

# Central Virginia Sending Pipeline

## SYLLABUS – Fall 2025

*Program details may be subject to change as the Pipeline develops.*

### Program Overview

<b>Cohort approach:</b>	The program is organized by semesters (fall and spring) with enrollment closes prior to the beginning of the fall semester. It will use a collaborative approach to learning in which candidates advance together throughout the duration of the program.
<b>Contacts:</b>	Pipeline Director: George Siler ( <a href="mailto:gsiler@parkwayfamily.org">gsiler@parkwayfamily.org</a> ) Pipeline Coordinator: Lane Jones ( <a href="mailto:ljonesfam@msn.com">ljonesfam@msn.com</a> )
<b>Monthly meetings:</b>	<b>Time:</b> Third Monday each month, 7:00-9:00 pm (see schedule below) <b>Location:</b> Transformation Church, 6000 Iron Bridge Rd, Richmond, VA 23234 <b>Meeting content:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Seminar:</b> A talk given by a veteran practitioner in ministry—pastors, missionaries, church planters, and other leaders. This is followed by a Q and A discussion.</li><li>○ <b>Report time:</b> An opportunity for candidates to share experiences, discuss their progress in assignments, and raise questions.</li><li>○ <b>Prayer time:</b> An opportunity for candidates and mentors to pray for each other.</li><li>○ <b>Assignments:</b> A time to explain and plan out the personal assignments required for the semester.</li></ul>
<b>Mentoring:</b>	A mentor will be assigned to each candidate to serve as encouragers and accountability partners. Mentors will be recruited from your church and approved by your pastor. Candidates are to meet with their mentors at least twice a month. Mentors will attend the monthly meetings as well.
<b>Personal assignments:</b>	Candidates will have several tasks to complete each month, including short online courses, required reading, evangelism activities, and meetings with their mentor.
<b>Discussion board:</b>	Each week the Pipeline Coordinator will post a topic or question for discussion. Candidates are asked to respond at least weekly and to read over all the posts.
<b>Deployment:</b>	This program will constantly encourage candidates to explore and engage in ministry and mission-serving opportunities. A final semester (the following fall) will be focused primarily on helping candidates engage in apprenticeships, internships, or other ministry opportunities.
<b>Disclaimers:</b>	This program will not provide endorsements or referrals but will acknowledge involvement in the pipeline.

### Application Process

<b>Application:</b>	Each candidate must complete the application and personal survey available <a href="#">here</a> . The survey is a self-assessment tool provided by the International Mission Board. While it addresses cross-cultural missions, it
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provides helpful feedback for ministry preparation that both the candidate and the Pipeline Coordinator can review and consider together

**Deadline to apply:** August 4, 2025

**Church approval:** This program requires the support and approval of your church pastor. The Pipeline Coordinator will contact your pastor following the receipt of your application.

### Pipeline Objectives- Fall 2025

At the completion of the fall semester, candidates will develop the following competencies:

**Calling.** Identify a biblical definition of calling, a variety of ways God called people in the Bible, and proper responses to calling.

- Seminar: "Understanding the Call to Ministry"
- Reading: *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life* (Os Guinness) or *Don't Waste Your Life* (John Piper)
- Mentor conversation
- Discussion board questions

**Abiding in Christ.** Identify the ways to develop a deep, ongoing relationship with Jesus characterized by dependence on Him, a commitment to His teachings, and a life transformed by His love.

- Seminar: "Abiding in Christ – Lessons from John 15"
- Mentor conversation
- Discussion board questions

**Emotional and Social Health.** Recognize the connections between emotional maturity with spiritual maturity and identify practical steps and biblical principles to integrate the two.

- Seminar: "Getting and Staying Healthy in Ministry"
- Reading: *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* (Peter Scazzero)
- Mentor conversation
- Discussion board questions

**The Grand Narrative of Scripture.** Explain the arc of God's missional purpose as consistently expressed throughout the Bible and why it is important for understanding the Bible as a whole.

- Seminar: "The Grand Narrative of Scripture"
- Online study: "God's Glory among the Nations" (Pathwright course)
- Mentor conversation
- Discussion board questions

**The Missionary Task.** Articulate clearly the six components of the missionary task and how they apply to every church and calling within the mission of God.

- Seminar: "An Introduction to the Missionary Task"
- Reading: "Foundations" (IMB)
- Online study: "Southern Baptist Polity" (Pathwright course)
- Mentor conversation
- Discussion board questions

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### Pipeline Materials

\*\*\*\*\*Required program materials should be obtained ASAP and not later than the end of week 1.

**Books** (candidates will need to purchase or obtain these on their own):

1. *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life*. 1998. (Os Guinness)
  - Optional: *Don't Waste Your Life* (John Piper)
2. *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality: It's Impossible to Be Spiritually Mature, While Remaining Emotionally Immature*. 2017. (Peter Scazzero)

**Resources** (provided free by the Pipeline Program)

1. Baptist Faith and Message.
2. *Foundations*. International Mission Board.
3. Pipeline Mentor Guide.

**Online courses** (Pathwright):

Available for free at <https://imb.pathwright.com/library>. You will need to accept an email invitation from the Pipeline Coordinator to access these.

