

Clinch Valley Baptist Association

NEWS FROM STACIE BARKER

Thank you so much for your support for me in 2005-2007 while I was serving as a Journeyman in Botswana, Africa. It was always such a blessing to know that you and others were praying for me. I was very encouraged to receive the e-mails, cards, and packages while I was so far from home. As you know I also prayed for you then, and would be honored to continue to do so. Just let me know how I can pray for you.

I have been back in the US for almost 11 months. It feels like it was only yesterday that I was stepping off the plane in Tri-cities and joining friends for a birthday party at my favorite Mexican restaurant. Since then, I have had many rewarding experiences sharing my story at several college mission fairs.

It has also been a huge blessing to be able to reunite with the local churches that were supporting me and to share my stories and photographs of the work God is doing and how He changed my life. I have been substitute teaching while living at home, and this has given me a chance to share how beautiful Africa is with students. Also it has been fun spending time with friends and family whom I missed so much while living overseas. I invite you to check out my blog (www.alifeofphotographs.blogspot.com) to see photographic evidence of what I have been doing this past year.

God has not forgotten my passion for missions. I am blessed that He has been opening doors for me to again serve in Africa on a short-term mission trip in January, 2008. I would be there for about a month or so. As you may know, the people of Zimbabwe have been on my heart even before I returned from Botswana. Many of you have helped me pray for these wonderful people and their current oppressive situation that hinders not only their spiritual needs, but the basics of daily life as well.

I feel very strongly that God has placed the peoples of Zimbabwe on my heart for a purpose. God is opening doors for me to travel into Zimbabwe for a few weeks of one-on-one ministry with the people in that country through the Christian organization, Operation Impact. I look forward to returning to Africa in His service.

I also look forward to seeing my mission family whom I grew to love and now miss very much. I am also excited about traveling through Botswana and seeing my friends that I poured my life into for two years and to see how they have been growing in the Lord since I left.

Is it going to happen? I need prayer and financial support for it to become a reality. I would greatly appreciate your prayerful consideration to help me as I prepare for this trip back to Africa. Although I have prepared a very conservative budget, as you can imagine, such a trip to Africa is still very expensive. I am sure of God's call and I know that He provides for our needs.

Would you help me go in His name on this trip? I need your prayers and financial support to go on this mission opportunity. Thank you for taking this special request to

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CVBA Missions Statement

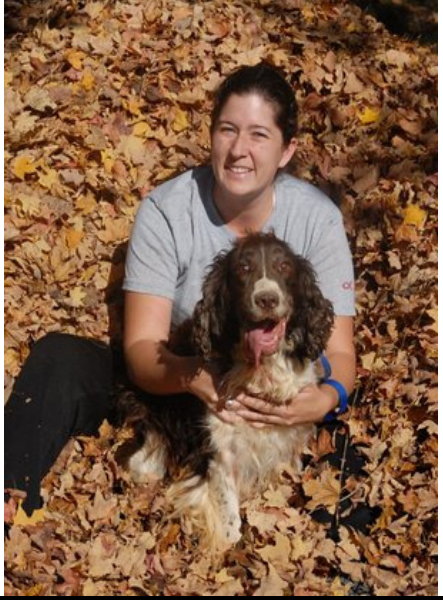
"The Mission of the CVBA is to assist and equip our churches in understanding and accomplishing the work of God's Kingdom."

CVBA Vision Statement

"Our Vision is to see our Churches unified in fulfilling the Great Commissions in a spirit of love."



Stacie & Morgan who loves playing in the fall leaves



“Back to Africa”

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the Lord in prayer. Every prayer and every dollar will be greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for your dedication to missions and your generosity to me for my ministry.

In His Grip,
Stacie

If you would like to help Stacie with a donation to make this mission opportunity possible, please send Checks to:

First Baptist Church, Gate City

P.O. Box 97

Gate City, VA 24251

Designated for: Stacie Barker, Africa

You donation should be tax deductible. Check with you financial adviser.

For further information you may contact Stacie at:

188 Bluebird Lane • Gate City, Virginia 24251 • (423) 360-9219 •

stacie2africa@hotmail.com

Church News

Community Fellowship:

Pastor John Sheppard ... The church welcomed one new member this month. Wrap and Pack Day for Operation Christmas Child was Saturday, Nov. 10. Fifty church members packed 250 shoeboxes with items the church had collected all year. The church served as a collection center the week of the 12th. A total of 332 boxes were completed by CFBC church members by the end of collection week. A total of 1,862 boxes were collected during the week. Nineteen people took the boxes and worked all day at the processing center in Boone, North Carolina on Nov. 20th. The church family enjoyed a taco fellowship supper on the 11th. Special thanks to Bill Henard and Scott Shearin. (Submitted by Judy McConnell).

