to Children, Houston's First Baptist Church

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## NEW BEGINNINGS

The Fix Ministry



THE LORD PROVIDES

66

And my God will supply your every need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19



red and Casey Weymouth (pictured above) have been ministering to the homeless in the city of Richmond for years. God radically changed their lives and restored them from addiction and hurt. That's when they birthed The Fix Ministry "to save lives and where people are given a genuine chance at a new beginning."

Eventually, God placed it on Pastor Fred's heart to take what God was doing through recovery and disciple converts in a local church. After Fred served as a church planter apprentice at Parkway Baptist Church in Moseley, VA under the leadership of Pastor Derek Futrell, The Fix Chapel became a reality. On March 2-3, 2023, Fred and Casey attended a Send Virginia



The Weymouths have been ministering to the homeless in the city of Richmond for years.

church planter assessment retreat in Richmond, where they received a "ready to plant" recommendation from a team of assessors.

In the meantime, a couple approached Pastor Fred about a building in Tappahannock, VA that would soon be available. "When I looked at the building, I became overwhelmed at how massive it was and how fast everything was moving," recalled Pastor Fred. "We were actually comfortable where we were, but the owners were adamant about us getting the building." Eventually, the

owners gifted the 23,000-square-foot building to The Fix Chapel. The building has a basketball gym; a huge, two-story foyer with offices; and a common area designed to be used to reach the lost in Tappahannock and surrounding areas. The Fix Chapel launched this year with over 223 in attendance, 2 baptized, and 1 salvation.

The Fix Ministry continues to feed the homeless in Jackson Ward in Richmond on Sunday nights at 5:30, and the Weymouths continue to thank God for providing all that they need to do ministry across Virginia. ■

The Fix Chapel launched this year with over 223 in attendance, 2 baptized, and 1 salvation.



# REVIVE

# Revitalizing the Soul of a Generation



I know that Christ came, died, and rose again for my sin. However, the only difference tonight was that I actually repented!"

his is just one testimony of a life changed at the 2023 SBCV Youth Evangelism Conference (YEC). Although this student from **Pinecrest Baptist Church** in Portsmouth, VA had heard the Gospel before, he told his student pastor, Stephen Day, that he had never truly repented of his sin. He has since been baptized!

This January's YEC was the second largest attended YEC in the history of the SBC of Virginia! Representing 60 churches across the Commonwealth, over 900 people attended at **London Bridge Baptist Church** in Virginia Beach, VA. The theme of *Revive* was from Psalm 19:7a: "The law of the Lord is perfect; reviving the soul."

YEC is always an excellent opportunity

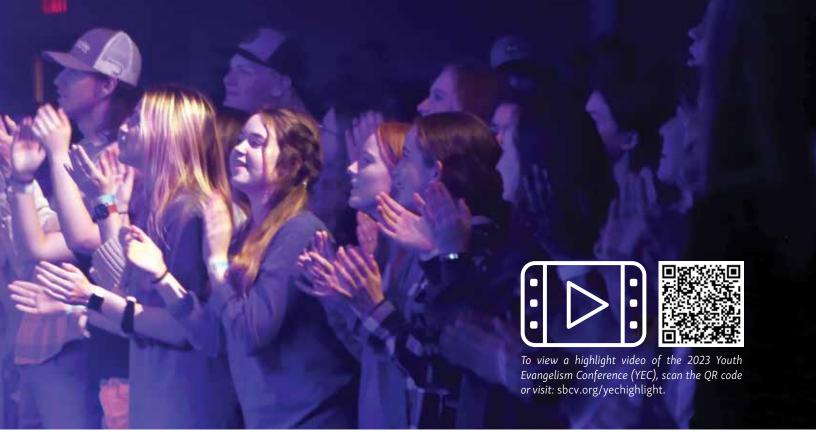
for student ministries to come together. This year was no exception. Attendees were encouraged and challenged by God's Word; equipped in evangelism; and engaged in fellowship.

"I brought my students to YEC because I knew they would have a powerful encounter with the Gospel and leave equipped to share it," said Pastor Day.

National Next Gen director for the North American Mission Board, Shane Pruitt, was the speaker. Bryan Drake shared the Gospel through his illusionist routine, and Chapels led worship.

Friday night, Pruitt laid the foundation for the entire conference by going through John 3:16-18. As he gave the Gospel invitation, many students flooded the stage in response to the Lord's calling on their hearts.

