

From the...

# CHURCH PLANTING CENTER

March 2008

Volume 3, Number 2



The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary



NORTH AMERICAN  
MISSION BOARD

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## Contact Us

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## A Word from the Director

Each year several students from the seminary travel across North America to serve as church planting interns. This thirteen-week, hands-on experience allows students to serve under the supervision of a church planter while developing skills related to church planting. A significant amount of their time involves personal evangelism, starting small groups, and raising up leaders, three necessary skills in any global church planting context. In this month's newsletter, we are doing something new, allowing you to read about the experiences of one of our interns. Beginning this month, you will hear from Seth Beebe and his experience on Prince Edward Island.

The Joshua Project ([www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net)) notes that the percentage of evangelicals among many of the more than 600 tribes making up the original peoples of North America is categorized as "unknown." Though we do not know the individual tribal statistics, a general statistic from the North American Mission Board estimates that of these five million peoples scattered across the United States (4 million) and Canada (1 million), only 5% are followers of Jesus. In this newsletter, we turn our attention to Eastmain, Quebec, a small town in Canada consisting primarily of the Cree and no evangelical church. The twelve known believers living there comprise 2% of the population.

It is during this time of the year as Southern Baptists we concentrate our thoughts and prayers on North American missions with our Week of Prayer and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. In this month's newsletter, we have provided some information to you addressing this cherished annual event.

Until next time...  
J. D.

Find Out About Church Planting  
Opportunities in North America:  
Fellowship Events are FREE!

**MARCH 17**

**BRUNCH FELLOWSHIP**

Hosted by Gary Irby and  
The Puget Sound Baptist Association

Where: The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary  
Legacy Center 310

When: 10:00am-11:00am

Cost: FREE

RSVP by 3/7

**MARCH 26**

**BRUNCH FELLOWSHIP**

Hosted by Chris Adams  
and the Canadian Convention  
of Southern Baptists

Where: The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary  
North/South Gallery

When: 10:00am-11:00am

Cost: FREE

RSVP by 3/18

**APRIL 2**

**BRUNCH FELLOWSHIP**

Hosted by the Minnesota-Wisconsin  
Baptist Convention

Where: The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary  
Legacy Center 310

When: 10:00am-11:00am

Cost: FREE

RSVP by 3/25

RSVP:

Church Planting Center  
N167

502-897-4498

1-800-626-5525, x 4498

[churchplanting@sbts.edu](mailto:churchplanting@sbts.edu)

## Church Planter Profile: Seth Beebe

Seth Beebe, a student at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, served as a church planting intern last summer on Prince Edward Island, Canada. It was here, along with the island life, he was able to experience North American church planting activities in a pioneer area. In partnership with the seminary, North American Mission Board, Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists, and Community Baptist Church, Seth was able to participate in the expansion of the kingdom.



**Name**

Seth Beebe

**Where did you serve as a church planting intern?**

Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Canada

**What were some of your responsibilities as an intern?**

I had several responsibilities. Much of my time was devoted to personal evangelism and community outreach in general. I also worked to start a Bible study in the area. Last summer, mission teams arrived from North Carolina to conduct sports camps and backyard Bible clubs. A portion of my time was committed to the administrative work related to those teams.

**What was the greatest blessing you received from your church planting work?**

It was an amazing experience to connect with people in the community and share the gospel with them. Also, I had a wonderful time partnering with other believers to serve the community.

**How did your internship affect your understanding of North American missions?**

I came to realize that North American missions requires a life of commitment to the work, especially on Prince Edward Island. Someone must care enough about people to enter their world, live with them, laugh with them, hurt with them, and be Christ to them.

**What did the Lord teach you through your church planting internship?**

The Lord developed my leadership skills and deepened my commitment to Him. I learned that, in Christ, I have all that is necessary to plant churches.