Cowan's Branch:

Pastor Mike Sampson ... Praise God for the fall revival. The week long revival saw a constant move of God in our church which is stirring us for more and deeper service for our Lord. We have enjoyed special singing from Pine Ridge Bluegrass, Bro. Phil Overby and a special blessing from Joel Jenkins and Ashley Jenkins. We had baptism on Nov. 11, praise God for the newest addition to our church. We have now completed the shoebox ministry with much excitement. We continue to plan for church growth by intensifying our efforts for spiritual growth. We have been delivering "Holiday baskets" to both the elderly, shut ins and nursing home. Hope full to bring some Thanksgiving and holiday cheer by reflecting the love of Christ to others. We are planning for a great December and a closing to this year with a New Years Eve service that will be a joyful time, all are invited. Please continue to pray for us as we pray for you. (Submitted by Pastor Mike Sampson)

Dungannon, First:

Pastor Larry Beavers... Our Fall Community Revival was truly a blessing. Pastor Larry Beavers, Pastor Walter Taylor, and Pastor Ed Blair gave us much inspiration about what "revival" really means. On October 10th, youth from our church attended a concert at Sullivan North High School. October 28th was Blue Jean Day and our fall outing. Members Mike and Brenda Taylor hosted our fall outing with a hayride and a "weenie" roast. Everyone had a good time with fun and fellowship in the Lord. Upcoming events include an outing to Breaks Interstate Park, Blanket Appalachia, and the Community Thanksgiving Service. We continue to work with youth in the community and prepare meals for the elderly and needy. We continue to pray that God will bless us as we strive to do His will in our lives. (Submitted by Lisa Dingus).

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CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

Free Hill:

Pastor Carlos Wolfe ... On Saturday, November 24th we met and delivered fruit baskets to people in our community. The Lottie Moon Christmas offering will be received on December 2nd. On Sunday, December 2nd, we will have our combined Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner beginning at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come join us for an evening of good food and fellowship. The seniors will meet for their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 4th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. We plan to go Christmas caroling on Wednesday night, December 12. We invite everyone to join us for this occasion. On Sunday, December 23rd, we will exchange gifts and Christmas cards. A Christmas play will be presented in the evening at 7:00 pm. There will be a Christmas candlelight service at the church on Monday, December 24th at 4:00 pm in the afternoon. On Monday night, December 31st, we will be joining Bethany Methodist Church for our watch night service. Services will begin at 8:00 pm at Bethany. There will be singing and Rev. Carlos Wolfe will be preaching. Come join us for an evening of good fellowship. We will sing out the old year and sing in the New Year. Merry Christmas to everyone. (submitted by Lillian Ann Hartsock)

Gate City, First:

Pastor - Dr. Rob Jones... It's that time of year again: Upward Time! Our church has completed evaluations and team assignments of the 400 plus children and their coaches and other leaders who will be helping out in this year's league. We pray for our sister churches who are also offering Upward; what a unique way for all kinds of churches to partner together to share the gospel and minister to children and their families. First Baptist just finished a 10 week Sunday Night Discipleship segment with five different classes being offered for our adults and also classes offered for our youth. We had 100 plus adults to participate and a number of youth as well as children involved in Team Kid. Our Sunday Night attendance totals at times have pushed the 200 mark, and remember numbers do count because numbers represent people! Once again our church participated in Samaritan's Purse / Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry and had the opportunity to partner together with other churches in our community to send thousands of boxes to needy children in third world countries; thank you churches for stepping up to such a great way to share the love of Jesus! On Nov. 8th 39 people from First Baptist attended the Chris Tomlin / Louie Giglio Indescribable concert tour stop in Johnson City. Our church so looking forward to all that this season has to offer in the way of special events and emphases such as our Children's Christmas Musical to be held Sunday Night, Dec. 2nd and our Adult Christmas Musical which is scheduled for Sunday morning, Dec. 16th during the 10:30 service. Our church is also privileged to host 21 families this year in an event that has come to be known as "Christmas Blessing;" this involves upwards of 150 people from our church sharing the love of Christ; and it really is a blessing! In retrospect, the year 2007 has been one of tremendous growth (numerically and spiritually) in the life of our church; we've also lost some dear people through death. We anticipate next year however that God is going to lead us to greater heights BUT ONLY TO DISPLAY HIS GLORY AND NONE OF OUR OWN! (Submitted by Dr. Rob Jones).

