

connect

Meeting America's
Greatest Need

BCP
A PUBLICATION OF
BAPTIST CHURCH PLANTERS

Spring 2015



The Call from Camden

Paul and Janet Robinson, Camden, NJ

Cornerstone Bible Baptist Church is located in Camden, New Jersey.

Cornerstone exists to glorify God by leading lost souls to Jesus Christ, molding their lives into Christ-likeness, training them to do the work of the ministry, and mobilizing them to minister the Word of God to the world. The culture of Camden consists of a family structure that is almost completely unraveled, including a co-mixture of unwed mothers and fathers living together, single parents who are separated or divorced, seniors who are struggling to raise their grandchildren, homeless families and a few intact families here and there.

The results of this unraveling of the family are the greatest challenge for our ministry — young boys hanging out on the streets with no guidance nor any positive role model to follow; young men with a police record or in jail; men and women abusing drugs and alcohol; mothers on welfare who need to be taught responsibility and child training; promiscuous young people who need to be taught what love,

dating, marriage and family looks like; and men who need to be taught how to be responsible heads of their households.

We have touched every kind of people and need imaginable in Camden. We recently took a woman struggling with addiction to a Christian drug rehab center; we are presently working with a single mom struggling with drug addiction who is trying to get her children back from the State; we are helping a recently homeless family acquire furniture for their new apartment.

We minister to children and teens in our community. Last year we averaged thirty-five kids in our Friday Night Youth Outreach Ministry. Each summer we send over twenty kids to Bible camp for a week with a full scholarship. Ministering to these needs gives our church the opportunity to share the Gospel. We have seen many receive Christ as their personal Savior. Last summer we baptized and added nine new converts to the church. Presently, I am discipling two young men who were recently saved and are eager to

know more about the Bible and to grow in the Lord.

Our hearts are broken for our community. All predictions indicate that Camden and other inner cities of the United States will continue to experience spiritual and moral decay, but there are few Bible-believing, disciple-making churches to reach them. At the same time the Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and other cults have targeted these cities and have been very successful in gaining a foothold. We believe that even though Satan has a resolute grip on the hearts and lives of the people of Camden, these broken lives can be effectively reached and radically changed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. My wife and I have a grasp of Jesus' burden and how He felt when, upon observing the condition of the multitudes, "...He was moved with compassion on them...." (Matt. 9:36).

One of our greatest needs is for laborers *to come and serve with us* to reach Camden for Christ. We look forward to Him sending laborers to enter this harvest field.

From President Stephen Little:



Many years ago as a Christian businessman I wondered, **"What is my purpose in life?"** That thought led to me to serve in my local church, serving led to a calling of God, and God's calling led me to church planting. I firmly believe that in God's economy He has everything He needs to build His church—people!

The adjacent article on Camden, New Jersey, reveals a **place** and **purpose** for someone to partner with missionaries Paul and Janet Robinson. It is much like the Macedonian call— "Come and help us!"

Are you willing to ask yourself the same question, **"What is my purpose in life?"** If that thought leads you to conclude that service to Jesus Christ is the only meaningful answer, then contact us. **God just may have the place and purpose for you with BCP!**



Where does a church turn when times are difficult and closure seems imminent?

Closure Counseling

In the recent book "Autopsy of a Deceased Church," Thom Rainer stated that 100,000 churches in the USA are showing signs of decline toward death. ChurchCare has over ten years of experience ministering to churches at difficult times. ChurchCare provides a means of preserving assets for future church planting. The closure of one church may provide the funds to plant many churches.

Construction

With missionary builders, construction costs can be reduced by as much as 50%. ChurchCare Construction has missionary builders with experience in all areas of church construction and is ready to assist with your building project.

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getuntangled.org

“Protect your family at all costs!”

I have added an internet safety course on our website. Use it for your own personal knowledge or show it to your church.

One of the resources I mention in the workshop is a filtering wireless router that will cover your entire house. Clean Router is designed with built-in internet filtering. I have tested it and found it to be a valuable resource for families wanting to protect their household from junk on the internet. 91% of kids are exposed to pornography for the first time while doing research for school projects online at home!!! Help protect your kids.

If you are interested, go to www.techpartner.org/homefiltering to purchase it. The cost is around \$150, and it comes with six months of free filtering service. After that, it is \$29.99/year for internet filtering. This Buffalo router is WELL worth the money for the power of this software built into the router.



“Protect your family at all costs!”

Watch Chris Brown do a workshop on internet filtering at www.techpartner.org/internet-protection-workshop.

Purchase the Clean Router through techPartner.org!



**CLEAN
ROUTER**
by Pandora's Hope
Internet Protection



Are You an Enabler?

It was today, usually a Thursday, that eight to twelve retired people from local churches in our area spent several hours **volunteering** at the home office. Their task was to prepare a bulk mailing. Thousands of receipts and prayer letters are processed each month from the Baptist Church Planters' office. We appreciate our volunteers who provide time, energy, and expertise. These gifts are valuable, and we cherish them.

Baptist Church Planters depends on the generous and faithful gifts of our friends. Without them, we would cease to be. Every gift is important. As well as the volunteers' contributions, there are other gifts we appreciate. The monetary gifts that fuel the engines of maintenance, administration, and missionary support are vital as well. These gifts include regular contributions, special giving and planned gifts.

Every year Baptist Church Planters receives regular contributions from more than 1500 individuals or churches who support our ongoing mission of planting churches. Thank you to those who are part of the 1500. Why not be an enabler? Our missionaries depend on those who enable them to continue "Meeting America's Greatest Need."

