

*2011 PowerPoint
Talking Points*



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Alma Hunt
Offering for Virginia Missions

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WMUV... Developing Future Leaders

Recognizing our responsibility to develop leaders of all ages, WMUV provides many options for growth in spirit, mind and body. Acting upon a spiritual mandate to develop Christian leaders, WMUV commits to motivating and challenging persons to consider spiritual and missions leadership roles. Through opportunities given to State Panelists, Women's Uptick, Leaders-In-Training, Leaders-In-Training Extended (LITE), Outstanding GA and the Summer Staff at CrossRoads, young women and men are discerning their missional calling to "join Jesus Christ where He is at work in the world."

Hunger Emphasis

People in churches across Virginia are discovering and using their unique contributions to address hunger in their communities and beyond. Individuals, churches, associations and agencies are identifying issues related to hunger, exploring ways for partnering to develop more relational, sustainable, life-changing ministries. Through initiatives such as hunger dialogs, food co-ops, community gardens, and an intentional focus on World Hunger, WMUV and Virginia Baptist Mission Board are providing resources and facilitating networks to tackle the hunger pandemic.

Associational Mission Support

Money is distributed on a pro-rata basis back to the associations for their mission projects and other initiatives.

WMUV... Promoting Mission Networks and Partnerships

Missions is the heart of WMUV, and it believes that doors open when people discover, embrace, and live the call to missions. Whether working with the Sioux Indians in North and South Dakota, women and children in India, Roma women in Hungary, WMUV provides opportunities for every person - regardless of age or ability - 'to be on mission with God'.

New Church Investment Grants

New Church Investment Grants provide opportunities that assist in launching new churches/missions, multi-site churches, imaginative gospel communities, emerging/missional churches, mission-shaped communities, , and international faith communities by providing start-up grants for various expenses and facilities.

CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center

Located in Central Virginia, CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center is a place where people connect to God and enjoy the beauty and freedom of His creation in the mountains. Since CrossRoads opened its doors, thousands of people—from campers, staffers, missionaries, and church members—have heard God's voice in this peaceful setting. As a year-round facility, CrossRoads offers churches and groups an excellent facility for retreats, meetings, and events.

Summer Camp at CrossRoads

Each summer CrossRoads offers seven weeks of camp: four for girls, and three coed weeks. Also included is Family Camp for families to retreat and experience summer camp together. During the week campers engage in Bible study, listen to and learn from missionaries, give to a special missions offering, participate in worship, and experience other cultures of the world. They also have the opportunity to participate in challenge courses, archery, mountaineering, sports, backpacking, culinary arts, and HorsePower—where they learn Biblical principles of leadership. Each summer hundreds of life-changing decisions are made as young people accept Jesus Christ for the first time or commit to follow Him in living a missional lifestyle.

Muslim Ministries in Virginia

Funds from the Alma Hunt Offering enable the development of a statewide strategy for evangelizing and connecting to our Arab/Muslim neighbors in a respectful and faithful way. Through the Muslim Background Believers Conference, the Oasis Friendship Center, People of the Book Ministry, cross-cultural training, ESL training and student ministries for Arab/Muslim background youth, Virginia Baptists are reaching out to our Arabic and Muslim neighbors

Developmental Disabilities Ministry

The Developmental Disabilities Ministry (DDM) serves individuals with developmental disabilities such as mental retardation or other neurological impairments, as well as physical disabilities. DDM offers care that strengthens the family's care-giving role, and assists in planning for suitable long-term care for their disabled family members. DDM offers long-term care for adults with developmental disabilities that encourages continued growth toward individual maximum potential within a Christian, community-integrated, home-like environment.

Impact!

The great success of Impact Virginia! has allowed Virginia Baptists to expand how we plan and organize mission camps for students. Impact! Mission Camps is now the umbrella terminology for a variety of mission camp experiences for students. Impact Virginia! is our 'classic' mission camp that utilizes home repair and renovation as a base of all of its projects. Funds are used to purchase appropriate project supplies and materials, provide resources for the orientation of leadership, the training and spiritual equipping of students.

