

WALKING THROUGH OPEN DOORS

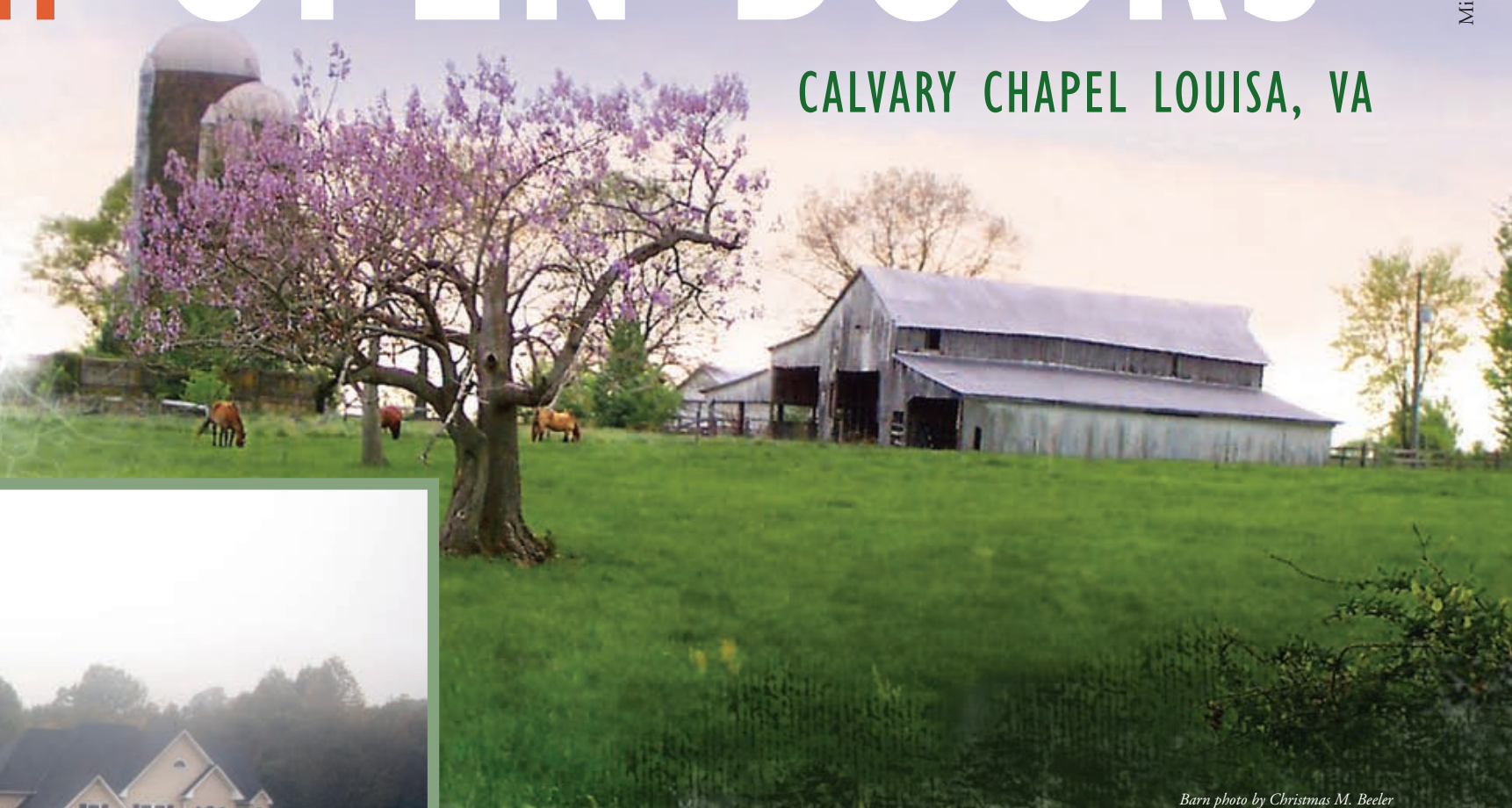
“If we don’t share, we don’t care.”