If you are a student at Southern Seminary or Boyce College and are interested in getting hands-on experience serving as a church planting intern, contact the Church Planting Center ([churchplanting@sbts.edu](mailto:churchplanting@sbts.edu)). There are several church planting internships available across North America throughout 2008.

## Future Training:

**MARCH 7**

### **IMMIGRATION, CULTURAL SHIFTS, AND CONTEMPORARY NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS**

Guest Speaker: Jim Slack  
*International Mission Board*

Where: The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary  
Heritage Hall

When: 8:00am-1:00pm

Cost: FREE

RSVP BY 2/28

**APRIL 4**

### **MISSIONS IN APPALACHIA**

Guest Speaker: Bill Barker  
*Appalachian Regional Ministries*

Where: The Southern Baptist  
Theological Seminary  
Legacy Center 310

When: 8:00am-1:00pm

Cost: FREE

RSVP BY 3/27

RSVP:

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N167

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## Focus Area: Eastmain, Quebec, Canada

- One of nine Cree communities that make up the Cree Nation of Quebec.

- Population is approximately 600 people, mostly Cree.

- Located on James Bay at the mouth of the Eastmain River.

- One Anglican church is present in the town.

- No evangelical churches are present in the town.

- Traditional native religion is still practiced throughout the community.

- Gambling and alcoholism plague the community.

- Locals are proud of the missionary influence of the 19th century, yet there is little current interest concerning Christianity.

- It is estimated that there are twelve followers of Jesus in the community.



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If you are interested in serving as a church planter in Eastmain or would like to volunteer to assist with Vacation Bible School projects in the town during the summer 2008, please contact the Church Planting Center ([churchplanting@sbts.edu](mailto:churchplanting@sbts.edu)).

## NAMB Resource Link:

<http://www.churchplantingvillage.net/>

## To View Previous Issues of the Church Planting Newsletter Visit:

[http://www.sbts.edu/campus\\_life/Church\\_Planting\\_Center/Resources.aspx](http://www.sbts.edu/campus_life/Church_Planting_Center/Resources.aspx)

## Some resources you may find helpful for the journey...

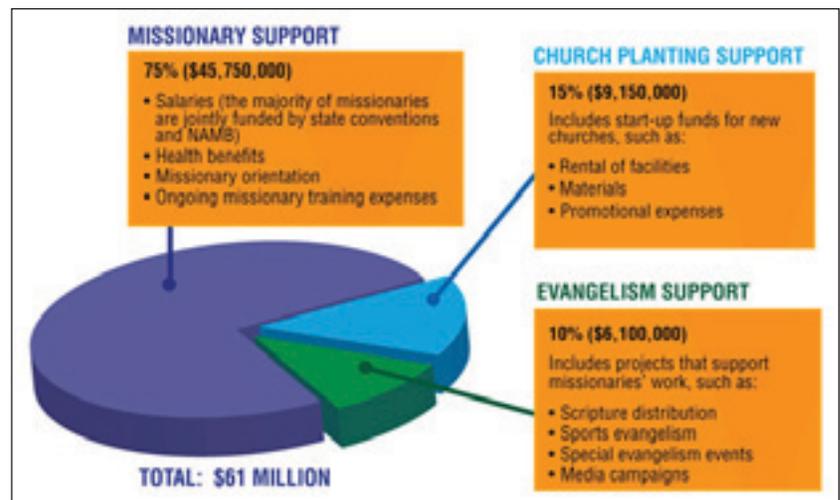
<http://www.anniearmstrong.com>

This site is home of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. At this site, you will find numerous videos and stories related to North American missionaries, promotional resources for your church, historical information about Annie Armstrong, and missions study materials.

*Go Forward*. DVD. Birmingham, AL: Women's Missionary Union, 1988. 37 minutes. This dramatic video is the story of Annie Armstrong and her devotion to raising support for missions in North America.

## Did you know this about NAMB?

The national goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is \$61 million to be distributed accordingly:



*“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