

PRAY
TOGETHER.
GO
TOGETHER.

Praying for the Least Reached and Unreached in North Carolina

PRAY TOGETHER. GO TOGETHER.

Every October since 2012, we have called N.C. Baptists to unite in 30 days of prayer toward revival and spiritual awakening. Now this year, we are challenging N.C. Baptists to unite in specific prayer toward unreached people and least-reached places across our state. These two 30-day prayer emphases go hand-in-hand. As someone who has served our denomination for more than 20 years in prayer mobilization, I am convinced that the American church is being called to seek the Lord for revival, spiritual awakening and the lost in an unprecedented way.

As God continues to bring the world to America, He also continues to open the eyes of believers and churches to see the unreached and least-reached peoples across our state. This prayer guide and emphasis is a call to pray for the lost across North Carolina.

Why do we need to pray for the lost? Because the Bible mandates it. In Matthew 6:10, Jesus commands His followers to pray for God's kingdom to come and for His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. In 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Paul exhorts young Timothy to pray for the salvation of all people, including those who are leaders and rulers. In Romans 10:1, Paul models prayer for the salvation of his fellow Israelites. Paul's passion flowed out of his heartfelt longing and consistent prayer for their salvation.

Paul's praying also produced a heartfelt desire in his life to engage his Israelite brethren through dialogue and verbal witness concerning Jesus (Romans 10:2). Paul was therefore obedient to Christ's command to be His witness in His world. In other words, Paul modeled a life of specific prayer that led to a life of empowered witness toward those who were without Christ.

Believers will passionately pursue the things they passionately pray toward. When our hearts are burning hot for Christ through prayer, they will also burn hot to obey His commands as His followers. With lostness increasing rapidly in our neighborhoods, we would all do well to see the importance of bringing together heartfelt praying and faithful obedience to God's command to love and share Christ with the lost. Intimacy with Christ always produces an urgent seeking of Christ, which always leads to a faithful pursuit of those without Christ.

Praying for the Least Reached and Unreached in North Carolina

The purpose of this prayer guide is threefold. The first purpose is awareness. As you learn about and pray for the various peoples and pockets of lostness in North Carolina, our prayer is that you will become more aware of the magnitude and expanse of the lostness that exists in your community, North Carolina and beyond.

The second purpose relates to united specific prayer on behalf of lostness. Spiritual work requires spiritual power, and united prayer always unleashes the power of Christ upon the growing lostness in communities (Acts 4:23-33). Unbelievers are also convicted concerning their sin and become more receptive and open to their need for forgiveness and salvation in Jesus when God's people faithfully intercede on their behalf.

The third purpose of this guide relates to a believer's desire for engagement with the lost. Just like the Apostle Paul, when we as believers experience Christ in intimacy through prayer, we begin to desire more fully the things that Christ desires because of that intimacy. Thus, when we pray specifically toward lostness we will begin to desire to do more than just pray for lost people and pockets — we will also begin to have a desire to engage them with the good news of Jesus.

In light of this, maybe the real need today is not just for more evangelistic activity. Maybe the real need is for more intentional prayer and intimacy with Christ that will produce more heartfelt evangelism by believers among those who are lost. That is what this prayer guide is all about — praying together and going together. Thank you for uniting with others to seek Christ on behalf lost peoples and pockets. Shall we pray and go?

J. Chris Schofield, Ph. D

*Director, Office of Prayer for Evangelization and Spiritual Awakening
Baptist State Convention of North Carolina*

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This 30-day prayer guide is designed to inform, equip and encourage you to pray for unreached people and least-reached places across North Carolina. Each day will include a brief summary and prayer prompts about an unreached people group and a pocket of lostness in North Carolina.



UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS are groups of people who share the same ethnicity and language whose population is less than 2% percent evangelical Christian. Of North Carolina's nearly 1.5 million foreign-born residents and their children, we have identified **165 unique people groups living in our state**. *Most of them have never heard the gospel.*



POCKETS OF LOSTNESS are small geographic areas about three to six miles in diameter with a large percentage and high concentration of lost people. Based on demographic data, approximately 70% of the population who live in these places are unchurched. We have identified 250 distinct pockets of lostness in North Carolina. These are places where the general population is growing or changing faster than the church. Each pocket also has its own distinct barriers to gospel ministry.

Each day's content will introduce you to a different people group and pocket of lostness that includes *descriptions, distinctions and suggestions for engaging the people and pockets*. Each day's content also includes *two specific prayer prompts* for that day's people group and pocket of lostness profile.

The people group you read about on a given day may not be located in the pocket of lostness you'll read about that day. The goal is to raise awareness about North Carolina's changing landscape and invite you to pray for those people and places who desperately need to know Christ as Savior.

Thank you for embarking on this 30-day prayer journey. As we pray together, may we also go together to reach those people and places we are praying for across our state.

DAY 1

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”



AFGHANS

Prayer Points

- Pray that God will break down every spiritual stronghold that is keeping the Afghan people from Him.
- Pray that God will inspire believers to take the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ to Afghans throughout North Carolina. Pray for a culture of intentional evangelism and discipleship to develop.



ARDEN

Prayer Points

- Pray for Biltmore Church to develop new relationships with the residents quickly, since residents are often only there for short increments. Pray for intentional evangelism and discipleship processes to develop and flourish.

PEOPLE GROUP

AFGHANS



CENTRAL ASIA

God brings the Dari-speaking Afghan people to us from Central Asia. Afghanistan is known for its turmoil internationally, but the people are incredibly kind and hospitable. In North Carolina, Afghans are likely refugees who have fled the violence in their home country, seeking refuge elsewhere. Many Afghan refugees and immigrants are former translators, businesspeople and teachers. They are working hard to learn a new language and make a life for themselves here in the United States. Afghans have proven to be open to hearing about Jesus. To start a relationship with this people group, try visiting local mosques and Islamic grocery stores. Seek to develop genuine friendships by coming alongside them and serving them as they acclimate to the American climate and culture.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

ARDEN



POCKET 59

Pocket No. 59 is located in the Arden community of Buncombe County. It is an affluent community with many high-income neighborhoods, as well as a large population of multifamily housing communities. Adam Lawing, from Arden First Baptist Church, was called with his family to reach the Hawthorn South apartment complex. The ministry at the Hawthorn apartments has now started to flourish with small group gatherings thanks to the fruit of the labor of relationships, evangelism and discipleship. Biltmore Church is also engaged in ministry to the apartment complexes around the Hawthorne South campus. Led by Tyler Frank, Biltmore Church's apartment ministry reaches Ansley apartments, Aventine apartments, Riverstone apartments and Palisade apartments. With outdoor summer events complete with

pool parties and barbecues, as well as outreach for leasing office staff and welcome bags for residents, Arden First Baptist Church and Biltmore Church are opening doors to share the love of Christ.



DAY 2

John 1:14 (ESV)

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”



PERSIANS

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that God would grow a love among His church for Persian people and for believers to befriend and share the gospel with Persian neighbors and coworkers.
- ☉ Pray new Persian believers would grow in their faith and experience discipleship by gathering with other believers.



GASTONIA

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for wisdom as churches develop contextualized gospel approaches needed to reach this pocket.
- 📍 Pray that each church would build a disciple-making culture by making disciples personally and relationally.

PEOPLE GROUP

PERSIANS



CENTRAL ASIA

Today, most ethnic Persians live in Iran, while millions more have been scattered across Central Asia. Thousands of Persians fled their homeland of Iran after the revolution and the fall of the Shah in the late 1970s. Many fled to Europe and Canada, while others settled in the United States. There are an estimated 110 million Persian language speakers worldwide, including more than 60 million Farsi speakers in Iran, and the Persian language variations of Dari in Afghanistan, and Tajik in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Though estimates vary widely, there are now believed to be more than 1 million ethnically Persian people living in the United States, with approximately 5,500 in North Carolina. Many Farsi speakers consider themselves to be Shiite Muslims, while some adhere to the Baha'i faith, Sufism and the pre-Islamic religion of Zoroastrianism.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GASTONIA



POCKET 51

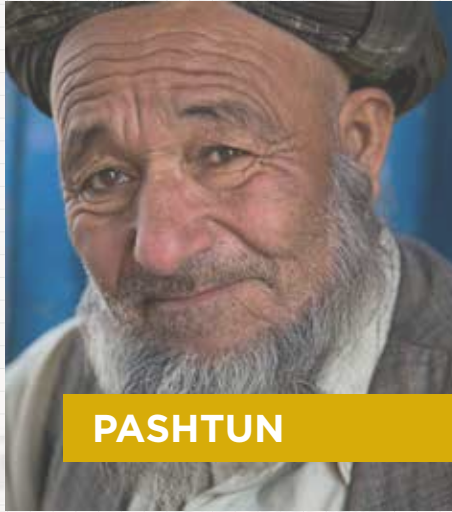
Pocket No. 51 is located in the city of Gastonia. Gastonia is the county seat of Gaston County and the county's largest city. This pocket has a population of more than 71,000. The estimated total of unreached households in this pocket is nearly 13,400. Gastonia is considered one of the most diverse cities in the county, due to its proximity to Charlotte. Like any city, Gastonia has its challenges, with economic challenges topping the list. The diversity found in this pocket calls for numerous contextualized gospel approaches.