WMUV... Equipping Women, Students and Children to Lead a Missional Lifestyle

WMUV offers significant events such as the Women's Get Away, Silence Retreat, HOPE Events, Shine, and Mom & Me. Through these experiences women, students and children deepen their relationship with Christ, enjoy fellowship with other believers, and discern the plan and purpose to which God is calling them. WMUV believes missions is more than a project, it is a lifestyle that opens doors to establish relationships as we seek to reach those who do not know Christ.

Latino Ministries in Virginia

LUCHA Ministries, Inc. is committed to helping Spanish-speaking immigrants with limited English skills become more productive, integrated, and involved in their local communities. In partnership with churches, social service agencies, and other human needs organizations, it provides a holistic approach to meeting needs and sharing the message of Christ. Funds received through the Alma Hunt Offering help provide for ongoing ministries that include emergency assistance, counseling and pastoral care, spiritual guidance, help with basic human needs, and a ministry to youth and their families. LUCHA also provides cultural competency training and offers internships for students interested in working with Latinos.

Disaster Response Ministries

Disaster Response Ministries are clearly one of the most high profile and engaging ministries supported by the VBMB. This fact is affirmed by the nearly 3,200 volunteers that are currently trained in the area of disaster relief, the frequency in which we are called upon to respond and by the generous donations given during times of disaster. However, budgeted funds and donations do not completely cover expenses related to maintaining the fleet, training and equipping volunteers, and responding to needs around the world. This is especially true when we are called upon to respond to disasters that are not high profile and do not garner significant media attention. The Alma Hunt State Mission Offering will enable Virginia Baptists' Disaster Relief volunteers to engage at a higher level in relief opportunities.

WMU of Virginia and WMU of India Partnership

Across the globe in India, Baptist women want to reach their peers and their children with the Gospel. For many years, WMUV has sponsored over 40 Indian women in their pursuit of seminary education—helping equip them to follow God’s call on their lives to reach others for Christ. In February 2010, WMUV signed a covenant to launch WMU of India—one of only 48 international WMU organizations—and a first international partnership of its kind for Virginia WMU. In a country where only four percent are Christian, WMU of India provides a network of Christian women to join in prayer as they proclaim the freedom of Christ to women in children in India.

Standing Rock Indian Reservation

The mission partnership that started in 2009 between WMUV, RVBA, and Pastor Boots Marsh of the Standing Rock Reservation has truly been a hand-in-hand, heart-to-heart effort to bring hope to Native Americans living in the Dakotas. Through WMUV’s network, volunteers from churches across Virginia increased the number of hands to minister to the Sioux Indians. Standing Rock Reservation covers an area about the size of Connecticut on the border of North and South Dakota. The reservation is home to about 8,500 people who struggle with issues of unemployment, alcoholism, poverty and domestic violence. Desolate land and extreme weather conditions make this area a difficult place to live and work. The Alma Hunt Offering makes it possible over 300 Virginia Baptists to go each year and minister among the people of Standing Rock.

Migrant/Rural Ethnic Ministries

The Eastern Shore and Southside Virginia farming operations attract and utilize many ethnic workers, most of whom are migrant and poverty stricken. The Alma Hunt offering helps district associations and local churches that seek to provide ministry with these workers.

Kingdom Advance Venturers

Venturers are individuals at least eighteen years of age who serve in hands-on mission roles for a period of six months to two years. The Venturer Program provides opportunities for longer-term mission service in local and global settings. Requests for Venturers originate with our ministry partners who have specific needs. Individuals’ exploration toward Venturer service can begin by reviewing these requests or by describing to VBMB staff their sense of call.

Southwest Virginia Partnership

Appalachia has many needs related to development, employment and evangelism. The Appalachian Regional Ministry (ARM) helps local churches and outside volunteers respond to these needs. In the Southwest Virginia Partnership, Virginia Baptists will match meaningful mission opportunities with volunteer’s interests. With a dedicated volunteer housing facility and full-time volunteer coordinators, Venturers, Tony and Jan Johnson, we are able to send volunteers to Southwest Virginia on a large scale. Funding for project materials will be a strategic and effective investment in the Kingdom.