1. "God's Glory among the Nations"
2. "Southern Baptist Polity"

### Time Commitment

You should expect to dedicate at least 6 hours per week to this program. This will include the monthly meeting (2 hours per month), reading and online course assignments, twice-a-month mentor meetings (2 hours per month), an evangelistic activity (2 hours per month), and participation in the discussion board (1 hour per week).

The Pipeline program includes three semesters (fall, spring, and fall) of training, mentoring, and deploying. No meetings will take place over the summer, but candidates will be encouraged to complete one of the major assignments, *Deepen Discipleship*, and engage in ministry over the summer.

### Mentor Requirements

The Pipeline Program requires that each candidate be assigned a mentor from their church who will join them for the monthly program meetings and meet with the candidate twice a month (one hour each). The candidate's pastor should assist in the assignment of a spiritually-mature, same-sex adult to serve for at least the fall semester, if not through the second semester of the program.

Mentors will need to attend a training session led by the Pipeline Coordinator prior to the start of the fall semester. Mentors will be supplied with a guide to assist them in their meeting with the candidate.

Typical mentor-candidate meetings will include:

- A brief exploration together of a Scripture passage
- Accountability questions
- Review of current progress with assignments
- Prayer time

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### Evangelism Assignment

The Pipeline Program requires that each candidate participate in an outreach/evangelism effort of at least two hours each month. The intent of this assignment is to give candidates real-life experience with sharing the gospel with people. Candidates will be asked to complete a report of that activity to submit to the Pipeline Coordinator at the monthly meeting.

The Pipeline Coordinator will offer suggestions for evangelism activities but not be responsible for managing or developing these activities. It will be the candidate's responsibility to discover, develop, and/or engage in appropriate activities. Candidates should engage in different types of activities over the semester.

Monthly meetings will include a report time for candidates to share their experiences with each other.

Appropriate activities include but are not limited to:

- prayer walking in an area with a partner
- leading an outreach Bible study with non-believers
- meeting with a non-believer to share the gospel
- serving in an outreach effort with your church (such as a community block party, a tailgate event, a visitation time with church guests)
- serving on a mission trip with your church
- visiting a college campus to share the gospel with students

### Online Discussion Board

Each week (except during holidays) the Pipeline Coordinator will post a discussion question related to the month's seminar topic or the related assignments. Each candidate is required to respond to the question (250-500 words) and to comment on at least two of the other candidate's responses.

The discussion board will also be the place for the Pipeline Coordinator to post updates and to answer questions related to the program. Candidates should monitor this board several times each week during the semester.

Discussions will take place on Pathwright.

### Program Schedule

Month	Meetings	Assignments	Discussion Board
July		• August 4 - Deadline for application	
August	<b>August 4-16</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment Call with Pipeline Coordinator</li><li>• Mentor recruitment and assignment</li></ul>		

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Month	Meetings	Assignments	Discussion Board
<b>August</b>	<b>Cohort Meeting-Aug 18</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminar “Understanding the Call to Ministry”</li> <li>Mentor training and meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: <i>The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life</i> (Guinness) or <i>Don’t Waste Your Life</i> (Piper)</li> <li>First meeting with your mentor</li> </ul>	8/18 – Topic/question
			8/25 – Topic/question
<b>September</b>	<b>Cohort Meeting-Sep 15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminar “Abiding in Christ – Lessons from John 15”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evangelism activity</li> <li>Evangelism report</li> <li>Time with your mentor</li> </ul>	9/1 – Topic/question
			9/8 – Topic/question
			9/15 – Topic/question
			9/22 – Topic/question
			9/29 – Topic/question
<b>October</b>	<b>Cohort Meeting-Oct 20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminar “Getting and Staying Healthy in Ministry”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: <i>Emotionally Healthy Spirituality</i> (Peter Scazzero)</li> <li>Evangelism activity</li> <li>Evangelism report</li> <li>Time with your mentor</li> </ul>	10/6 – Topic/question
			10/13 – Topic/question
			10/20 – Topic/question
			10/27 – Topic/question
<b>November</b>	<b>Cohort Meeting-Nov 17</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminar “The Grand Narrative of Scripture”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online study: “God’s Glory among the Nations”</li> <li>Read: <i>The Baptist Faith and Message</i></li> <li>Evangelism activity</li> <li>Evangelism report</li> <li>Time with your mentor</li> </ul>	11/3 – Topic/question
			11/10 – Topic/question
			11/17 – Topic/question
			No discussion (Thanksgiving)
<b>December</b>	<b>Cohort Meeting-Dec 15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminar “An Introduction to the Missionary Task”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Foundations</i> (IMB)</li> <li>Online study: “Southern Baptist Polity”</li> <li>Evangelism activity</li> <li>Evangelism report</li> <li>Time with your mentor</li> </ul>	12/1 – Topic/question
			12/8 – Topic/question
			12/15 – Topic/question
			No discussion