Heritage:

Pastor - Larry Browder ... The month of November was an especially good month for our church. During the weekend of Nov 9-11 we participated in the Blanket Appalachia ministry and we were blessed with several area folks who came through for us to minister to in cooperation with the great folks from the First Baptist Church from Matthews, NC. On Sunday, Nov 11, we began a revival with Bro Charles Long from Rock of Ages Prison Ministries going through Wednesday night, Nov 14. The Lord blessed each night with some wonderful services with this man of God being used greatly. On Saturday, Nov 17 several from the church went to Shirley's in Hampton, TN for a meal that was out of this world! There was also much fellowship. Our church participated in the Hiltons Area Community service and meal at the Hiltons Church of God on Sunday evening, November 18. The Samaritan shoe boxes were finished and taken for distribution. Some of our ladies went to Boone, NC to assist in the preparation for sending to the needy children around the world. We are in the process of developing a relationship with a church in Uganda due to them receiving our shoe boxes from last year. On Thursday, Nov 29 two of our men went to the Rock of Ages Discipleship Institute and helped with putting together a 2008 calendar for distribution to prisoners who receive correspondence from ROA. The AWANA program had a good month with several newcomers. Praise God for all his blessings which was our focus all this month! (Submitted by Pastor Larry Browder)

Nickelsville, First:

Pastor Steve Collins ... We hosted our annual Thanksgiving meal November 18th at Keith Memorial Park with the churches of the Methodist Circuit. We had a great time of fellowship, good food, and hosted the largest crowd ever for this event. We thank God for allowing everyone to come and celebrate this joyous occasion. We collected and delivered 66 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child to Community Fellowship Church. A big thanks to everyone who prepared these boxes. Continue to pray for this ministry as these shoe boxes go to those special children who will receive them. In our Sunday evening service on November 25th

CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED ON PG. 4

Danny Dixon did a PowerPoint presentation concerning our church & community history. This was very informative and we thank Danny for the many hours of work that he put into this project. On November 30 nearly 50 of our people traveled to Brumley Cove for an overnight stay in our new retreat center. Everyone had a wonderful time as we shared food, fun, and fellowship. Through our Upward Basketball Program we hosted 3 nights of registration and evaluation, enrolling some 160 children in this year's program. We are looking forward to another great year with these children and want to thank all of the adults who are participating in this wonderful program of outreach and evangelism. On the first Sunday in November our church participated in "Consider Your Call" Sunday. At the conclusion we had approximately 30 people respond to the call of God in their lives. In following through with these decisions Ken Dibble (Youth Strategist), Leslie Straw (Adult Strategist), and Diane Smith (Children's Strategist) from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, are scheduled to be with us on the evening of December 10th to encourage and share resources with our people. We're excited about the many good things God is doing through His people. We plan to have our International Missions study on Sunday, December 9th, at the conclusion of the week of prayer for international missions. (Submitted by Steve Collins).

Partnership Opportunities

Local, Regional, Statewide, National & International



Cowan's Branch Church is in need of a pianist and song leader for the 11:00 o'clock worship service. If you, or someone you know, might be willing to help with this important ministry position, please contact Pastor Mike Sampson at Cowan's Branch Baptist Church. He can be reached by e-mail at home at mikegodsservant@yahoo.com (home 423-247-3588) or by e-mail at the church at cbmbc@mounet.com (church 276-386-6791). Thanks for your help!



The Sign Says it All!

During recent months the town of Dungannon has experienced a severe water shortage due to major leaks that the officials are still in the process of locating. At the request of the Scott County Emergencies Coordinator, Jeff Brickey, shower units from the Clinch Valley Baptist Association and the Roanoke Valley Association were activated and set up at First Baptist Church in Dungannon. In addition, a 6,500 gallon tanker was set up to feed the shower units. A laundry unit from Appomattox Association is also on stand-by and ready for delivery.

The water situation has improved somewhat but the town is still under emergency notice. At the present time members from the Dungannon Church are overseeing these operations but help may be needed in the near future. If you are interested in future volunteer opportunities, please contact Larry Beavers at 276-467-2140 (salt_lit@mounet.com) or Pat Johnson at 276-479-2249 (patrickj@mounet.com).

Please remember the town officials and utility workers in your prayers during this extremely stressful period.