DAY 3

John 1:29 (ESV)

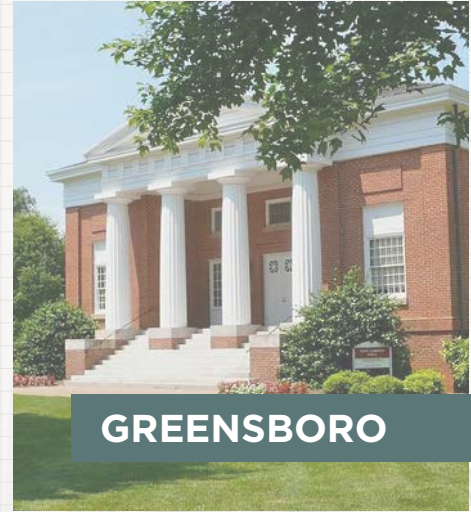
“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’”



PASHTUN

Prayer Points

- Pray that God will convict the Pashtun of sin and reveal to them the true path to righteousness in Christ.
- Pray that God would lead nearby believers to Pashtuns with the gospel wherever they live throughout North Carolina.



GREENSBORO

Prayer Points

- Pray for the churches of pocket No. 22 to develop healthy, multiplying disciple-making cultures and for members to be missionaries who engage their unreached neighbors.
- Pray for new church planters to be called out and new churches to be established among the many diverse population segments in pocket No. 22, including African and South Asian immigrants.

PEOPLE GROUP

PASHTUN OF AFGHANISTAN



CENTRAL ASIA

God brings the Pashtun people to us from Central Asia. The Pashtun people are the largest people group in Afghanistan and a major people group in Pakistan. To be a Pashtun, one must speak one of the several dialects of the Pashto language and adhere to the practice of Pashtunwali, an unwritten ethical code that regulates the community. The Pashtun also have a reputation as dedicated Sunni Muslims. In North Carolina, the Pashtun people are local business people, doctors, teachers and more. Typically, they have a prominent place in any mosque. More importantly, the Pashtun people always welcome interfaith dialogue. Visit local mosques and Islamic groceries, develop genuine friendships and accept the invitation to share the gospel in interfaith dialogue with our Pashtun neighbors.

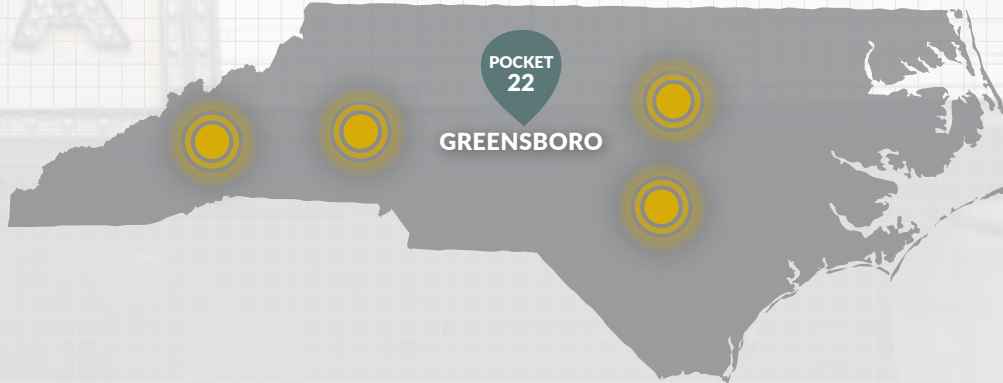
POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GREENSBORO



POCKET 22

Pocket No. 22 in northwest Greensboro is one of the most diverse areas of the Triad. Guilford College, a campus virtually untouched by the gospel, sits on the edge of the pocket. A narrow tree line in the center of the pocket separates a wealthy country-club community from a massive cluster of low-income apartment communities filled with many international people. Many of these represent some of the world's most unreached people groups. Each of these ethnic populations are serviced by unique shops and restaurants, including a global supermarket and a Hispanic mercado with a Halal butcher shop inside of it. In addition to the three synagogues in this pocket, a mosque recently outgrew its location and relocated nearby to accommodate more than 450 weekly attenders.



DAY 4

John 3:16 (ESV)

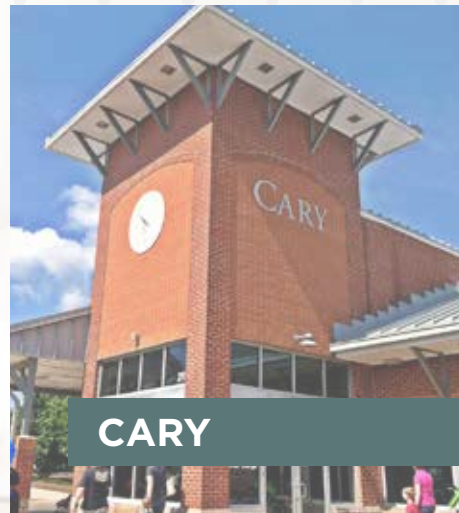
“For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should
not perish but have eternal life.”



TURKS

Prayer Points

- Pray that Turks throughout North Carolina would experience the love of Jesus in a way that would draw them to faith in Christ.
- Pray that God would send His people to Turks with the gospel of Jesus, just as He sent His own Son that they might be saved through Him.



CARY

Prayer Points

- Thank God for concerted prayer efforts among several churches in Cary.
- Pray for boldness in gospel sharing, with intentional follow-up for disciple-making.

PEOPLE GROUP

TURKS

CENTRAL ASIA



While most Turks live in Turkey, God brings a significant number of them to migrate throughout Europe and North America. Turks are generally courteous, hospitable and patriotic. Many have a deep sense of national pride and love for their country. Turks are predominantly Sunni Muslims, believing in one god (Allah) and an eternal heaven and hell, though many have animistic beliefs as well. Prayer alone has the power to break through the strongholds of Islam and animism. Pray daily for the salvation of these people, who are precious in God's eyes. Ask the Lord to enable you to share your faith with Turks in your city who will believe and then boldly take the gospel back to their fellow Turks in Turkey.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

CARY

POCKET 18



Cary provides exciting opportunities for churches because of its diversity. South Asian Indians, Moroccans, Hispanics, Turks, Caucasians, African-Americans and other ethnicities all mingle downtown, in schools, brand new neighborhoods, trailer parks, apartment complexes and senior living centers. Professionals and businessmen live alongside people who work in the construction and food service industries. With a growing number of families attending the local schools, many churches are ministering to children and families through school projects. Churches engage in outreach events, prayer walking, door-to-door evangelism, English as a second language courses, driver's education and citizenship classes for immigrants. North Carolina Baptists are

supporting new church plants among South Asians and Vietnamese in Cary, while local churches are also reaching Hispanics and other internationals.



DAY 5

John 3:17-18 (ESV)

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”



MOROCCANS

Prayer Points

- Pray that God will call forth churches and individuals to boldly love and share Christ with these beautiful people.
- Pray that the light of Christ will shine into the darkness of the Moroccan people's hearts, softening their hearts toward God and toward His people.



CHARLOTTE

Prayer Points

- Pray for multicultural gospel engagement through partnerships, revitalization and church planting.
- Pray for ministry opportunities in the Monroe Road development area as new housing and businesses open.

PEOPLE GROUP

MOROCCANS

NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Moroccan people to us from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, North Africa. They loosely adhere to the Islamic faith and enjoy conversations about God. In North Carolina, Moroccans love their community. Men often work as merchants or in the limo and taxi business. You can get to know your Moroccan neighbors by visiting Moroccan grocery stores, restaurants or local mosques. Many Moroccans enjoy talking around tea or hookah while sharing with one another about family, sports, business, politics or religion. Find communities of Morrocans, join their conversations and listen for ways to bridge to the gospel of Jesus.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

CHARLOTTE

POCKET 4



Situated on the eastern transition area between Charlotte's "wedge and crescent" division, this pocket contains all three of the major population segments of Charlotte (African-American, Hispanic and Caucasian), as well as people from a wide socio-economic spectrum. The partnership of East Baptist Church and Connexion Church is a good model for the kind of multifaceted, yet united, missional approach that is necessary to impact lostness in this pocket. Innovative ministry activities like English as a second language classes, General Educational Development (GED) courses, early childhood development training and school partnerships are critical to building the bridges of trust and credibility necessary for relational disciple-making.



DAY 6

John 3:34-36 (ESV)

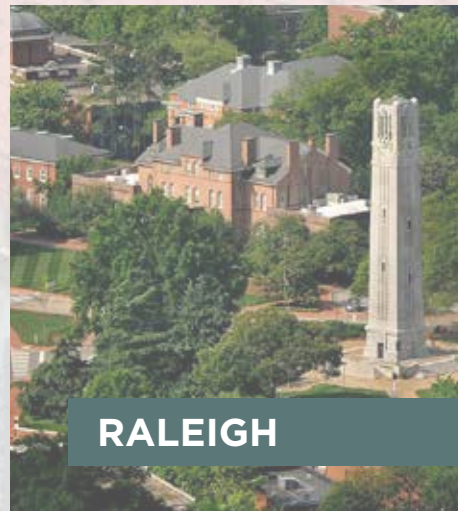
“For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.”



SAUDIS

Prayer Points

- Pray for gospel seeds to grow and for believers throughout North Carolina to be good stewards of their limited time with each Saudi student.
- Pray that God would use Saudi students who come to faith in Jesus to make disciples and start churches when they return home to Saudi Arabia.



RALEIGH

Prayer Points

- Pray for intentional outreach strategies among students.
- Pray for Christians to demonstrate cultural sensitivity and proclaim truth in a loving manner.

