



Come On Over

In honor of Presidents' Day, this recipe works whether you're a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent. Our kids ask for this dessert every holiday! *Daria*

Carter Pie

- 3 oz. cream cheese
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- 8 oz. Cool Whip

Combine cream cheese, sugar, and peanut butter. Mix in Cool Whip. Pour into pre-baked graham cracker crust. You may garnish with chocolate chips. Refrigerate.



ATTENTION!



Would you like to raise your church's visibility in your community? Grab the surrounding residents' attention by mailing full-color 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" Invitation Cards from your church. The captivating headings and graphics create an attractive format for informing your community about your church services or special events. **Order your Invitation Cards, offered by the GARBC evangelism initiative, Impact 2000, by calling Regular Baptist Press toll-free: 1.800.727.4440.**



synergy

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Synergy

a newsletter for pastors & wives

Vol. 4, No. 1

A note from John and Daria . . .



In recent years, we have made new friends. Our relationships began as we met with pastors and wives of the FBFA [Fundamental Baptist Fellowship Association]—an association of independent, black churches. The perceived barriers of skin color disappeared as we got to know each other. We laughed and cried together as we shared similar passions, visions, and challenges for ministry. We began to realize the great potential of partnering. **At the annual conference (June 24–28, 2000), these friendships will expand to include our two associations.** In Ames, Iowa, we will meet together for *Building Bridges of Love* into each other's lives. **Come join us as we fellowship and worship together!**

In service with you,
John and Daria



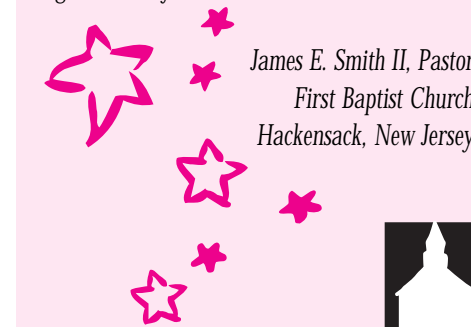
IDEA Exchange

Attracting Summer Visitors

Are you looking for a change of pace for your summer evening services and a good outreach into your community? Our church creates a Bible conference atmosphere by sponsoring Summer Sunday Nites concerts. We include musical variety, such as worship choruses, southern gospel music, vocal groups, and soloists. More than 30 guest artists have ministered during our 13 years of concerts. To publicize the summer series, we distribute brochures listing the artists and dates. ★ ★

Several concerts are held on the lawn adjacent to a park and mid-rise apartments—a ready-made audience! Families dress casually and sit together on blankets or in lawn chairs. The lawn concerts are great opportunities both for fellowship and outreach. After the concert, we invite our newly acquired audiences to join us for refreshments. Part of the outgrowth of our Summer Sunday Nites is a Spanish Bible class and worship service that began recently.

*James E. Smith II, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Hackensack, New Jersey*



Together We Can Accomplish More **GARBC**

TOOLBOX

Making an International Impact

Did you know that 547,000 international students and scholars attended American universities between 1997 and 1998? Represented were over 46,000 Japanese; 42,000 Mainland Chinese; 37,000 Koreans; 30,000 Indians; 30,000 Taiwanese; and 22,000 Canadians. While we continue to send missionaries, tent makers, and volunteers to their countries at phenomenal financial and personal costs, these countries continue to send their brightest and most inquisitive minds to our cities and towns. Amazingly, 70 percent of them will never enter an American home! However, almost every one of these students would positively respond to an invitation to dinner.

country. But you win me to Christ, and I will reach my country for Jesus."

Please consider the following ways your church can reach the entire world without ever leaving its doorstep.

1. Ask the university's international office to explain how you could help its students. Offer to provide airport transportation for students.
2. Prepare welcome packages for new students.
3. Provide semester start and finish events. Guard against events during tests and finals.
4. Sponsor students in friendship relationships.
5. Celebrate special days related to a country, e.g., Chinese New Year, India's Independence Day.

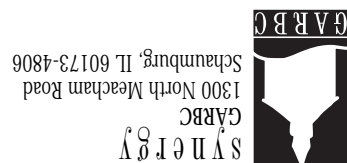
One upper caste student from India recently said, "You can win all the poor street people to Christ you want, and it will make no difference in my



even though their university (continued on page 2)

KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

Join us for the
FBFA/GARBC Annual Conference
June 24-28, 2000
Call 1.888.588.1600 for details!



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5 Steps

to Encourage Bible Reading

Would you enjoy hearing testimonies week after week from people reading their Bibles? If so, consider following these steps that prompted our church people to read 42,000 chapters of God's Word this past year.

- 1. Preach messages on the importance of Bible reading.** Slant the messages to encourage church and personal goal setting. Use texts such as Psalm 119, Ezekiel 3:1-3, and Ephesians 5:26.
- 2. Set a yearly congregational goal.** Recruit deacons' support and participation. Set realistic and simple goals. (Big things are created in little pieces.)
- 3. Encourage personal accountability.** Distribute reading schedules in the form of bookmarks. Place reading report slips in pew racks and ask participants to return them with the offering.
- 4. Keep a running report.** Divide the report into groups (e.g., ladies and girls; men and boys) for friendly competition. In the bulletin and during announcement time, give a running total of chapters read for the year, with a note of praise.
- 5. Motivate your people to keep reading.** Challenge them to read the entire Bible. Give people the option of listening to the Bible on tape and encourage them to follow along in their Bibles.