Give, so they can hear

It's a simple story, yet the most

powerful ever told: the story of Jesus. Do you remember the first time you heard - and believed? Now, imagine no one ever told you. How would your life be different? It's an eternal reality for the world's 1.6 billion souls with little or no access to the Gospel.

Facts

International Mission Board vital stats

- 5,148 missionaries (as of 7/17/07)
- 23,486 new churches
- 475,072 baptisms
- 590,890 new believers in discipleship

Status of World Evangelization

- 11,362 people groups worldwide; 6.6 billion people
- 6,494 unreached* people groups; 3.6 billion people
- 5,900 Last Frontier** people groups; 1.6 billion people

*Less than 2 percent evangelical

**Less than 2 percent evangelical, no active church planting

Lottie Moon past and present

- 2007 goal: \$165 million
- 2006 receipts: \$150,178,098.06
- \$2.8 billion given since offering's inception
- \$3,315 collected in 1888 for first offering, enough to send three women to China

Former Soviet Union focus

- 15 nations; 284.1 million people
- 387 total people groups
- 49 people groups among whom IMB personnel work
- 306 Last Frontier people groups
- 9 people groups with no access to the Gospel
- 50 percent Christian (nonevangelical)
- 24 percent Muslim
- 22 percent nonreligious

How much does it cost to support a missionary?

- \$40,866.61 a year
- \$3,405.55 a month
- \$785.90 a week

Support includes housing, food, children's education, retirement and more.

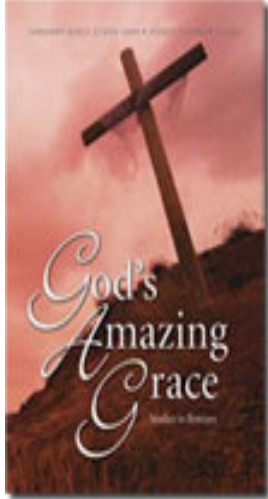
IMB budgeted income 2007:

- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering - 52 percent
- Cooperative Program - 36 percent
- Investment income - 6 percent
- Hunger, relief and other income - 6 percent

(Statistics copied from the IMB web-site)



January Bible Study 2008



God's Amazing Grace Studies in Romans

Even long-time believers probably have more questions about God than they will admit. So let Paul's explanation of his beliefs to Roman Christians long ago help Christians in your church today. Through this relevant study adults will understand that the amazing grace of God is the basis of His salvation. In addition, participants will be transformed by this marvelous study. The study offers much versatility with your choice of four – two hour sessions, or eight – one hour sessions. Materials for the January Bible Study can be ordered online or picked up at local LifeWay stores. The session titles and study emphases are as follows:

- 1. Can I Believe in God?**
God Reveals Himself
God Accepts Our Faith
- 2. Is God Still Active Today?**
God Has Gifts for Us
God Delivers From Sin
- 3. Does God Care About Me?**
Consider How God Helps Christians
Consider God's Attitude Toward Israel
- 4. Does God Care How I Live?**
Respect God's Will
Respect Others

State & National

Virginia Baptist Mission Board News –

- The Southwest Virginia Christian Leadership is offering the following training opportunities:

PREACH IT! TEACH IT!

God's Amazing Grace: Studies in the Book of Romans

Looking for sermon ideas? Or, maybe you'd just like to enjoy the refreshment of study in God's Word?
Can I believe in God? Is God still active today? Does God care about me? Does God care how I live?

November 5, 10 am to noon, Bonsack Baptist Church, Roanoke

NEW SESSION JUST ADDED!! November 5, 6:00-8:30 pm, Fellowship Baptist Church, Meadowview

November 6, 10:30 am to noon, New Lebanon Assn. building, Cedar Bluff

Facilitated by Dr. Bob Moore, pastor of Bonsack Baptist Church

**Register NOW by contacting the Network, 540.777-3014 or 866.223.9344 (toll-free)
or email, gary.chapman@vbmb.org**

College/Masters Bible courses offered spring 2008

Wise/Campus Center at University of Virginia at -Wise

Johannine Literature

Church Administration/Leadership

Roanoke/Bonsack Baptist Church

Church History

Christian Education

Preaching and Communication (Masters)

**Contact the Network for more information at 540.777-3014 or 866.223.9344 (toll-free)
or email, gary.chapman@vbmb.org**



Whether you're up for an aloha-style adventure to live God's unshakeable truth or a trail-blazing trip through the Wild West, LifeWay has a Vacation Bible School option for 2008 that will meet your outreach needs. "Outrigger Island: Living God's Unshakeable Truth" and "Club VBS: Cactus Canyon" are the VBS themes for 2008.