PEOPLE GROUP

SAUDIS

NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Saudi people to North Carolina from the Arab Gulf in the Middle East. Of all the countries that send international students to the United States for education, Saudi Arabians make up the fourth largest population. Many Saudi students are open to reading the Bible. While they may be turned off by traditional evangelistic presentations, the vast majority will read the Bible with you at least once if you approach them in a caring and compassionate way. Some are even willing to read with you over an extended period of time. While most Saudis return to their country of origin, some apply for work visas and seek to start a life for themselves in North Carolina.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

RALEIGH

POCKET 14



North Carolina State University is located in pocket No. 14, anchoring a bustling area marked with tremendous diversity. Students from all around the world live in N.C. State's dorms and apartment complexes. Faculty and staff reside in nearby neighborhoods. Businesses of all types exist to serve the needs of this diverse population. It is common to see Arabic, Chinese, African-American, Hispanic, South Asian Indian and others representing many other people groups throughout the bustling campus and surrounding city. Places of worship and different religions are spiritual strongholds enslaving the lost – as are the bars and nightclubs. Some people in this pocket struggle financially and work low-paying jobs. The Lord is blessing the disciple-making efforts of Raleigh

churches, but the need is great. Due to limited space in this busy area, innovative church-planting strategies must be employed.



DAY 7

John 4:23-24 (ESV)

*“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”*³³



SYRIANS

Prayer Points

- Ask the Lord to call people who are willing to reach out and share the love of Christ with the Syrians now living in North Carolina.
- Pray that God will open the hearts and minds of Syrians to see their sin and the futility of their Islamic traditions, leaving an open door for the truth of the gospel.



WILMINGTON

Prayer Points

- Pray for believers to prioritize reaching the growing population that lives in multi-family housing.
- Pray for believers to develop and live out an intentionally relational disciple-making lifestyle.

PEOPLE GROUP

SYRIANS



NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Arab-Syrian people to us from the so-called cradle of civilization, north of Israel, between the Mediterranean Sea to the west and the country of Iraq to the east. Like much of the Arab world, most Syrian Arabs practice Sunni Islam. The ongoing geopolitical crisis complicates sharing the good news with Arabs in Syria. However, God is using this crisis to bring Syrian Arabs to the United States, where many will make new homes in North Carolina. Oftentimes, they arrive as refugees with profound needs, willing to work low-paying jobs. Just as God uses the crisis in Syria to bring the Arab-Syrian people here, consider how you might serve your new neighbors in word and deed ministries in light of the calamity from which they have come.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

WILMINGTON



POCKET 40

This metropolitan area contains a surprising amount of diversity, including a growing number of young families with children. The pocket is anchored by elementary, middle and high schools, which provide great opportunities for service, community connection and building relationships. The population includes a higher academic and socio-economic level than the state average. Residents live in well-manicured, middle-class neighborhoods. But a growing percentage of the population are living in multifamily housing. God has also brought people from around the world, which could give them easier access to the gospel. Priority people groups within the area are Hmong, Vietnamese and Arab-Levant.



DAY 8

John 5:21-23 (ESV)

*“For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.”*³³



YEMENIS

Prayer Points

- Pray that Yemeni neighbors who are hearing the gospel would turn to Jesus in repentance and faith.
- Pray that new followers of Jesus among the Yemeni in North Carolina will grow in Christ and make more disciples.



WINSTON-SALEM

Prayer Points

- Pray for Christ-followers to be mobilized to make disciples on college campuses and in diverse neighborhoods.
- Pray for many declining congregations to be revitalized, and for newly planted churches to thrive in disciple-making.

PEOPLE GROUP

YEMENIS



NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Arab-Yemeni people to us from the country of Yemen from the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula. A geopolitical divide exists between northern Shiite Muslims and southern Sunni Muslims of Yemen, and this chaotic environment has complicated gospel witness among the Yemeni-Arab people. Many of the Arab-Yemeni men will come first to find a job at local convenience stores in more rural areas of North Carolina. They will work for years until they have enough money to bring the rest of their family to join them here. As God brings Yemeni-Arabs to North Carolina, He, at the same time, opens the door for us to befriend these war-torn people and minister to their needs in word and deed.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

WINSTON-SALEM



POCKET 29

Pocket No. 29 in southeast Winston-Salem is home to a variety of population segments, mostly separated from one another in homogenized communities. Pocket No. 29 is a bustling hub of urban life featuring a revitalized downtown, historic Old Salem, trendy neighborhoods alongside low-income areas, and an almost entirely Hispanic community. This pocket is also home to four collegiate campuses: Winston-Salem State University, Salem College, Forsyth Technical Community College and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. While there are many declining congregations in this pocket, there are several new church plants that are engaging hard-to-reach population segments.



DAY 9

John 5:24-25 (ESV)

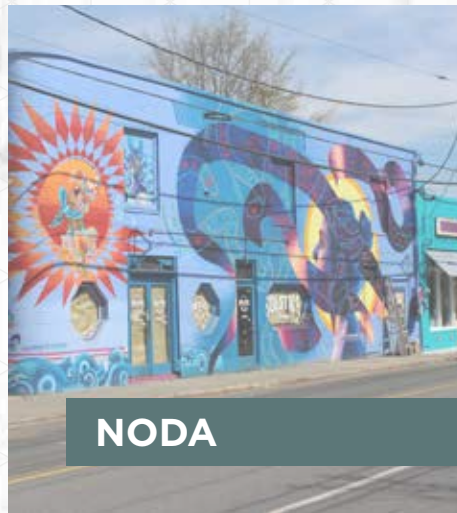
“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.”



IRAQIS

Prayer Points

- Pray that God would strengthen and embolden Iraqi believers throughout North Carolina to share with others what God has done for them.
- Pray that Iraqis will feel the urgency of their eternal state and genuinely consider surrendering their life to Jesus.



NODA

Prayer Points

- Pray for strongholds of fear, suspicion, hopelessness and isolation to be torn down by the gospel.
- Pray for more local allies in the effort to impact lostness through disciple-making, while bringing restored hope and help through Christ.

PEOPLE GROUP

IRAQIS

NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Iraqis to us from the country of Iraq in the Middle East. The people of Iraq live along the route Abram and Sarai took on their journey to the land of Canaan. As with most Arabs, they practice Sunni Islam and show genuine hospitality to strangers. Some, who were formerly doctors, lawyers or educators, have recently resettled as refugees in our communities. They are struggling to find their place here in this new country. Many other Iraqis have lived in North Carolina for more than 20 years and have well-established businesses. As a result, our Iraqi neighbors invest deeply in North Carolina's communities. Their hospitality and their close proximity in many of our neighborhoods present many opportunities to develop genuine friendships.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

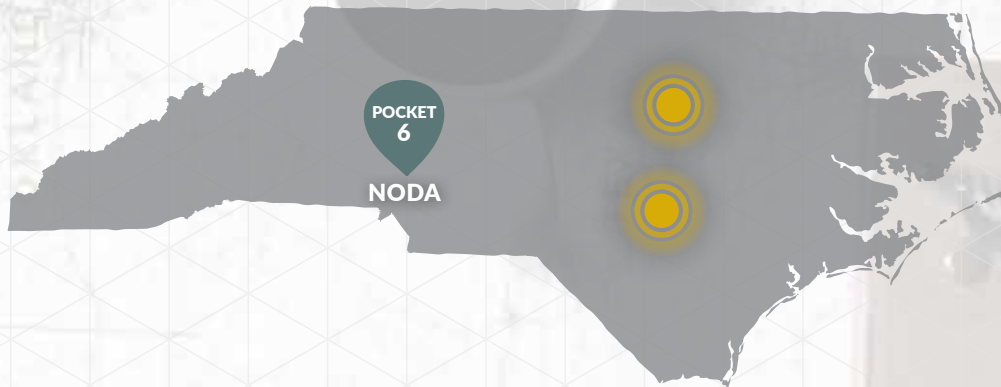
NORTH DAVIDSON - CHARLOTTE



POCKET 6

This pocket is divided by two significant barriers: U.S. Highway 29 and railroad tracks. These barriers not only separate people geographically, but also economically and socially. One of the few uniting factors is the high percentage of spiritual lostness. An N.C. Baptist church plant, Convergence Church, is standing in the gap to unify alienated communities under the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many of the residents of the poorer side of the barriers feel like they are victims of Charlotte's expansion rather than benefactors of it. As a result, most of the mission work in this area will struggle with sustainability, suspicion of authority,

crime and a failing education system. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the deep and long-lasting needs.



DAY 10

John 6:35-37 (ESV)

“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.’”



SUDANESE

Prayer Points

- Pray that the Sudanese people in North Carolina would find Jesus and trust in His sacrifice on their behalf.
- Pray that God would use His church to seek and share with Sudanese Muslims throughout North Carolina.



DURHAM

Prayer Points

- Pray for outreach efforts to multiply throughout the pocket, specifically with Hispanics.
- Pray for partnerships with churches in the area to flourish.

PEOPLE GROUP

SUDANESE



NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the Arab-Sudanese people to us from Sudan in Africa. The majority of the Sudanese come from a region in Africa known as a desert wasteland. As a result, the Sudanese Arabs living in Africa tend to protect their own and exclude outsiders. The Arab-Sudanese people love community, particularly with one another. In fact, you will often see a group of Sudanese men in local coffee shops on the weekends drinking tea and coffee while discussing current political or religious topics of interest. Their love for coffee and tea, along with their interest in religious topics, offer great opportunities to learn about the Arab-Sudanese community and share the good news of the gospel.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

DURHAM



POCKET 34

Pocket No. 34 is 58% African-American, 26% Hispanic and 13% Caucasian. There are approximately 19,000 people in the pocket with a per capita annual income of only \$17,500. This is an impoverished area with accompanying social ills, including crime, abandonment, joblessness and addictions. Sixty percent of families with children are single-parent families. However, there are encouraging things taking place in multifamily housing complexes right now. In particular, there is a women's discovery Bible study that has recently gained traction, as well as a similar men's study taking place. While a vast majority of people in pocket No. 34 still need God, some have come to Christ and others are seeking Jesus.