*Story by Kathy Blecker
Photos by Sam Dean*

Pastor Dave Hansen

CALVARY CHAPEL LOUISA, VA

Last October, 11 believers from CC Open Door in Anaheim, CA, traveled across the country to join CC Louisa in Mineral, VA, for a five-day outreach to saturate the rural community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. More than 30 people prayed to receive Christ at their front doors, and nearly 150 people from the small community came to hear the Christian message and music at the end of the week.



Barn photo by Christmas M. Beeler



Pastor Dave Hansen, CC Louisa, VA, shares his faith in the small, rural town of Mineral.



Roger Stahlhut, center, of CC Open Door in Anaheim, CA, tells a Louisa County resident that Jesus loves him.

Rainy days did not keep teams from going door to door this past fall. Believers came from CC Louisa and CC Open Door, CA.



Roger, left, prays with a man to accept Christ in a local Louisa County diner. Roger, a 15-year Calvary senior pastor, brought an evangelism of outreach—something his church has been doing regularly in new church plants in the rural U.S. One goal was to model evangelism as

team from his California church for a week a part of every Christian's daily routine.

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Pastor Dave Hansen

The pastors from different sides of the U.S. first met two years ago in Israel. Pastor Dave Hansen—now pastor of CC Louisa—was the assistant pastor at CC Charlottesville, VA, when he met Pastor Roger Stahlhut of CC Open Door. Dave recalled, “His boldness for Jesus there in Israel really got my attention. He and I talked about him and his team coming to Virginia.” They reconnected at the Senior Pastors Conference in Murrieta, CA, last June, and made plans for a team from CC Open Door to join with the young church of 60-70 believers in Mineral.

Dave spent two days in Washington, D.C., with the group from California before beginning the outreach in Mineral. While dining

out one evening in D.C., the group sang “Jesus Loves You” to everyone in the restaurant and shared the Gospel with a waitress, who prayed to receive Jesus Christ. Sharing the simple message, “Jesus loves you,” was a common theme for the group.

Upon arriving in Mineral, the group from CC Open Door joined with about 12 believers from CC Louisa, taking the Gospel door to door. Other believers from CC Louisa—named for Louisa County, where Mineral is located—provided lodging and meals for their visiting brothers and sisters.

One day, as a light rain began to fall, a heavily-tattooed man ran from his front door to the

mailbox, hoping to avoid the imminent downpour. Jaime Lucero, assistant pastor at CC Open Door, and Kimberly Hansen, Dave’s wife, approached the man. Kimberly shared her testimony—a story of lifelong faith in Jesus Christ and her upbringing in a Christian home. As they shared the message of salvation, the man hung on every word. Jaime asked him, “Would you like to receive the Lord today?”

After a contemplative pause, he replied, “Yes, sir, I would. Whatever you have, I want it.” They prayed; then the skies opened up, and a deluge came down. Jaime and Kimberly offered him an umbrella, but the new believer replied with a smile, “I can’t even feel it.”



CC Louisa meets in a church in the town of Mineral, located in Louisa County, VA. Nearly 70 people attend the church.



At CC Louisa, Roger exhorts the team after they spent the day sharing their faith.

On another occasion, a young woman holding a 6-week-old baby girl opened the door to Roger. He asked her if she knew Jesus as her personal Savior. She responded that she was presently living outside the will of God. She pointed at her baby girl and said, “See this? This is a consequence of the sin of fornication.” After hearing about God’s love and forgiveness, she surrendered her life to Jesus.

Overall, Dave was pleasantly surprised by the kindness of the people they visited. He explained, “I was shocked by how open they were just to talk about God and the Bible. We saw at least 30 decisions at the doors. I think a lot of people have been turned off by church, but they’re open to God.”

When his original plans for a Friday night event fell through, Dave called a Christian couple who owned a coffee shop in town to

see if they would be willing to host an outreach concert. The owners were ecstatic and agreed wholeheartedly. Nearly 150 people from the community showed up. Each of them heard Christ-honoring music, testimonies, and the Gospel message. As a result of that event, area churches have come together to reach out to their community the first Friday of each month. ☺

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