What a thrill to know people are reading their Bibles on vacation, during work breaks, and wherever they go!

Leo E. Young, Pastor
Prospect Park Baptist Church
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Toolbox continued

is a hundred miles away!

7. Invite students to plays and other church events, e.g., picnics, potluck dinners, Ping-Pong tournaments, holiday dinners, pizza parties (hold free drawings), sports days (ask students to teach church members a new sport, e.g., Cricket), bowling parties (assign each student to a church member who pays for the student's bowling).
8. Sponsor free services, e.g., garage sales (give each student \$100 play money to spend), bicycle repair, or auto oil change day (have students bring their own oil filter).
9. Invite students to speak to a church group about their countries.
10. Have rotating 4-6 week classes to introduce Christianity. Chinese students have little knowledge of the Bible. Do not create a permanently segregated international class.



Group relationships have limited value. Students need personal care and attention, which is best provided by assigning a student to an individual or family. Large group interaction without personal relationships jeopardizes long-term results. Personal care, concern, and discipleship build university endorsement, promote the best experience for students, and allow your members an opportunity to extend their faith into the world without ever leaving home.

Friends of Internationals is a ministry of Bible Baptist Church, 126 Kent Road, New Milford, Connecticut 06776, and is available to assist your church.

For information or assistance please visit our Web site at internationals.org, or e-mail info@internationals.org, or contact Director Mark Lydecker at 813-988-6500.



Ten Ways to "Home Grow" Missionaries

Would you like to see more people in your congregation become missionaries? In one year, our church sent out 15 people into full-time missions service. The following activities have helped us encourage church members to consider missions.

1. Pray and ask the Lord to send out missionaries from your church (Matthew 9:38).
2. Establish and promote two missions support groups—men's and women's.
3. Schedule annual missions conferences.
4. Encourage church families to host missionaries in their homes (this provides missions exposure for children).
5. Recognize your church missionary families, e.g., one missionary a week in your church bulletin.
6. Look for ways to increase your missions budget every year.
7. Designate "Missions Sunday(s)" on your calendar year.
8. Exhort students to pray about becoming missionaries and going to Bible colleges.
9. Establish a church policy of supporting church members who go out as short-term missionaries.
10. Recognize needs of individual missionaries during midweek prayer services and/or Sunday services.

By making a conscious effort, we can develop "homegrown" missionaries.

Ron Phillips, Pastor
Delhi Baptist Church
Jerseyville, Illinois

IMPACT 2000



Win People to Christ in 2000!

Join the 400 churches participating in the Impact 2000 evangelism initiative. The Impact 2000 notebook (\$29.99) gives step-by-step directions for 28 evangelistic services or events and an evangelistic Bible study. Every church member can participate! **Call Regular Baptist Press toll-free: 1.800.727.4440.**



5 Tips for Sharing Literature with People

ONE The best literature to share is that which touches your heart and makes a positive impact personally. You enhance the literature's credibility if you can say, "I have read this, it's helped me, and I think it can help you too."

TWO Have different pieces of literature available to meet specific needs or opportunities. While a tract is often best for mass distribution, something more substantial is needed for a friend to whom you are witnessing.

THREE Seek to use literature that is attractive and communicates clearly. People will quickly discard literature that appears unprofessional or difficult to read.

FOUR Follow up with the person whenever possible. A question like, "What did you think of . . . ?" can be a wonderful conversation starter to share the gospel.

FIVE The message of your life should match the message of your literature. If you give someone a piece of literature that communicates God's grace, be sure to personally demonstrate God's grace.

Dan Johnson, Pastor
Bible Baptist Church
Kokomo, Indiana

Looking for literature to give veterans or active duty personnel? Dan Johnson has written a small book, *The Greatest Soldier Who Ever Lived*, that explains the message of Christ through the fictional testimony of a World War II veteran. The story honors service personnel and is a great evangelism tool. **To order the book (\$3.50), you may phone Providence Publications at 765.457.0662, or e-mail info@providencepubl.com.**

John Murdoch, Director of GARBC Chaplaincy Ministries

IDEA Exchange



BUILDING CREDIBILITY in Your Community

Our church's evangelism strategy includes sponsoring a series of television commercials produced by *Impact Productions**. These commercials, targeted for the local cable subscribers, use high-quality video techniques and professional actors to produce short, thought-provoking dramas. The spots grab the attention of viewers and prompt them to consider their relationship with God. The commercials end with the name of our church and an invitation to attend.

Advantages of using this medium of advertising include

- access into homes (Our CATV service area reaches a potential of 50,000 homes.)
- affordable cost (\$6-\$8 per 30-second spot after the initial investment in purchasing the rights)
- high visibility—brings our church recognition and familiarity among the people in our community

The commercials prepare the way for our congregation to share the gospel, as many people in the community comment, "Oh, your church is the one with the commercials."

James McClain, Jr., Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church
Norwalk, Ohio

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