DAY 11

John 7:37-38 (ESV)

“Jesus stood up and cried out, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, “Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”’”



MALIAN

Prayer Points

- Pray for God to open doors and time for believers to build friendships with people of Mali in North Carolina.
- Pray for the people of Mali to stop seeking their own righteousness and see that their ultimate righteousness is found in Christ.



GREENVILLE

Prayer Points

- Pray the Father would raise up church planters with a heart to reach this unique community.
- Pray for the small percentage of believers who live in the area to live out their faith.

PEOPLE GROUP

MALIAN

NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

God brings the people of Mali to North Carolina from West Africa. Most from Mali are adherents to Sunni Islam, though many have mixed their Muslim faith with traditional animistic rituals. A couple years ago, we saw our first Malian international student come to faith through a church planter in the Charlotte area. For many Malian people here in North Carolina, their demanding work schedules leave them with little time for inviting others into their community. In North Carolina, they struggle to integrate, even though many have lived here for more than 15 years. Although, once you befriend someone from Mali, they will be your friend for life.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GREENVILLE

POCKET 101

Pocket No. 101 is located just north of the city of Greenville. This area is diverse, ranging from affluent, white-collar families to high density, inner-city neighborhoods and everything in between. With a mostly rural landscape, it is estimated that 68.7% of the households within a three-mile radius are unreached with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Even though there are many Southern Baptist churches in the area, none are located in this particular pocket. Pocket No. 101 is home to many struggling with poverty and living in multifamily housing communities. These challenges must be met with new missional approaches.



DAY 12

John 8:12 (ESV)

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’”



NIGERIAN

Prayer Points

- Pray for Hausa and Zarma people to be receptive to the hearing of the gospel.
- Pray for boldness in our brothers and sisters in Christ who are laboring among the Hausa and Zarma.



LELAND

Prayer Points

- Pray for the existing churches and church plants across the area to develop a strategy for engaging those in the community with the gospel in word and deed.
- Pray for Daryl Trexler and The Leland Church to develop believers who live out an intentionally relational disciple-making lifestyle.

PEOPLE GROUP

NIGERIAN

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

God brings the Hausa, Fulfulde and Zarma people to us from Niger, West Africa. Nigerians have a reputation as a relational, hospitable and gracious people. Most Hausa practice a religion that mixes traditional animistic rituals with Islam. In their home context, many work hard as farmers, shepherds or merchants. In North Carolina, they have a reputation for hard work in small African goods stores, or as taxi and limo drivers. One of the largest populations of Hausa in North America lives in Greensboro. Their friendly nature combined with their many animistic fears offer believers natural opportunities to make regular visits to convenience stores, build rapport and offer to pray for their needs.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

LELAND

POCKET 76



Pocket No. 76 covers the town of Leland, which is located near Wilmington. A distinguishing feature of this pocket is the division between the longtime residents and those who have lived there less than 10 years. Growth is a way to describe this pocket. One study found that in the last 10 years, this area was one of North Carolina's fastest-growing areas, with a growth rate of more than 30%. The area contains a large number of singles, young families and retirees, along with a growing Vietnamese population that needs the gospel. After living in the area for years, Daryl Trexler is starting The Leland Church to help reach this growing and diverse population.



DAY 13

John 8:31b-32 (ESV)

“If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”



ETHIOPIAN

Prayer Points

- Ask God for continued boldness and favor as Ethiopian believers share the gospel with those who are far from God.
- Ask God for disciples to be made and multiplied, and for churches to be started and multiplied among Ethiopians here in North Carolina and in the Horn of Africa.



HIGH POINT

Prayer Points

- Pray for church planter Javier Herrera and his family as they labor with the members of Iglesia La Red to reach Hispanics across Guilford County.
- Pray for the development and multiplication of leaders, disciples and groups. Also, pray for the gospel to be proclaimed as swiftly as immigration trends demand.

PEOPLE GROUP

ETHIOPIAN

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

God brings the Amharic, Oromo and Tigre speaking people to us from Ethiopia and Eritrea, in the Horn of Africa. Most Ethiopians embrace Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity or Sunni Islam. Over the years, the Ethiopian people have mixed Christianity with the worship of deceased saints and have embraced an unorthodox view of Christ. Most have no real knowledge of the Scriptures. In North Carolina, the majority of Ethiopian men work in limo, taxi or convenience store businesses, while many women work in restaurants, salons or grocery and retail stores. Ethiopians highly value their unique food and culture, so even if their population is small, they quickly establish a grocery store and restaurant to meet the needs of their Ethiopian community. The central influence of these Ethiopian stores and restaurants makes them a good location to meet the Ethiopian people.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

HIGH POINT

POCKET 58



The Hispanic population of Guilford County has dramatically increased over the last several years. Though some existing Triad congregations have experienced significant ministry among this segment, the growth of the Hispanic population outpaces most evangelistic strategies. Leaders from several churches in the Piedmont Baptist Association, along with associational leaders and representatives from the Baptist state convention, met to study the rapid multiplication of house churches in Cuba. Javier Herrera was invited to come and plant Iglesia La Red ("The Network") in multiple locations of Guilford County. The church's strategy employs a combination of public worship gatherings, home-based discipleship groups and abundant gospel sowing. This church is impacting lostness in pocket No. 58 and beyond.



DAY 14

John 8:34-36 (ESV)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”



SOMALIS

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that God will call churches in North Carolina to reach out to the Somali people in their communities and in doing so, they might experience freedom found in Christ.
- ☉ Pray for God to soften the hearts of Somalis by the gospel as they realize that good works will not get them into heaven.



GRAYS CREEK

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for at least one church plant for this pocket.
- 📍 Pray for the existing churches to be strengthened through revitalization.

PEOPLE GROUP

SOMALIS

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

God brings the Somali people to us from the Horn of Africa where they practice a form of Sunni Islam. As a people, they have faced drought, famine and war for many years. In addition, Somalia's government has an international reputation as one of the most corrupt governments in the world. Many Somalis come to North Carolina seeking asylum. One might think that these oppressive conditions would make Somalis hard and cold toward outsiders, but this couldn't be further from the truth. The Somali people have a reputation for genuine kindness and hospitality. Oftentimes, the men find employment driving taxis or limos, working in convenience stores, or working in local African grocery stores. Try befriending Somali neighbors by visiting local African grocery stores to pick up some famous Somali tea.

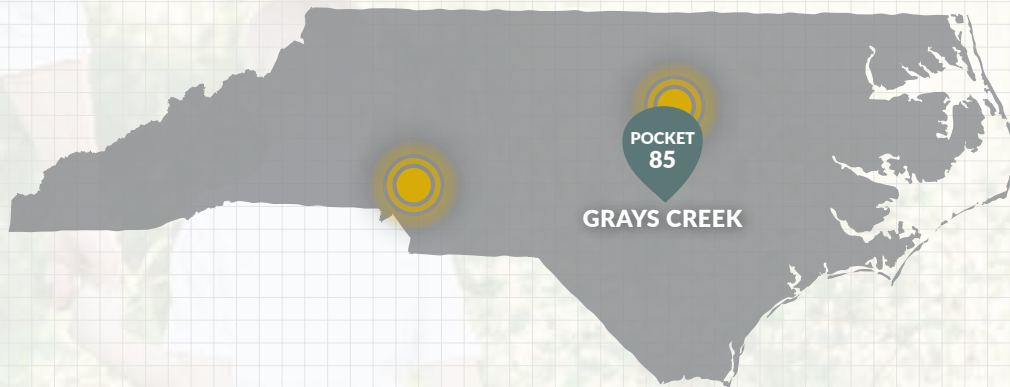
POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GRAYS CREEK



POCKET 85

Pocket No. 85 is located just southeast of Fayetteville in an area referred to as Gray's Creek. It sits between Interstate Highway 95 and N.C. Highway 87. This pocket is 6 miles in diameter — a tract of land that is transitioning rapidly from farmland to suburban homes. Its proximity to Hope Mills, Fayetteville and Fort Bragg makes it an attractive housing option to an increasingly middle-class, white-collar population. With only one high school, the Gray's Creek area has a community atmosphere for both new and existing residents. The schools and recreational sports teams are highly supported. Pocket No. 85 is in need of new church plants and the revitalization of existing churches.



DAY 15

John 10:9 (ESV)

“I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”



GUJARATI

Prayer Points

- Pray that God would empower His people to seek fruitful Christ-centered conversations with Gujarati people throughout North Carolina.
- Pray that disciples would be made and multiplied among Gujarati people here in North Carolina and in Gujarat, India.



WINSTON-SALEM

Prayer Points

- Pray for disciple-making catalysts and persons of peace to be found in the apartment communities and affluent neighborhoods in pocket No. 32.
- Pray for the planting of new churches that will employ contextualized strategies to engage the various hard-to-reach population segments with the gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE GROUP

GUJARATI OF INDIA



SOUTH ASIA

God brings the Gujarati to us from the Gujarat province in western India a province that shares its northern border with Pakistan. Most Gujarati practice the Hindu religion, though some practice Islam and a few embrace Christianity. Many of the Gujarati in North Carolina have a reputation as clever and hardworking businesspeople who want to secure a better life for their families. The Gujarati are also known as kind people who are quick to befriend others from different cultures. Businesses and communities that host Gujarati people present natural opportunities for us to develop gospel-centered relationships with them.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

WINSTON-SALEM



POCKET 32

Pocket No. 32 in western Winston-Salem is home to an eclectic population that includes singles, college students, young professionals, families and empty-nesters. Along with sizeable populations of Caucasians and African-Americans, the pocket is also home to many Hispanic, Chinese, Vietnamese, Middle Eastern, Indian and Pakistani residents. This area is highly educated, with half of the adults having at least a bachelor's degree and almost a quarter having graduate degrees. The socio-economic conditions correspond with that reality, with 11% of households falling into the highest American earnings categories and only 12% of families living below the federal poverty line. Many residents are unaware of their great need for Christ.