Saturday morning, Pruitt discussed Acts 19:11-20, where he examined true repentance and how it affects our lives. He also equipped attendees with the 3 *Circles* evangelism guide and encouraged everyone to pray for



BOB: **B**urden to share, **O**pportunities to share, **B**oldness to share. Pruitt challenged everyone to text three red circles to a family member or friend who needed to hear about Jesus. Pruitt gave another invitation and many students responded, providing students an opportunity to talk with their peers and share the 3 *Circles* personally.

In the final session on Saturday afternoon, Pruitt emphasized obedience to Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-20) and the universal calling to know God and make Him known. He also shared that some believers have a unique or specific call to serve God with their lives vocationally. In that session's invitation, he invited students to respond if they sensed God calling them to serve Him vocationally, and many responded.

A student from Pinecrest who felt called to ministry explained, "Who else will go? Why not me?" According to Pastor Day, this student is passionate about sharing the Gospel and leading others to do so with him. He is excited about taking the

lead in helping the student ministry serve the local community.

Based on decision counseling forms, the conference resulted in 50 decisions for salvation and 8 decisions for calling. We praise God for His work at the 2023 Youth Evangelism Conference and pray for continued fruit!

YEC was a beautiful reminder to Pastor Day that "The Gospel still works. God still saves and calls out those who desire to serve Him...no matter how old they are."

We are currently planning the 2024 YEC. If you are considering bringing students from your church, Pastor Day wants to encourage you: "Do you want a powerful Gospel-centered event that will challenge and equip your students? Come to YEC!" ■

### RESOURCE:

If you would like information on upcoming student events, visit:



sbcv.org/students



# A GOOD Reward We're Better Together



hildren's ministries may look different from one church to another, but the mission is the same: teaching children to love God and His Word and laying the biblical foundations for each child to follow Christ. Whether you are a children's pastor, a ministry leader, or a volunteer teaching preschoolers and children, remember you are not alone.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 tells us, "Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts" and "a cord of three strands is not easily broken" (HCSB). We are better together!

The SBC of Virginia has regional children's ministry networking groups meeting across the state! For example, one group in the Central Region has met for over three years. Each quarter, they gather for a time of fellowship, prayer, and brainstorming. The Southeast Region also has a group, and a new group is developing in the Valley Region.

Kelly Teachey, former children's director at **Grove Avenue Baptist Church** in Richmond, VA, said, "For me, one of the greatest benefits is to learn from younger kids' leaders what strategies, curriculum, and events are being used in other ministries to



keep our ministry at Grove relevant and Gospel-focused. I have learned so much about the growing need for elementaryage kids to have more 'unstructured hangout time' because this is where relationship building is most effective."

"I look forward to meeting with other children's ministry leaders. It is encouraging to know we are not alone in our ministry struggles. I enjoy getting new ideas from each other," said Laurie Holley. "I am so thankful for these fellowships."

Jake Barnett, children's pastor at Bethel Baptist Church in Yorktown, VA, shared the same exuberance. "I am always excited when I get to meet with other children's ministry leaders. Getting a chance to speak with others about the victories and struggles that all children's ministry people face. It's nice to know that we are not alone. Sharing the common thread of reaching children for Jesus makes every meeting exciting!"

"This group challenges me to continually think about how I do ministry for the families at my church. They encourage me always to think of the 'why' and not just do something for the sake of doing it or because of church tradition. This network is a great example of how we are not alone [as SBCV churches]," explained Garrett Oppel, children's

pastor at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Colonial Heights, VA.

Connecting with other children's ministry leaders provides opportunities for sharing resources like curriculum or VBS materials. Sharing resources develops partnerships and especially blesses smaller children's ministries.

SBCV wants to continue facilitating and strengthening connections between children's ministry leaders. E2 Kids events are scheduled for late August and early September in four regions statewide to provide area leaders time to meet. ■

### **INTERESTED IN** FINDING OUT MORE?

For more information on regional networking groups and upcoming E2 Kids events, contact Cindy Middaugh, SBCV children's ministry coordinator, at:

cmiddaugh@sbcv.org



# God Blesses the Church On Mission

glesia Bautista Vida Nueva in Richmond, VA feels called to mobilize its congregation and encourage other congregations to be part of international missions. God has called the Church to proclaim the Gospel. "It's a matter of obedience," said Pastor Diego Fernández. "The word nations in Greek is ethnos, which has to do with ethnic groups. The complete Gospel concerns the message that must be announced to all ethnic groups."

