



When Middle Age Comes to Life

by Jack Noble, Church Health Strategist,
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from the elementary school where it met.

In many ways, Westwood Baptist Church, pastored by David Huffer, is a traditional Southern Baptist church. Over the years, they have consistently baptized five or six people each year, touched their community, given to missions, and proclaimed the Word. Over the last few years, however, the church has experienced the kind of new life and energy often associated with a much younger church. Five years ago, baptisms jumped from the previous average of five to ten in just one year. In 2007, they baptized 15, then 13 in 2008 and 18 in 2009. In addition to the new life experienced through baptisms, the church has partnered with other SBC of Virginia churches to be on mission around the world. Their heart for international missions has a new unction and zeal. Partnering with other churches, a team is headed to Africa again in 2010.

As with all churches, Westwood still has a number of challenges ahead, but the 50th anniversary celebration reminded all that its 51st year is on track to be the best year yet! Middle age is just the beginning!

When a man reaches the age of 50, he often wonders, “What does the next year hold? More aches? More pains? More middle-age spread?” He seldom thinks that his 51st year will be more fun, more productive, or more on-mission than any previous year. This, however, is the case for Westwood Baptist Church in Waynesboro.

On September 27, 2009, Westwood Baptist met

to celebrate what the Lord had done in the church’s 50 years of ministry. Westwood was an intentional church plant from Wayne Hills Baptist Church, Waynesboro Baptist Church, and Shenandoah Heights Baptist Church. The plant was tasked with ministering to and winning the west end of Waynesboro to Christ. The congregation adopted the name, Westwood,

RESOURCE

■ Website:

westwoodbaptistwaynesboro.com

■ SBCV Contact:

Call 888-234-7716 for details from the missionary in your region.

■ Consider:

How can your church rekindle its fire to experience new life and energy?