Set in a tropical paradise, LifeWay's main VBS line will take the children, youth and adults to Outrigger Island where they will learn to know, speak and live God's truth. Based on Psalm 86:11 - "Teach me Your way, Lord, and I will live by Your truth" - this tropical adventure will help participants develop the stability they need to become unshakeable in a world of shifting sands.

Outrigger Island is designed for all ages and follows a traditional VBS schedule with three-hour sessions throughout a weeklong summer program. Churches have dozens of options for curriculum, crafts, decorations, snacks and recreation in this line.

In "Club VBS: Cactus Canyon," kids will saddle up and hit the trail. They will learn all about the good news in John 3:16 - "For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life" - and how they can tell family, friends and people around the world about Jesus.

If you're interested in either of these themes for VBS you'll want to check out the following training dates for training:

January 11 - 12, 2008 – Ridgecrest, N.C.

January 18 - 19 – Glorieta, NM

January 31 - February 1 – Nashville, TN

February 1 - 2, Nashville, TN

Get in on the action! Be among the first to see LifeWay's exciting Vacation Bible School materials for 2008! This special event provides previews of Outrigger Island. Join VBS composer Jeff Slaughter and other VBS leaders from across the country for this hands-on, two-day event that's overflowing with ideas and information.

VBS 2008 Preview includes:

- Sessions for both Outrigger Island and Club VBS: Cactus Canyon themes
- VBS composer Jeff Slaughter
- Preview of Outrigger Island musical
- VBS Expo, full of great ideas — Bring your camera!
- Sessions designed for VBS Directors, Preschool VBS Leaders, Children's VBS Leaders, Youth Leaders, Adult Leaders, Special Friends (formerly Special Education) Leaders



Registration Fee: \$55.00 per person (room and meals not included) or see group rate information at the Upon check-in, receive FREE an exclusive Aloha Bag — only available at VBS Preview Events! — and a VBS 2008 Outrigger Island T-shirt. (Please indicate T-shirt size when registering. Sizes vary from XS-3X and the shirts are preshrunk 100 percent cotton).

Space is limited. Reserve your place today!

The Emerging Leader's Team from the VBMB is planning the "Southwest Virginia VBS Tour" for the last week in March (24th – 28th).

Sessions will be offered in New Lebanon & Highlands Association.

If you would like our association to hold a VBS Clinic

Contact Niki Gourley at the VBMB or Steve Collins at Nickelsville, First.

The Churches of the Clinch Valley Baptist Association

Community Fellowship Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. John Sheppard (276) 386-6024

CFBCCGateCity@earthlink.net

Cowans Branch Baptist Church

Pastor – Rev. Mike Sampson (276) 386-6791

cbmbc@mounet.com

Daniel Boone Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. R. D. Stallard (276) 452-4368

melindap@mounet.com

Darthula Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Layton Bentley (276) 386-9280

laytonbentley@yahoo.com

Dungannon, First Baptist Church

Rev. Larry Beavers (276) 467-2140

salt_lit@mounet.com

Free Hill Baptist Church

Rev. Carlos Wolfe (276) 479-1489

carloswolfe@yahoo.com

Gate City, First Baptist Church

Pastor – Dr. Robert Jones (276) 386-3281

secretary@fbcgatecity.org

Heritage Baptist Church

Pastor - Rev. Larry Browder (276) 386-2403

Browder1726@embarqmail.com

Hilton Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Randy Cleek (276) 386-2834

Donna_L_Cleek@wellmont.org

Marble Point Baptist Church

Interim Pastor Rev. J. W. Bowen (276) 386-2267

arc@mounet.com

Moore's Memorial Baptist Church

Pastor – Rev. Patrick (PJ) Johnson

pjandamandaj@mounet.com

New Bethel Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Larry Spivey (276) 386-9328

No e-mail address available

Nickelsville, First Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Steve Collins (276) 479-3222

fbcnick@mounet.com

Rivermont Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Jim Price (276) 591-5257

wwwfarm@mounet.com

Thomas Village Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Garry Edwards (276) 431-4101

tvbc@mounet.com

Weber City, First Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Johnny Kendrick (276) 386-7247

secretary@fbcwebercity.org

Zion Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Winston Hall (423) 272-2050

winston@winstonhall.com

Director of Missions - VACANT

Treasurer – Jim Johnston

johnston@mounet.com

Moderator – Jerry S. Hall

Vice-Moderator – Danny Ward



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