Over the past 2,000 years, the goal to reach all ethnic groups has not fully been achieved. There are about 3,500 ethnic groups that are not only unreached but forgotten. They don't have a Bible nearby or a missionary to reach them. It is the Church's responsibility to take the Gospel to these places.

In addition to being the pastor of Vida Nueva, Fernández is the executive director of Mobilización Hispana, an organization that seeks to mobilize Southern Baptist Hispanic churches to reach the unreached. "We want to be a strategic church. By doing the mission, we are modeling for others how missions should be done. [We want to be] a coordinating church that mobilizes other churches strategically to places of need," he said. "There are forgotten ethnic groups, and we want to mobilize our churches and influence others close to reaching those places. That's why we do missions events and conferences and join with strategic partners like the SBC of Virginia—so that we can share the opportunities with others. The goal is to be able to influence others for the task."

Pastor Fernández is convinced that there is a blessing for the local church when it decides to get involved in God's global plan. "Our church has 15 years of ministry, and from the beginning, we have seen God leading us to evangelize the world and not just our city. By obeying God in this, we have seen how the Lord has blessed us in

different areas. Just to mention a few examples, He has blessed our church's attendance; the finances of the church; the leadership of our church has gone deeper; and we have been able to buy our own building and not owe anything on that investment. As a pastor, I am convinced that God has blessed the obedience of the church locally and by being part of God's global plan."

When asked what advice he'd give to church planters who are just starting, Pastor Fernández replied, "When I see the planters, I want to tell them with all my strength to embrace this principle: God blesses us to bless. God is looking for churches that want to bless His work so He can bless them."

SBCV shares this heartbeat to see its churches passionate about reaching those who have never heard the Gospel of Jesus. We have been placed in this time to make Him known to the ends of the earth.



### **Dios Bendice** La Obediencia de la Iglesia en Misión

ovilización Hispana tiene un llamado a movilizar su congregación y animar a otras congregaciones a ser parte de las misiones. Hablamos con el Pastor Diego Fernández, Director Ejecutivo de la organización. Él decía que Dios ha llamado a la iglesia a anunciar el perdón de pecados porque Su Palabra nos muestra que "fue necesario que Cristo padeciese, y resucitase de los muertos al tercer día; 47 y que se predicase en su nombre el arrepentimiento y el perdón de pecados en todas las naciones, comenzando desde Jerusalén" (Lucas 24:46-47). "Es una cuestión de obediencia, la palabra naciones en el griego es ethnos que tiene que ver con los grupos étnicos. El evangelio completo tiene que ver con el mensaje completo que debe ser anunciado a todos los grupos étnicos."

Han pasado 2000 años y no se ha logrado el objetivo de alcanzar a todos los grupos étnicos. Existen cerca de 3500 grupos étnicos, no solamente no alcanzados sino olvidados. No tienen una biblia cerca ni un misionero que les predique siendo ésta nuestra responsabilidad como iglesia, hacer todo lo que esté a nuestro alcance.

Además de ser el Director Ejecutivo de Movilización Hispana, Diego es pastor de la Iglesia Bautista Vida Nueva para las Naciones. "Queremos ser una iglesia estratégica. Al hacer nosotros la misión estamos capacitando a otros como hacer misiones. En misiones se llama una iglesia coordinadora de estrategias que moviliza a otras iglesias



estratégicamente a los lugares de necesidad. Hay grupos olvidados, y queremos movilizarnos e influenciar a otras y que estén cerca para alcanzar esos lugares. Para esto hacemos eventos y conferencias enfocados en misiones, y nos unimos con socios estratégicos como la SBCV (Convención Bautista del Sur de Virginia) para poder compartir las oportunidades con otros. El objetivo es poder influenciarlos para que puedan comprobar que esta tarea si se puede realizar."

El Pastor Diego nos participa su convencimiento de saber que existe una bendición especial para la iglesia local cuando decide involucrarse en el Plan Global de Dios. "En estos quince años de ministerio desde el principio hemos visto como Dios nos ha guiado a evangelizar el mundo, y no solamente nuestra ciudad. Al obedecer a Dios en estas áreas hemos podido comprobar como el Señor nos ha bendecido en distintas áreas; por ejemplo: en la cantidad de gente que

viene a la iglesia, en las finanzas, en el liderazgo de nuestra iglesia que ha ido más profundo, y hemos podido comprar nuestro propio edificio y no deber nada de esa inversión. Como pastor estoy convencido que Dios ha bendecido la obediencia de la iglesia por no pensar solamente en nuestra tarea local sino en el Plan Global de Dios."