Baptist Church Planters' Youth Ministry

Chip Wood



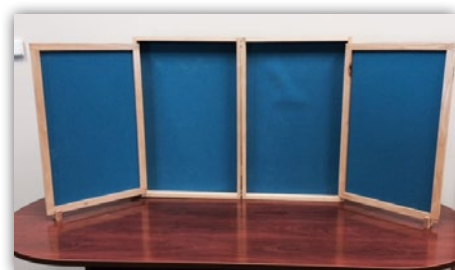
BCPym currently has two projects in development:



The first project is a youth curriculum that we are writing in order to help small churches. Our purpose is to create a quality but affordable tool that anyone from a trained missionary to a beginning teacher could use. It is based on Hebrews 11 and focuses on the application of true faith. In order to keep the cost down for the missionary, we would like to raise the \$2,000 in development and production costs to create this tool. To have a part, visit www.bcpusa.org/giving. Use the Spring Connect 2015 button, and you will see this project listed.

The second project is an idea to retrofit twelve wooden displays that we no longer use. These displays were handcrafted by Chuck Little years ago. Of course, if you knew him at all and the quality work he did, you know why they are just as nice now as the day they were made. The original purpose for these was for missionaries to use them to present their deputation material. The displays are made of sturdy but lightweight wood. They fold up to carry but open up to make four panels.

Most church plants have no church building, so they are doing Bible studies in apartment buildings, gymnasiums, retirement centers, etc. Missionaries carry everything in and set up for the worship service.



When they are finished, everything goes out-hymnals, music stands, sound systems, etc. Unless the room they meet in happens to have a chalkboard or the like, they are at a deficit for visuals.

I would like to repurpose those displays to be a portable visual display by adding magnetic whiteboards to two of the panels. It would then become a portable teaching tool. Main points can be written on the white board, the flannel graph or magnetic pictures can reinforce the lesson, or it can be a bulletin board for upcoming events, used like churches do with poster displays. The cost to repurpose each display is \$120. My goal is to take them to BCP's Family Camp this summer, where all the missionaries will be gathered, and present this new tool for them to use in sharing the wonderful message of the Gospel. To have a part, visit www.bcpusa.org/giving. Use the Spring Connect 2015 button, and you will see this project listed.

BCP displays need updating:

Another project that you may consider enabling is the updating of the displays that our personnel use when they are representing BCP in churches, conferences and at colleges. With the changes taking place in every aspect of the BCP ministry, the displays needed an update and a new look. The total cost of providing the displays to each Regional Field Director and representative of BCP is \$1500. To be an **enabler**, please visit www.bcpusa.org/giving. Use the Spring Connect 2015 button and select New Tabletop Displays.





Getting first-hand experience in church planting

God has blessed me with the opportunity

to serve Him as a pastoral intern at Bennington Baptist Church in Bennington, NE, for all of 2015. I first met Pastors Peter Jenks and Eric Wilmeth when they invited students from Faith Baptist Bible College to join them in Nebraska for a weekend or more of ministry to get a taste of church planting. I made that trip, and I loved it. Over the next five years, I made many weekend trips to Bennington, and in doing so I built a strong relationship with the pastors and the church. Now, sensing God's leading into home missions, I get to experience the daily life and work of a church planter as I work side-by-side with Pastor Wilmeth each week. I am excited to see how God will use this year to increase my understanding of home missions, give me a greater passion for the lost, and equip me with tools and experiences that can only be gained in hands-on situations.

During my time here, I will have



the opportunity to preach about a dozen times, organize Sunday worship services, participate in Bible studies, attend pastors' meetings and camp board meetings, volunteer at the GARBC conference, plan evangelistic outreach events, and get involved in the Bennington community. Looking to the future, Pastor Eric is having me form a strategy for starting my own church plant.

Only God knows all that He has planned for me, but as I come to a fuller realization of why He wants me in Bennington right now, I am repeatedly amazed by His provision and His sovereignty. This ministry opportunity was definitely orchestrated by God, not me! "A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps" (Proverbs 16:9).



Would you like to "Go Paperless"?

Many of us are buying into the practice of paperless billing options, online newspapers, and digital communication. "Going paperless" not only contributes to a more organized lifestyle and is environmentally-friendly, it also helps to cut down on costs. In an effort to assist you in your organization at home and to help BCP be a good steward of the resources

that He has given us to do His work, we want to offer you the option of receiving this Connect electronically. If you "go paperless," we will send you a notification that the next Connect has been published and is available online. If you would like to continue receiving the Connect to actually hold and turn the pages, we will continue to mail your copy to you. To go paperless, we need your email address. Please visit our website at www.bcpusa.org/go-paperless, where you will find a short form to complete. Please note that this will not apply to your monthly receipt.

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Congratulations Mountain Shadows Baptist Church!



Graduation Day for Mountain Shadows Baptist Church in Pueblo West, CO, was a great celebration of all that God has accomplished over the last 5½ years. There were 157 in attendance, filling most of the seats in the new auditorium. The celebration included the founding pastor and his wife, assisting church planters, the Carters, and Pastor Mike Sanders and family from the Mitchell's sending church in NY. BCP was represented by former president Dr. David and Kathy Little and Regional Field Director Peter and Mary Lou Jenks. Dr. Little preached at the graduation service with a charge to the church, then Dr. Gary Anderson, president of BMM, preached the installation service with a charge to the new pastor, Ryan Lundquist, who happens to also be his son-in-law. The first service was also highlighted with the baptism of two people in the new baptistry!



PROMOTED TO GLORY IN 2014:

- Mary Ellen Hutchinson**
- Roy Cupples**
- John Hicks**
- David Gardner**
- Vivian Smith**

MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Since our last publication,
 gifts were given
 in loving memory of:*

- Alice Shepard**
- Clarence Kennedy**