



## From the Church Planting Center @Southern Seminary



December 2006

Volume 1, Number 8

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*Cell Church Planter's Guide*  
By Bob Logan & Jeannette Buller

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### A Word from the Director

Folks,

This month we remember and celebrate the birth of our Lord. His incarnation was a necessary component of salvation history. It was also a necessary component for healthy missionary practice. John reminds us “The Word became flesh and took up residence among us” (John 1:14, HCSB). For three years, the Lord modeled missionary practice before His disciples with the expectation that they would apply His model among the various peoples of the world (Matt 28:19-20). Just as He incarnated Himself to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), they were to do likewise for the glory of God.

We conclude this semester’s series of newsletters with Jason Hutchinson, a church planter who has incarnated himself in a unique culture of the United States. Serving in the Appalachian Region of Kentucky, Jason has planted Mountain Community Fellowship. This congregation has a vision to be aggressively involved in planting other churches throughout Appalachia. Few people realize that this region of the United States is one of the most unchurched regions in the country.

In this newsletter, we turn our attention to Miami, Florida, a city of great ethnic diversity. I was in Miami a few years ago meeting with local church and associational leaders. There is a great need for missionaries to incarnate themselves in Miami and work to plant churches there. There is much more to Miami than *CSI*, and for you folks of the 80s, *Miami Vice*. The lostness and physical needs of the people are great. Have you considered serving in this world-class city? I conclude this newsletter with another review of a Bob Logan resource, *The Cell Church Planter’s Guide*.

I write this last newsletter of the semester during finals week here at Southern Seminary. It is difficult to believe that another semester has come to an end. I pray the Lord’s blessings on you this holiday season and look forward to our next newsletter at the new semester in February 2007.

Take care,  
J. D.

## Future Training:

### **JANUARY 11- DEVELOPING A REGIONAL CHURCH MULTIPLICATION STRATEGY**

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Dan Morgan**

*Associate Professor of Missions and Director  
of the Nehemiah Project, Southwestern Baptist  
Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, TX*

**Where:** The Southern Baptist Theological  
Seminary  
Heritage Hall

**When:** 8:00am-1:00pm

**RSVP BY 1/4**

### **FEBRUARY 14- SPURGEON'S STRATEGY FOR MULTIPLYING CHURCHES**

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Rod Earls**

*Nehemiah Equipping Manager of the Church  
Planting Group Equipping Team,  
North American Mission Board*

**Where:** The Southern Baptist Theological  
Seminary

Legacy Center 303

**When:** 10:00am-11:30am

**RSVP BY 2/7**

### **FEBRUARY 21- CROSS CULTURAL CHURCH PLANTING IN NORTH AMERICA**

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Van Sanders**

*Missiology Implementation Manager,  
North American Mission Board*

**Where:** The Southern Baptist Theological  
Seminary

Legacy Center 303

**When:** 8:00am-1:00pm

**RSVP BY 2/15**

### **MARCH 16- TOWN & COUNTRY CHURCH PLANTING**

**Guest Speaker: Steve Neger**

*Strategic Places Team Manager,  
North American Mission Board*

**Where:** The Southern Baptist Theological  
Seminary

Legacy Center 303

**When:** 8:00am-1:00pm

**RSVP BY 3/8**

## Church Planter Profile: Jason Hutchinson

### **Names of family members**

*Jason, Jennifer, Peyton (2)  
and Landon (7 months)*

### **Location**

*Paintsville, Kentucky*

### **When will you graduate from Southern?**

*Spring of 2007*



Jason with his wife Jennifer

### **What are your primary responsibilities in your ministry?**

*My primary responsibility has been to lead a church planting team in planting a church in the Appalachian region of Kentucky.*

### **Please, briefly describe your ministry.**

*Mountain Community Fellowship began with a team meeting in August of 2005 with a desire to plant a new church in Paintsville, Kentucky. The new church was launched officially on August 20, 2006.*

*We hope to serve as a missions outpost for the Appalachian region of Kentucky. It is our desire to be a partner with groups from across the country to plant other churches here in one of the most un-churched regions of the United States.*

*We also have developed a culture of servant evangelism. Since Appalachia is one of the most impoverished regions of the country, we view our location as a God-given blessing to be a church that makes a positive impact on our community. Our ministry is driven by a simple question: "If we were not here, would our community miss us?"*

### **How did your church planting training at Southern help you in preparation for your work on the field?**

*My church planting training at Southern was highly practical. Classes at Southern focused on learning how to apply missiological principles rather than the mere absorption of facts. There have been numerous times that I have been able to face situations in my field of service with confidence because of the equipping that I have received at Southern.*

### **What is the greatest blessing received since you have been involved in church planting?**

*The greatest blessing that I have received since being involved in church planting is to know that I have had a role in bringing the lost and unchurched individuals and families to the Lord Jesus Christ.*

### **What advice would you give to those who are wondering if God is calling them to be involved in church planting?**

*Make sure your motives are in the right place. Be certain that God is calling you to plant churches. Avoid planting churches because you do not like the church that you are in. Finally, be humble and admit when you do not know the answers, and be willing to ask others to help you find them.*