El pastor Diego quiere dirigir unas palabras a aquellos que están empezando diciendo: "Cuando veo a los plantadores tengo ganas de decirles con todas mis fuerzas que abracen este principio. Dios nos bendice para bendecir. Dios está buscando iglesias que quieran bendecir Su Obra para que Él las pueda bendecir."

También es el deseo de la Convención Bautista del Sur de Virginia ver a sus iglesias apasionadas por alcanzar a aquellos que nunca han oído de Jesús. Hemos sido puestos en este tiempo para dar a conocer de Cristo hasta los confines de la tierra. ■











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Pastors' Leadership Summit



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sbcv.org/videos



#### **JULY**

3-14

**Project Northern Lights, Marseille, France** 

Family Fusion Mission Camp, Buckroe Beach, Hampton

Encounter Women's Leadership Forum (Bilingual), Swift Creek BC, Midlothian

### **AUGUST**

Church Planter Family Day, Busch Gardens, Williamsburg

NAMB Catch the Vision Tour, Puerto Rico

Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training (Spiritual & Psychological First Aid)

E<sup>2</sup>KIDS, Euclid Avenue BC, Bristol

25-26

**International Learning Center,** *Rockville* 

E<sup>2</sup>KIDS, Green Ridge BC, Roanoke

### **SEPTEMBER**

E<sup>2</sup>KIDS, First BC, Charlottesville

Send Relief Serve Tour, Athens, Greece

E<sup>2</sup>KIDS. First BC. Norfolk

Conferencia Renovados, Mount Pleasant BC, Colonial Heights

**Disaster Relief Training Opportunities,** Southside BC, Suffolk

Purpose: A Gathering for Girls, London Bridge BC, Virginia Beach

### **OCTOBER**

Pastors, Staff, & Wives Retreat, Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg

Entrenamiento "Iglesias en Desarollo," Richmond

**Disaster Relief Training Opportunities** 

Sunday School Essentials with Ken Braddy, SBC of Virginia Ministry Support Center, Glen Allen

**Lifeway's You Lead Women's Leadership Conference,** *LibertyLive.Church, Hampton* 

Going Beyond Live with Priscilla Shirer, LibertyLive.Church, Hampton

### **EDITOR'S** LETTER



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ISHMAEL LABIOSA

### **EDITOR**

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### From the Senior Editor

It is such a joy to serve alongside men and women around Virginia through the SBC of Virginia. Many of these faithful servants also write articles for and help produce this publication. One of those encouraging and talented people is Ishmael LaBiosa. He serves through media and communications to tell the story of what God is doing in and through SBCV churches to share the Gospel with our neighbors and the nations. He also helps with the editing of the Proclaimer.

Ishmael, along with the other members of our communications team, comes alongside the staff and volunteers of so many churches and ministries to consult and help them with their communications. He has a real heart for our relief ministries. I thought it would be nice if you heard from him in this letter from the editor:

### From the Editor

hen I first started at the Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia (SBCV) in 2011, I remember walking into Doyle Chauncey's office. He was close to retirement, again. He was excited to

give me a personal tour in the Glen Allen office and share the history of the ministry.

In the short time I worked alongside Doyle, I watched how church leaders respected him. I believe that respect was earned because of the compassion Doyle had for everyone around him and the excitement of working for the Lord.

Doyle Chauncey



Doyle Chauncey and others praying over SBCV property in 2011



Chauncey speaking at a monthly SBCV staff meeting

His passing reminds me of my beginning days and how he impressed on me the importance of a commitment to the Gospel.

There are days in ministry when burdens seem too difficult to continue. Yet Doyle's legacy directs how I need to stay on mission and keep in front of me the purpose and end goal. Whichever role we serve in ministry and beyond, we are to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

We read in Romans 8:28 (CSB), "We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

I'm thankful God called me. I want to be found faithful on mission as Doyle Chauncey was to God's Word and the fellowships around him. While we miss our friend on this side of heaven, we have hope that we will see him again. My prayer is that you have that hope as you serve King Jesus.



Doyle Chauncey presenting awards during the 2011 Annual Homecoming



Chauncey with the 2014 SBCV Executive Committee



### **PROCLAIMER**

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SBCV Goal: \$400,000

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