DAY 16

John 10:14-15 (ESV)

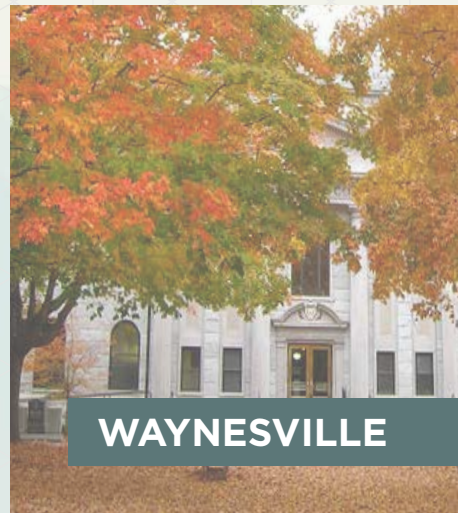
“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.”



HINDI

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that God would break through the idolatrous mindset Hindi people have toward the American dream and that they would give their lives to Christ instead.
- ☉ Pray that God would see disciples made among Hindi people here who would carry the gospel back to family and friends in India.



WAYNESVILLE

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for more awareness and engagement of South Asian Indians in the Blue Ridge area.
- 📍 Pray for God to raise up champions who are called to lead a movement of seeing many South Asian Indians reached with the gospel and built up into multiplying disciples of Christ.

PEOPLE GROUP

HINDI OF INDIA

SOUTH ASIA



God brings the Hindi to us from India. As one of the official languages of India, an estimated 180 million people speak Hindi throughout India and around the world. As the different Asian Indian people groups come to North Carolina, many will use the common language of Hindi to identify with other Asian Indians living in the same area. Large numbers of Hindi people have formed enclave communities in cities like Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and Morrisville. They often purchase homes in similar apartment complexes and neighborhoods so that they can live in close proximity to one another. In most major North Carolina cities, the Hindi population has grown so much that they have developed their own socio-economic structure. Believers living in one of these neighborhoods have a great opportunity to befriend their Hindi neighbors, especially through special events celebrated in the home such as birthdays and holidays.

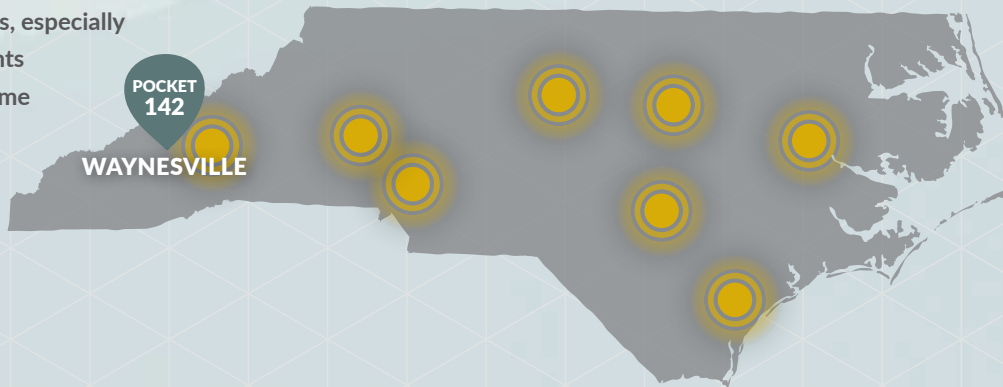
POCKET OF LOSTNESS

WAYNESVILLE

POCKET 142



Pocket No. 142 is in Waynesville in the mountains of western North Carolina. The long valley is inhabited by a significant mixture of locals, retirees, Hispanics and, interestingly enough, South Asian Indians. South Asian Indians are not a large part of the population, but they have built a magnificent Hindu temple and have developed a retreat center on top of Crabtree Mountain. The South Asian Indian ministry team of the Blue Ridge area took a trip to spend a day at the retreat center, which opened up a great witnessing opportunity. The team was welcomed warmly and allowed to enjoy the beautiful grounds as Hindu followers came from Asheville, Knoxville, Atlanta, Raleigh, Charlotte and many other cities. Good gospel conversations took place and connections were made for follow up.



DAY 17

John 11:25-26 (ESV)

“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.”



BANGLADESHI

Prayer Points

- Pray that God would send dreams and visions of the resurrected Christ to Bangladeshi people in North Carolina.
- Pray that God would use His children to share the love of Christ with people from Bangladesh in hopes that they might come to know him.



HICKORY

Prayer Points

- Pray for a heart of unity and collaboration among the churches in Hickory.
- Pray for favor in reaching the 11,000 unreached households in this pocket with the gospel.

PEOPLE GROUP

BANGLADESHI

SOUTH ASIA

God brings the Bangali speaking people of Bangladesh to North Carolina from South Asia. There are more than 160 million Bangladeshi people who live in the world, and in North Carolina, there are just short of 1,500 Bangladeshi people. You might discover them at a South Asian restaurant, grocery store or at the local mosque. While most Bangladeshis are Muslims, there are some here in North Carolina who follow Roman Catholicism. Still, most are not devout, but they simply hold their religion as a critical aspect of their cultural heritage. Visit your nearest South Asian grocery store or mosque and see if you might befriend someone from Bangladesh.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

HICKORY

POCKET 60



Pocket No. 60 is located in the city of Hickory. Hickory is the largest city in Catawba County with boundaries extending into Burke and Caldwell counties. The population has more than 40,000 people with 11,000 unreached households. Hickory is also home to the Catawba Valley Baptist Association with 54 partnering Southern Baptist churches. This pocket has residents from a wide range of lifestyles, often quite different from the lifestyles found in the local churches. This diversity calls for numerous contextualized gospel approaches.



DAY 18

John 12:24-26 (ESV)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.”



URDU

Prayer Points

- Pray that the church across North Carolina will love the Pakistanis by compassionately proclaiming the gospel to them.
- Pray for Urdu speaking believers to sacrificially make and multiply more disciples among Pakistanis here in North Carolina and around the world.



CLAYTON

Prayer Points

- Pray for churches to become aware of the needs and opportunities in multifamily housing and to begin the process of engaging the lost with disciple-making efforts.
- Pray that God will raise up laborers within the many multifamily housing complexes in this pocket.

PEOPLE GROUP

URDU OF PAKISTAN



SOUTH ASIA

God brings the Urdu people to us from Pakistan and parts of northwest India. The Urdu people make up some of the more prominent Muslims in the Islamic world as well as some of the more affluent internationals arriving in North America. Because of their prominence and affluence, they often own the mosques in their communities throughout North Carolina, even though they often do not make up a majority of the people who worship there. Even with a reputation as the spiritual elite, the Urdu people welcome interfaith dialogue. Visit local mosques and Islamic grocery stores, develop genuine friendships, and accept the invitation to share the gospel in interfaith dialogue with our Urdu neighbors.

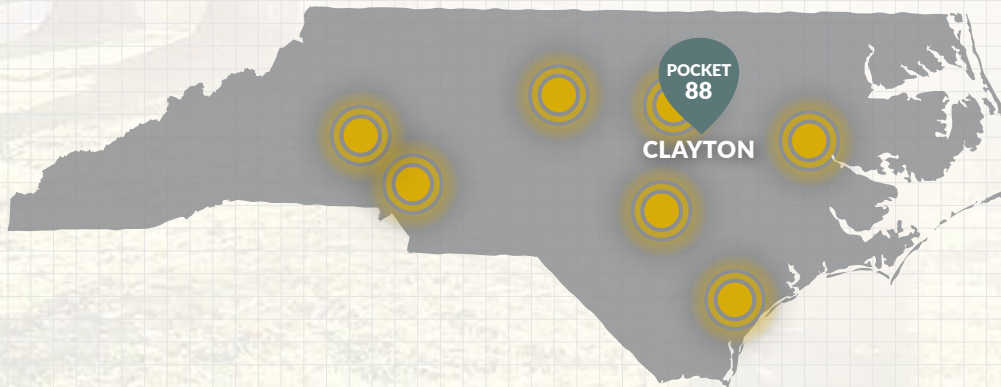
POCKET OF LOSTNESS

CLAYTON



POCKET 88

As a bedroom community for the numerous jobs and opportunities throughout the Triangle, pocket No. 88 in Clayton is one of the fastest-growing areas in the state. Many people flock to the area because of affordable housing and proximity to downtown Raleigh. The primary housing units are apartment complexes. There are also a large number of Hispanics who live in this pocket. With 20 churches in pocket No. 88, most efforts are focused on people living in single-family dwellings. With many opportunities, churches desperately need to be the hands and feet of Jesus to a lost and growing community.



DAY 19

John 12:35-36 (ESV)

“The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”



Prayer Points

- Pray for God to open the eyes of Punjabi people throughout North Carolina to see the light of Christ.
- Pray for God to give us a first follower of Jesus from among the Punjabi people who would be a door to reaching other Punjabi speakers in North Carolina.



Prayer Points

- Pray for the young professionals near Junction 1504 to experience freedom in Christ.
- Pray for the hope of the gospel to be experienced by the large numbers of people living in poverty.