## Future Training:

### **APRIL 18- CHURCH PLANTING IN MULTI-HOUSING AREAS**

**Guest Speaker: Bob Burton**

*Multi-housing and  
Urban Church Planting,  
North American Mission Board*

**Where:** The Southern Baptist Theological  
Seminary

North/South Galleries  
Honeycutt Campus Center

**When:** 8:00am-1:00pm

**RSVP BY 4/12**

### **The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Strategic Planning for Church Starts**

**Dr. J.D. Payne**

Course No.: 33860

January 8-12, 2007

MTWRF 8:00am-5:00pm

3 hours seminary credit

## **RSVP:**

**Church Planting Center**  
N167

502-897-4498

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## **Regarding church planting, what counsel would you give to those who are called to serve in established churches?**

*Be willing to partner with churches being planted in your area. Do not be territorial in your concerns, but instead make an effort to partner with church planting teams to make a real impact on your community.*

## **Focus Area: Miami, Florida**



- Miami has been humorously called the Latin American City that is located the closest to the United States
- 60% of the population is Hispanic
- At least 170 languages are spoken in Miami
- English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole are considered the city's three official languages
- Miami boasts of 3 million people with the Miami Metro Area swelling to a population of 10 million people
- Miami has the highest incidence of AIDS in the country
- 28% of the population lives below the poverty level
- The area of Opa-Locka has the highest violent crime rate in the U.S. for cities of 10,000 or more
- More than 60 percent of the population has no affiliation with any church
- Only five percent of the population belongs to an evangelical church
- It is estimated that if all of the 1300+ Protestant congregations in Miami were to double in size overnight, the percentage of evangelical Christians in Miami-Dade County would be less than 10%
- Southern Baptists have 35 full-time or part-time church planters working amongst the various language groups in Greater Miami



For more information about church planting in Miami contact the Church Planting Center or [dwilliams@fbaptist.org](mailto:dwilliams@fbaptist.org)

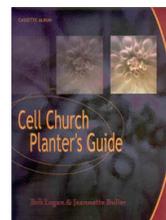
NAMB Resource Link:  
<http://www.churchplantingvillage.net/>

To View Previous Issues of the  
Church Planting Newsletter Visit:  
[http://www.sbts.edu/campuslife/Church\\_Planting\\_Center/Resources.aspx](http://www.sbts.edu/campuslife/Church_Planting_Center/Resources.aspx)

**“Finally, brethren, pray for us that  
the word of the Lord will spread  
rapidly and be glorified, just as it did  
also with you”  
2 Thessalonians 3:1 NASB**

## Book Review: **Cell Church Planter's Guide**

Robert E. Logan and Jeannette Buller. *Cell Church Planter's Guide*. St. Charles, IL: ChurchSmart Resources, 2001. 268 pp., U.S. \$95.00



Pioneering the field of church planting is nothing new to Bob Logan. With this publication, he and Buller have offered the public a contemporary approach to church planting. Though obviously they are writing to those ministering in a Western context, major components of this work can be contextualized to some non-Western situations. The *Cell Church Planter's Guide* offers a very practical tool to all church planters in general, but definitely to cell church planters in particular. Briefly describing their cell-celebration paradigm, Logan and Buller write, “Cell groups are disciple-making communities. A network of reproducing cell groups that gather regularly for celebration and worship is called a cell-celebration church.” In a day when interest in cell churches is increasing, Logan and Buller's work was produced at just the right moment.

Readers familiar with Logan's works will quickly notice that the *Guide* follows the traditional Logan-esque format—a three ring binder with several audiocassettes. This work does not contain completely new material. Several components found in Logan's other works can be found in the *Guide*. This publication is designed for self-study or to be used in conjunction with a church planting coach or mentor. It is very methodical and requires the reader to perform much introspection. Assuming the reader is familiar with the traditional cell church paradigm, the *Guide* offers a step-by-step methodology that takes the reader from understanding the cell-celebration paradigm to cell church multiplication. Concepts such as identification of core values, establishment of vision, development of strategy, formation of a church planting team, development of cell groups, raising up leadership, and experiencing the first celebration are addressed. Each of the ten chapters include an overview section, prayer guide, Scripture passages for reflection, open-ended discussion/self-study/coaching questions, coaching guides, links on the Coach Net website for additional information, checklists, and worksheets. The ten audiotapes offer supplemental information that complements each of the ten chapters. Logan and Buller's recordings offer the listener a personal touch along with many words of wisdom gleaned from cell church planting experiences.

The strengths of this work are numerous. The emphasis on spiritual preparation, team approach to church planting, evangelism and church multiplication, and leadership development need to be understood by all church planters. The section on strategy development is another personal favorite. Anyone seriously considering cell church planting, or coaches and mentors of church planters should obtain a copy of the *Cell Church Planter's Guide*.

-- J. D. Payne

This review first appeared in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, Vol. 39, No.1, January 2003, pgs. 124-126.