

A Big Heart for Missions

Valley Street Baptist Church Supports Vision Virginia

by Gary Horton, Church Health Strategist, Southwest Region

Valley Street Baptist Church in Abingdon may be small, but its heart for missions is bigger than life. According to Pastor William Austin, "over half of the church members who attend on any given Sunday morning are on a fixed income," but this does not hamper their giving spirit. This missions-minded pastor uses God's Word to train his people on the importance of supporting missions, and what a generous spirit they have! For example, with an average worship attendance of only 12, they gave \$750 to the Vision Virginia State Missions Offering! The church family was excited that its sacrificial gift would be used for food distribution, Appalachian ministries, Disaster Relief, Baptist Builders, church planting efforts, Church Health Workshops, ministry intern scholarships, and God's Plan for Sharing (GPS). By giving to this offering, they were able to play a part in all of those ministries. Valley Street understands that partnering with other churches accomplishes so much more than if individual churches try to do all of those ministries on their own.

"Our people have a God-sized vision for reaching the world," says Pastor William. "They realize God can do more than they can even begin to imagine." This type of vision propels the church to participate in multiple missions opportunities. Last year, in addition to giving to Vision Virginia, they gave to the Cooperative Program; filled 90 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse; gave monthly financial support to a local family that is now ministering to Muslims; and provided a clothing ministry for needy families.

Rather than taking credit for what they've been able to do as a small church, they give God the glory for what He's been able to do through them. No matter how large or small your church is, you can be a part of reaching Virginia and the world for Christ. Will you join with Valley Street and the other 560+ SBCV churches to support the Vision Virginia State Missions Offering this year?

RESOURCE

- **Website:**
www.sbcv.org
- **Contact:**
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.
- **Consider:**
Are you willing to join with Valley Street Baptist Church and the other 560+ SBCV churches to support Vision Virginia this year?