PEOPLE GROUP

PUNJABI OF INDIA



SOUTH ASIA

God brings the Punjabi people to us from northwestern India and southeastern Pakistan. Our Punjabi neighbors are unique in that there is great diversity among their religions. Many Punjabi people practice Hinduism, Islam or Sikhism. Punjabi men are well-educated businessmen, oftentimes working in the technology field throughout North Carolina. The Punjabi people make up one of the fastest-growing international populations in North Carolina. Meet and befriend our Punjabi neighbors by shopping at a South Asian store, eating at one of their restaurants or going to one of their many festivals throughout the year.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

WEST CHARLOTTE



POCKET 8

A significant cluster of apartment buildings along South Boulevard (centered around the Junction 1504 apartment complex in West Charlotte) presents a new prayer focus for the eastern border of this pocket. Life Church is one of the few N.C. Baptist congregations in this pocket, and as a church plant, they are gaining new kingdom ground while facing resource and facility challenges. This pocket also contains some of the most crushing poverty in metro Charlotte. Financial poverty is only one aspect of the lack of essential resources. Education, gospel hope, social capital, physical health and emotional margin are also major issues. Churches can play a significant role in connecting people in need to vital resources while building relational bridges across which the gospel can be shared.



DAY 20

John 12:45-46 (ESV)

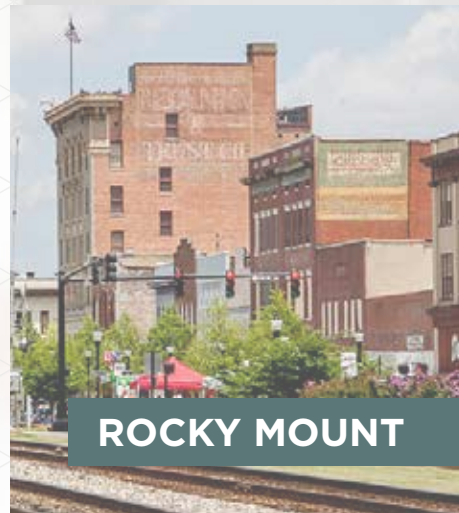
“And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.”



CHINESE

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that Chinese believers in North Carolina might boldly proclaim the gospel among their own people.
- ☉ Pray that Chinese international students studying in the United States would have an opportunity to hear, believe, be disciplined and take the gospel back to China.



ROCKY MOUNT

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for unity among the various churches and denominations in the city.
- 📍 Pray for the churches to multiply their disciple-making efforts throughout this pocket of lostness.

PEOPLE GROUP

CHINESE



EAST ASIA

God brings the Chinese people to us from East Asia. The Han of China are one of the largest people groups in China, totaling more than 900 million worldwide. They primarily speak the Mandarin language. Many Chinese people are Buddhists or atheists, while many express a sincere interest in Christianity. In North Carolina, many of them run family-owned restaurants, working many hours a week. Chinese people are community-oriented with families often gathering together late in the evening after the restaurants close to help their children with homework and socialize with friends and family. Though Chinese people carry heavy workloads, the few social hours they set aside in the evening can be a great opportunity to teach English as a second language, tutor in basic school subjects and begin to share the good news of the gospel in the dining rooms of their family restaurants.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

ROCKY MOUNT



POCKET 86

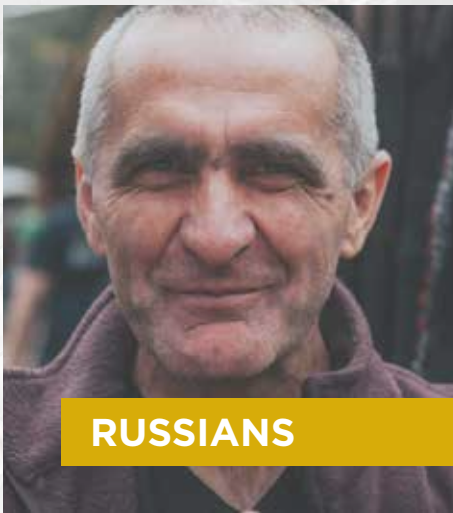
Pocket No. 86 is located in the heart of the city of Rocky Mount, a city in Edgecombe and Nash counties with a population of just over 54,000. This pocket has more than 11,000 unreached households, and with limited churches, there are significant challenges when trying to reach this pocket. Single parent homes are often overwhelmed by economic challenges while the inner city population grows and diversifies.



DAY 21

John 13:34-35 (ESV)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”³³



RUSSIANS

Prayer Points

- Pray that Russian believers will be bold in sharing their faith with their family and friends.
- Pray that many churches will come alongside the church in Russia, engaging many people through partnership in the gospel that will bear fruit and bring glory to God.



CHARLOTTE

Prayer Points

- Pray for qualified Hispanic leaders who can strengthen existing churches and serve the growing Hispanic population in Charlotte.
- Pray for new Hispanic churches to reach the growing Hispanic population in Mecklenburg County.

PEOPLE GROUP

RUSSIA

EUROPE

God brings the Russian people to us from the country of Russia. Russia's population today is roughly 145 million. About 852,000 Russians now live in the United States with about 5,600 in North Carolina. Many Russians claim Christian Orthodoxy or Judaism as their religion, although many are only nominally religious as a means of connection to their local Russian community. Most Russian people who have immigrated to the United States came from the European region west of the Ural mountain range, specifically from the Moscow and St. Petersburg metropolitan areas. As a hardworking people, a large number of our Russian neighbors work in construction or as craftspeople. European markets make a great place to foster relationships with our Russian neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

CHARLOTTE

POCKET 11

POCKET
11

Charlotte is the largest city in North Carolina. It is also an important commercial center not just for North Carolina, but for the entire East Coast. The city offers mild weather, a thriving banking industry and it regularly hosts major sports, business and political events. Charlotte attracts people from all over the world with the largest minority group being Hispanics. Making up close to 15% of the population and averaging about 15,000 people, the Hispanic population comes from different countries in Latin America. Pocket No. 11, located in the northeast quadrant of Charlotte, includes numerous mobile home parks, which house more than 8,000 Hispanic residents. Christian presence is minimal in these areas, making the need for Hispanic churches and Hispanic leadership vital.



DAY 22

John 14:6-7 (ESV)

“ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ ”



DEAF

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray for God to send deaf believers to the deaf in North Carolina to take the gospel to those who are still far from God.
- ☉ Pray that God would send deaf believers from North Carolina around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



LEICESTER

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for spiritual hunger to prevail in second-generation Slavs and for God to clarify His vision and mission for the Genesis ministry.
- 📍 Pray for Source of Life Church as they begin a new relationship with Southern Baptists, North Carolina Baptists and the Buncombe Baptist Association.

PEOPLE GROUP

DEAF



DEAF PEOPLES

Globally there are nearly 35 million deaf people on earth. Throughout North Carolina, more than 130,000 people suffer from some sort of hearing impairment. Oftentimes, people in the deaf community find it difficult to obtain vocational positions due to their limitations in language. They often feel isolated, oppressed and unwanted from the broader society. Many in these communities have had little or no access to the gospel. Could God use you to take the gospel to your deaf neighbor?

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

LEICESTER



POCKET 68

From the rolling farmlands in Buncombe County, pocket No. 68 has emerged from significant growth of the Leicester community. The community contains many apartment dwellers, native sons, Hispanics and a large number of Slavs. Slavic people in Leicester are made up of immigrants primarily from Ukraine. Several significant ministries have risen up in the region. A group of young, second-generation Ukrainians have formed a ministry called Genesis that is reaching teens, college students and young professionals. After existing as a non-denominational church for 15 years, Source of Life Church recently applied to affiliate and partner with the Southern Baptist Convention to provide relationship, equipping and missions partnership for the next generation.



POCKET
68
LEICESTER

DAY 23

John 14:12-13 (ESV)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”



INDONESIANS

Prayer Points

- Pray that God would send believers to share the love of Christ with Indonesian Muslims living among us in North Carolina.
- Pray that God would cause some of the Indonesians living in North Carolina to come to faith in Jesus and be catalysts for the gospel to return to the largest Muslim country in the world.



KANNAPOLIS

Prayer Points

- Pray for a fresh move of God to awaken the church and draw the lost into a life-giving relationship with Christ.
- Pray for believers to boldly cross socio-economic and cultural barriers with the gospel.

PEOPLE GROUP

INDONESIANS

SOUTHEAST ASIA

God brings the people of Indonesia from the islands of Southeast Asia. Indonesia is the largest moderate Muslim country in the world, though their commitment to Islam is more often a visible veneer for the animistic religion underneath. Here in North Carolina, most Indonesians are of Javanese-Chinese descent, and they own and operate Asian restaurants. Go enjoy their cuisine on an early afternoon and seek to befriend our Indonesian neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

KANNAPOLIS

POCKET 55

As a former mill town, Kannapolis has struggled with finding its place in the new economy of metro Charlotte. As a result, it is easy for people to feel forgotten and ignored, which are two key components in a hardness toward the gospel. Gospel engagement with the local school system and ministry among the poor in apartment complexes are two of the most effective strategies being used to impact lostness in this pocket. Fusion City and Think Kingdom Church do just that – they engage with the communities around them, whether that be in local school systems, parks or apartment complexes. This largely unchurched population needs more people who can reach the harvest God has brought to Kannapolis.



DAY 24

John 15:1-2 (ESV)

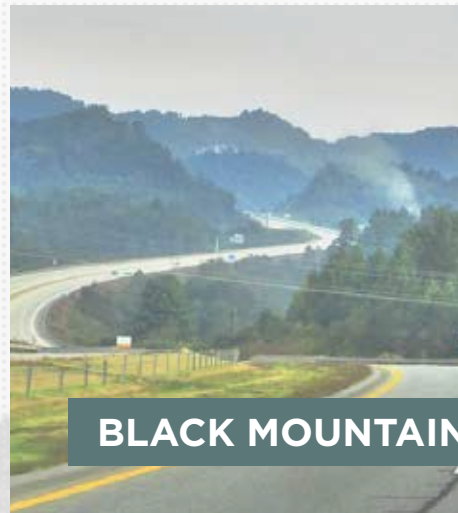
“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”



KHMER

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray for God to soften the hearts of Khmer Buddhists in North Carolina and to make them receptive when they hear the gospel.
- ☉ Pray for Khmer believers who are seeking to share boldly of Christ to Khmer Buddhists across North Carolina.



