

Church-wide Connection Activities

Emmaus Baptist Church: All Emmaus members were given a puzzle piece and asked to write the name of a person they hoped would become a Christian. When put together, the pieces formed a picture of Jesus and the puzzle was hung on the wall. Emmaus also has a suggestion box for new ministries, and a town hall meeting will be held to discuss the suggestions.

Pioneer Baptist Church: Pioneer will host a “Back-to-school” Carnival on September 11. All age groups and ministries will help plan, promote, and conduct this outreach event.

Beulah Baptist Church: Beulah provided training to help its members share their faith. Two of the programs used are: *Just Walk Across the Room* and *Becoming a Contagious Christian*. Individuals also had the opportunity to take a spiritual gifts inventory.

North Run Baptist Church: North Run will begin an AWANA program for children in September. There will be Bible studies for adults at the same time.

Kentwood Heights Baptist Church: All Kentwood Heights Sunday School classes will participate in “Connect for Christ” where each person is encouraged to bring at least one other person to Sunday School. The church plans to follow up with each visitor.

Corinth Baptist Church: Corinth held a “Vision Quest Luncheon” for the entire church to fill out a survey and share in an open forum discussion on the church’s future. They will hold a “Back to School Bash” and give away clothes and school supplies at the event.

Goochland Baptist Church: Goochland will host a community event, “Dogs’ Day,” on August 7. There will be all sorts of activities that dogs and their

friends will enjoy. Many people in Goochland’s community are dog owners.

Ridge Baptist Church: The Ridge Connections team has been meeting and will bring their recommendations to the church in July.

Antioch Baptist Church: Members of Antioch have been working to make the church more visitor friendly. They started by placing signs and making the church building more handicapped-accessible. Antioch will also enhance their website.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church: Mount Pleasant will hold a town hall meeting to discuss Connection ideas.

First Baptist Church, Ashland: First Baptist, Ashland will host eight community yard sales the second and fourth Saturdays of the next four months to benefit church ministries and people in need in their community. Sellers may purchase a space for \$15 and may keep all the proceeds from their sales.

Cool Spring Baptist Church: The church has approved the Connections Project, and the team is meeting to determine their “one new thing.”

Oak Hall Baptist Church, Dover Baptist Church, Poplar Springs Baptist Church, and Mount Olivet Baptist Church: Connection teams have been formed and have begun the discernment process.

Glen Allen Baptist Church: Glen Allen has begun a four month strategic planning process. They are also building a new building which they plan to dedicate in December.

New Bethesda Baptist Church: New Bethesda hosts “Believers' Bistro” every third Saturday night in their fellowship hall. The proceeds from Believer's Bistro benefit their new building campaign. This event has also served as an outreach ministry, because there have usually been guests from the community to attend as well.

Connection Stories

Beulah Baptist Church: During Wednesday night studies, Beulah members have been studying *They Like Jesus but Not the Church*. The co-worker of a Beulah member saw this book which led to an opportunity to share a Christian testimony. The co-worker has now accepted Christ.

Corinth Baptist Church: Corinth collected clothes for a family who lost their home in a fire.

Cornerstone Christian Church: Members of Cornerstone were encouraged to connect with their unchurched and non-Christian friends. Free Flying Squirrels tickets and grant money to help with hosting a dinner for the unchurched/non-Christian friends is available to Cornerstone's members.

New Canaan International Church (Richmond Association): New Canaan has served its local community, by being a catalyst for racial reconciliation. They recently teamed with a predominately white neighboring church for community service projects. Few in the neighborhood have ever seen such cooperation.

Parham Road Baptist Church: Parham Road began their community outreach involving most of the congregation in prayer-walking through their neighborhoods. Many grew more comfortable with sharing their faith with strangers. Parham Road held a parade through their surrounding neighborhoods on July 3. The parade led to a block party at the church. Approximately 1,000 attended. Parham Road will host "Patriots' Day" on September 11.

Four Mile Creek Baptist Church: Four Mile Creek has begun a new outreach ministry called "Young Lives" which ministers to teenage mothers. They are currently seeking approval to approach their local high school with this ministry.

Glen Allen Baptist Church: Glen Allen will hold two outreach events this Fall. On September 18 they

will host Glen Allen Day at Meadow Farm Park. On October 24 they will host a Fall Festival. The church expects to dedicate its new building in December.

Northside Baptist Church: Northside hosted a "Children's Music and Art Camp" July 5-9. More than 40 children attended, mostly from families not connected with the church.

First Baptist Church, West Point: West Point is starting a bus ministry for their outreach. Church members, non-members, senior adults, and children whose parents do not attend church, will benefit from West Point's bus ministry.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God will breathe a spirit of cooperation and commitment upon Dover Baptists.
- Pray for discernment as Dover Baptist churches seek God's direction.
- Pray for patience as Dover Baptists work to connect with their communities.
- Pray for unity among God's people.
- Pray for those who will use *More to Life*, a personal evangelism tool.
- Pray that God will provide for the needs of our communities and use us to help meet them.
- Pray for each church as they face the challenge of starting something new.
- Pray for the new ministries begun by Dover churches.