BLACK MOUNTAIN

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for Bohemians to be able to overcome a value system of existentialism with their personal experience as their highest authority and to receive the gift of faith to believe the gospel.
- 📍 Pray for God to raise up leaders to disciple the new believers who have been reached through this ministry.

PEOPLE GROUP

KHMER OF CAMBODIA

SOUTHEAST ASIA



God brings the Khmer people to us from Cambodia in Southeast Asia. The Khmer people identify as Buddhists, but they also practice a lot of ethnic ancestor worship. They have faced many challenges in their home country and come to the United States looking for a new and better life. The Khmer people in North Carolina live in many locations around the city; however, they typically are interconnected with one another through relational networks. Consider shopping at a Southeast Asian grocery store or visiting a local Buddhist temple to build relationships with and learn more about our Khmer neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

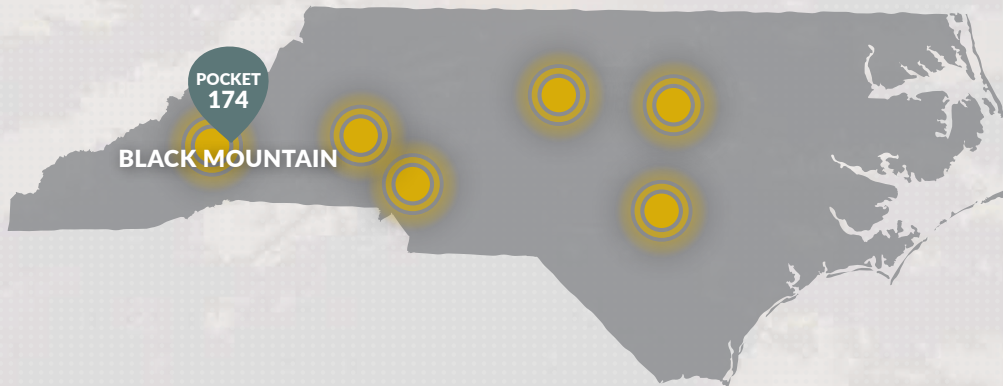
BLACK MOUNTAIN

POCKET 174



Pocket No. 174 is located in the bustling town of Black Mountain. This community is a microcosm of Asheville with many downtown businesses catering to tourists, locals and a significant Bohemian population. Trent Holbert was called to come from Kentucky to plant a church through the Baptist state convention among the Bohemian population. He hit the ground running, visiting every shop and business in the downtown area and began building intentional relationships. Trent's love for God and people has brought him much favor as this work has started to flourish. After a year of building a fellowship of around 60 new believers and followers of Christ, Ridgecrest Baptist Church dissolved and gave their building and parsonage to The Ridge Church. The Ridge Church has

grown to two worship services under Trent's leadership and is now reaching more than 100 people each week with over 30 baptisms this past year.



DAY 25

John 15:16 (ESV)

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.”



HMONG

Prayer Points

- Pray for Hmong believers to be bold in sharing the gospel with their own people that a movement of God spread throughout their people.
- Ask for protection from false teaching among the Hmong, for discipleship to be based strictly upon the Bible, for spiritual eyes to be opened to truth and for their hearts to seek Christ first.



RALEIGH

Prayer Points

- Pray that many Hispanic believers will be equipped to share the gospel through trainings.
- Pray for the growing cooperation of Hispanic churches throughout North Carolina.

PEOPLE GROUP

HMONG

SOUTHEAST ASIA

God brings the Hmong to us from the country of Laos. The Hmong first came to the United States following the rise of communism in China, Laos and Vietnam. When arriving in the states, the Hmong settled in established communities on both coasts. The Hmong organize their communities by electing leaders who create networks that help community members gain employment, create their own businesses and celebrate their culture. Many Hmong practice Buddhism, while others tend to be nonreligious. Christianity is on the rise for the Hmong people group, so discipleship is pivotal. Oftentimes, they are hardworking and place a high value on education. Believers can meet and befriend their Hmong neighbors by attending their festivals, frequenting their businesses or offering to tutor their young children in school.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

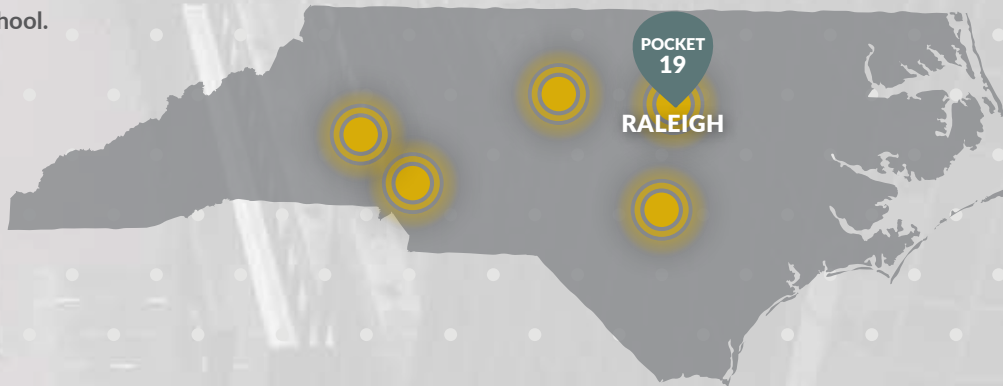
RALEIGH

POCKET 19



A special initiative is bearing fruit in training Hispanic believers to be reproducing disciple-makers. The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina staff has worked with Ningún Lugar Sin Alcanzar to organize multiple opportunities to train Hispanics in simple principles that encourage engagement and outreach through abiding in Christ and obeying His commands. Through multiple trainings that focus both on gospel conversations and follow-up through discovery Bible studies, the participants grow in boldness. As they put into practice what they have learned, they become confident to train and lead others. Furthermore, local churches are helping one another in special evangelistic outreach efforts and trainings, leading to a greater sense of kingdom cooperation.

Through this strategy, leaders hope to see a great expansion of work among Hispanics throughout North Carolina.



DAY 26

John 16:8-11 (ESV)

“And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”



LAOTIAN

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that the gospel would be seen as more valuable than cultural identity among Laotian believers throughout North Carolina.
- ☉ Pray that the Laotian people living in North Carolina might hear the gospel, respond in faith and take it back to their people in Laos.



JACKSONVILLE

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for military families to connect with a supportive church home as they transition.
- 📍 Pray for the many families that live in multifamily housing to find Christ.

PEOPLE GROUP

LAOTIAN

SOUTHEAST ASIA

God brings the Laotian people to us from Laos in Southeast Asia. The Laotian people identify mostly as Buddhists, but they also practice a lot of ethnic ancestor worship. There are a number of Laotian believers and churches throughout North Carolina in places like Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham. The Laotian people are highly communal and are deeply connected to one another through social networks throughout the state, country and world. Consider shopping at a Southeast Asian grocery store or visiting a local Buddhist temple to build relationships with and learn more about your Lao neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

JACKSONVILLE



POCKET 69

Pocket No. 69 is located in the city of Jacksonville. Jacksonville is a city in Onslow County and has a population around 70,000, which makes it the 14th largest city in North Carolina. Jacksonville is also one of the youngest cities in America. This is due to the large military bases that call Jacksonville home. This pocket faces challenges with the ever-changing population due to the military and the many multifamily housing communities. Research shows that multifamily housing communities are up to 95% unreached and are often hard to access. In addition, approximately 11% of Jacksonville's population is living below the poverty line. These factors combine to present the local churches with significant disciple-making barriers.



DAY 27

John 17:1b-2 (ESV)

“Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.”



THAI

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray for Thai people in North Carolina to sense an emptiness in their worship that points them to the one, true God.
- ☉ Pray for Christians to seek out Thai people, build genuine relationships with them and be bold in sharing the gospel.



FORT BRAGG/
SPRING LAKE

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for local churches to have wisdom to meet the diverse challenges that affect their community.
- 📍 Pray for The Point Church to equip Fort Bragg residents to be relational disciple-makers.

PEOPLE GROUP

THAI



SOUTHEAST ASIA

God brings the Thai people to us from Thailand in Southeast Asia. The Thai people demonstrate some of the highest devotion to Buddhism in the world today. They greatly value relationships, and they enjoy being involved in their community. The Thai people in North Carolina live in many locations around the city; however, they typically build their relationships around the Buddhist temple. The temple provides the best location for cultural and religious celebrations and a convenient place to gather for a monthly meal. Consider dining at a Thai restaurant, pampering yourself at a Thai nail salon or visiting a local Buddhist temple to build relationships with and learn more about your Thai neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

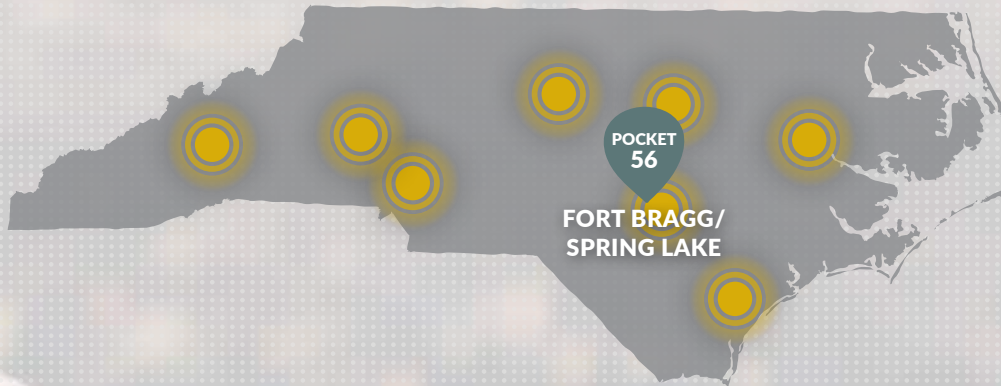
FORT BRAGG/ SPRING LAKE



POCKET 56

Pocket No. 56 covers Spring Lake and the resident population of Fort Bragg. The Spring Lake portion of the pocket contains great diversity across age, marital status, education, socioeconomic status, ethnicity and occupation. But there are three distinguishing marks to the community: multifamily housing with many living in poverty, several unreached people groups from Vietnam, Thailand and China, and those who live on base at Fort Bragg. Reaching military families is a particularly big challenge since the base is closed to outsiders. Each of these distinguishing marks presents local churches with a unique challenge.

The Point Church Fort Bragg, led by Barry Murry, is a North Carolina Baptist church plant that is intentionally trying to build gospel community among the military population.



DAY 28

John 17:20-21 (ESV)

“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”



VIETNAMESE

Prayer Points

- Pray for believers to visit salons, restaurants and billiard halls in order to build relationships with the Vietnamese people and engage them with the gospel.
- Pray for a network of believers to work together to engage Vietnamese people for His glory.



GREENSBORO

Prayer Points

- Pray for disciple-making relationships to blossom from contacts made by area churches doing ministry projects in pocket No. 30.
- Pray for the revitalization of existing churches, and for the planting of many more so that the diverse peoples of pocket No. 30 may have more opportunities to hear and respond to the good news of Jesus.

PEOPLE GROUP

VIETNAMESE



SOUTHEAST ASIA

God brings the Vietnamese people to us from the country of Vietnam in Southeast Asia. Vietnamese people mostly speak the Vietnamese language and practice the Mahayana tradition of Buddhism. In North Carolina, the Vietnamese people are known for their great entrepreneurial spirit. They will often open local nail salons, Vietnamese cuisine restaurants and local Asian grocery stores. One of their favorite pastimes is playing billiards. Consider how you might use your time at a local nail salon or billiard hall to build friendships and share the good news of the gospel with your Vietnamese neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GREENSBORO



POCKET 30

Although North Carolina A&T State University and Guilford Technical Community College are nearby, more than one-third of all families in pocket No. 30 live below the federal poverty line and more than half of the adults have no formal education beyond high school. Seventy percent of children in this pocket are growing up in single-parent homes. Residents live in multifamily housing communities and densely populated neighborhoods. Though the area is predominantly African-American, it is also home to many international people, including large numbers of Hispanics and Vietnamese, as well as Burmese, Butanese/Nepali and Congolese refugees. Alongside many declining churches, there are some new churches being planted and sparks of revitalization happening in others.



DAY 29

John 18:37b (ESV)

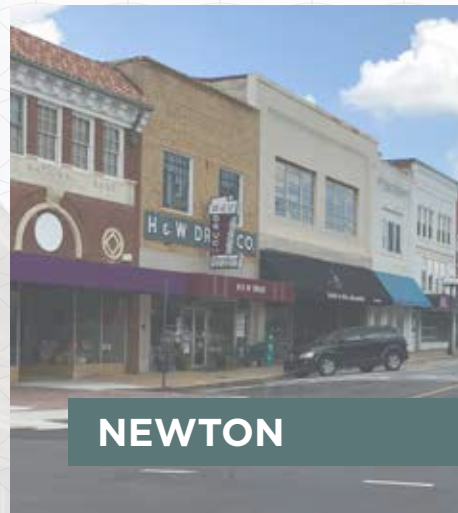
“Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world – to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.’”



COLOMBIAN

Prayer Points

- Pray that believers would boldly proclaim the gospel to the Colombian people wherever they may be found.
- Pray for Colombian believers to catch a vision for reaching other people groups, both around them and around the world.



NEWTON

Prayer Points

- Pray for the Lopez family as they raise up new church planters across pocket No. 82.
- Pray that these new Hispanic churches would have an Acts 1:8 vision that reaches the lost across the street and around the world.

PEOPLE GROUP

COLOMBIAN

AMERICAS

God brings the Colombian people to us from the country of Colombia in South America. Many Colombians in the United States are first-generation immigrants. They are well-educated, proficient in English and work in the business and medical fields. Many Colombians are active in the Roman Catholic Church. They tend to build strong patriarchal families, so establishing a connection with the head of a family is important. Places of business and education present natural settings to establish connections with our Colombian neighbors.

POCKET OF LOSTNESS

NEWTON

POCKET 82



Pocket No. 82 covers Newton, the county seat of Catawba County. The associational mission strategists (AMS) for the South Mountain and Catawba Valley Baptist associations saw the need for a Hispanic church plant in this area. These AMSs worked with several specialists from the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina to discover options for a new Hispanic church plant. State convention specialists connected the AMSs to a church planter from Cuba. This church planter and his wife, Miguel and Silvia Lopez, have partnered with several local churches and planted three new Hispanic churches, and have opened a training center for potential church planters. This training center will allow them to multiply Hispanic church plants and reach even more Hispanic people living in

multiple pockets of lostness across the Unifour population center.



DAY 30

John 20:29-31 (ESV)

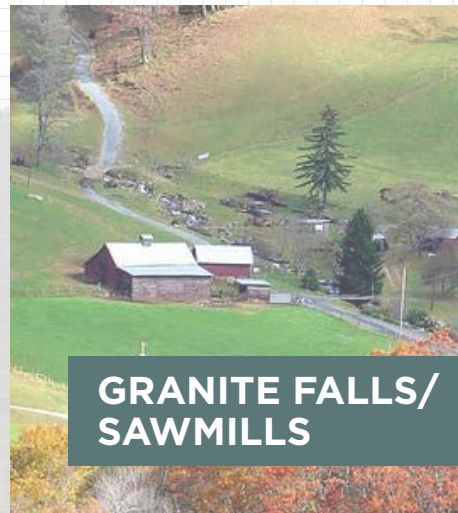
“Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”



SALVADORAN

Prayer Points

- ☉ Pray that God would use His Word, signs and wonders to draw many more Salvadorans to faith across the state.
- ☉ Pray for God to raise up Salvadoran believers to take the gospel to the unreached and unengaged people groups living all around them.



**GRANITE FALLS/
SAWMILLS**

Prayer Points

- 📍 Pray for believers to see the lostness all around them.
- 📍 Pray for believers to seize the missional opportunities found in schools, neighborhoods and workplaces.

PEOPLE GROUP

SALVADORAN

AMERICAS

God brings the Salvadoran people to us from the country of El Salvador in Central America. Salvadoran people are often within larger Hispanic communities, though family ties tend to be more important than ethnic. Salvadoran people enjoy conversation and are particularly proud to speak of their jobs and families. Since family is so important to them, they are very connected to their large communities of cousins, aunts and uncles. Hispanic markets or Salvadoran restaurants are a good place to connect with our Salvadoran neighbors.

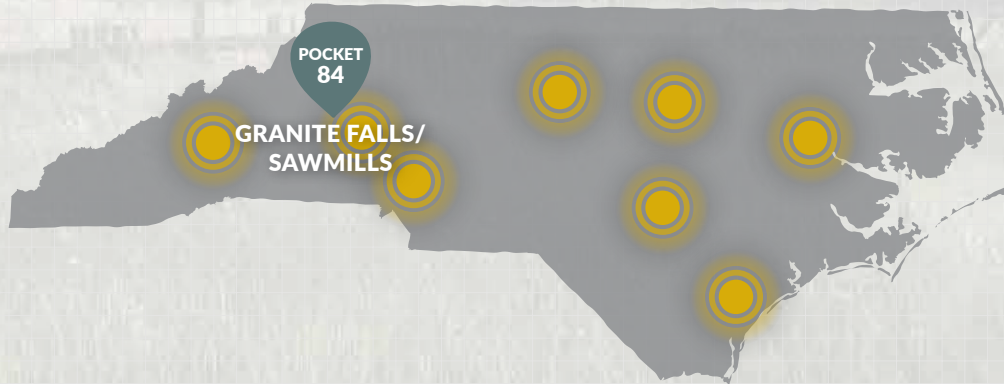
POCKET OF LOSTNESS

GRANITE FALLS/ SAWMILLS



POCKET 84

Pocket 84 is located in the two small towns of Granite Falls and Sawmills, both located in Caldwell County. The population in pocket No. 84 is around 13,000 with an estimated 3,000 unreached households. Culturally, the people living in this community are tight knit. They are a true community with a lot in common with one another. Oftentimes, those not attending church are well within the reach of those who are. However, this commonality makes it easy to assume that everyone has a saving relationship with Jesus.



CONCLUSION

God is opening our eyes to see the unreached and least reached across the state of North Carolina. Thank you for joining us as we prayed together for an unreached people group and a pocket of lostness over the last 30 days. **Now that we have prayed together, will we go together to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to the unreached and least reached among us?** We would love to walk alongside you and your church as you seek to pray for, care for, share with, and disciple people in least reached pockets of lostness and unreached people groups throughout North Carolina.

Contact us to learn more about how we can partner together.

Cris Alley
Strategic Focus Team
calley@ncbaptist.org
ncbaptist.org/sft

Zac Lyons
Great Commission Partnerships
zlyons@ncbaptist.org
ncbaptist.org/gcp





North Carolina Baptists

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina • Milton A. Hollifield Jr., *Executive Director-Treasurer*
205 Convention Drive • Cary, NC 27511 • (919) 467-5100 • (800) 395-5102 • www.ncbaptist.org

The missions and ministries of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina are made possible
by your gifts through the Cooperative Program and the North Carolina Missions Offering.