

**Southside Baptist Network
Strategy Planning Team Report
June 29, 2015**

Members: **John Tarrer**, Leader, Transitional Pastor, Liberty Hill, Hampton; **Mike Burt**, former Exec. Director, Eagle's Landing Christian Foundation, Founder of *Life and Money Matters*; **Emily Holley**, Pastor's Wife/Ministry Assistant, Ellenwood Oaks Community Church, Ellenwood; **Chad Ellis**, BCM Campus Minister, Clayton State University and Georgia Perimeter College, Covington Campus; **Casey Matthews**, Associate Pastor, North Henry, Stockbridge; and **Ray Gentry**, SBN DOM, Ex-Officio

The purpose of the Ad-hoc Strategy Planning Team has been to evaluate information, recommendations, and research, and give prayerful, wise, godly counsel as to the best way to go forward as SBN. *Without consultation, plans are frustrated, but with many counselors they succeed (Pr. 15:22).*

After three prayerful and productive meetings in April and May, the following Mission, Vision, Motto, Core Values, and Strategy for SBN are recommended for the Administrative Team's consideration:

Current Mission: *To equip church leaders to advance the Gospel and make disciples for the glory of God*

Proposed Mission: *To assist churches in advancing the Gospel through community impact, church planting, church revitalization, and leadership development*

Vision: *To see increasing numbers of healthy churches – existing and new – making disciples and transforming communities through Christ*

Motto: *Assisting Churches. Advancing the Gospel.*

Core Values:

- *We value the Lordship of Jesus Christ and follow His example for our conduct and service (Mt. 22:36-40; Phil. 2:9-11; Col. 3:23).*
- *We value the Bible as the Word of God and as the authority for our mission efforts and work (2 Timothy 3:15-17).*
- *We value our churches and respect their autonomy (Matthew 16:18).*
- *We value cooperation among churches and denominational ministry partners. We are intentional in our efforts to build trust. (Acts 11:22-30; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8).*
- *We value a partnership of churches of all sizes reaching all people, tribes, and languages (Acts 1:8; 10:34-35; 1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:7-13; 1 Tim. 5:1-3; Rev. 5:9).*

Strategy: Reorganization of our Leadership Structure

Community Impact: *Create a Community Impact Team as a Standing Ministry Team to assist our churches in connecting with, evangelizing, discipling, and transforming communities; Example: Highlight successful outreach/community impact by churches that are reproducible and provide training for others to adapt to their neighborhood/community. Provide churches an annual event to participate in and impact our communities such as a mobile medical/dental clinic, Community Changers, etc. Provide churches a directory of names of organizations churches can connect with and serve the community with such as Hands of Hope Medical Clinic, Pregnancy Resource Centers, Raceway Ministries, etc. This Team will come alongside and assist churches in making their community impact more successful.*

Church Planting/Missions: *Assist our churches in planting churches locally and globally and hosting mission teams; Promote the need for new churches, host a Churches Planting Churches workshop; Enlist a Volunteer Mission Team Coordinator to coordinate mission teams coming to our area to assist our church plants.*

Church Revitalization: *Change the name of the Church Health Team to Church Revitalization Team. Make this team a Standing Ministry Team for the purpose of coming alongside churches requesting specific assessment and consultation.*

Leadership Development: *The Leadership Development Team will assume the functions of the Church Strengthening Team and the Pastor, Staff, Wives Support Team. This Team will provide leadership development for pastors and ministerial staff, their wives, support staff, and church lay leaders.*

Stewardship: *Change the Properties/Finance Team to the Stewardship Team. The Stewardship Team will be over properties and finances, with the addition of a sub-team that will communicate opportunities to contribute to designated funds for church planting/church revitalization, etc. at the Georgia Baptist Foundation*

Administrative: Will be continue to be composed of the Officers and the Leaders of Standing Ministry Teams.

Personnel: Will continue to be composed of the Moderator and the two previous Moderators.

Goals: What is our target? We live in a mission field of over 600,000 people. At least 70% are lost, 80% unchurched.

Initially, our goals are to help our churches discover ways to impact their communities for Christ on an ongoing basis, assist churches in planting three churches a year, assist two churches a year in need of revitalization, and provide top tier leadership development for pastors and church leaders on a regular basis. Each Team will set appropriate goals once they are established.

Calendar:

1. Ad-hoc Strategy Planning Team approved by Admin. Team April 16
2. Ad-hoc Team meets April-May
3. Ad-hoc Team reports to June 4th Admin. Team
4. Admin. Team adopts recommendations for new Mission, Vision, Structure
5. During July-September, the 2016 Budget is prepared to include funding for the new mission, vision, and strategy. New Team Leaders and members are also enlisted.
6. Executive Council approves recommendations at Sept. 10th meeting.
7. New structure is implemented Oct. 1, 2015.
8. New Budget takes effect Jan. 1, 2016.

Where would current ministries fall under the new structure?

BCM of Clayton State University – Community Impact
Children’s Homes Truck Loading – Community Impact/Missions
Community Changers – Community Impact/Missions
Evangelism Trailer – Community Impact
*Bookkeeping Assistance for first year - Church Planting
*Church Planting
Church Revitalization
*Research/Demographic Assistance – Church Planting/Church Revitalization
*Assistance for Clerks/Treasurers – Leadership Development
*Biblical Counseling – Leadership Development
*Bivocational Ministers Conferences – Leadership Development
*Church Resource Directory – Leadership Development
Church Strengthening Conference – Leadership Development
Kid’s Camps – Leadership Development
*Ministers Appreciation Month – Leadership Development
*Ministers Conferences – Leadership Development
*Ministry Assistant’s Luncheons – Leadership Development
*Ministers Wives Fellowship – Leadership Development
*Ministry Couples Retreat – Leadership Development
*Pastor Search Committee Training – Leadership Development
*Pulpit Supply – Leadership Development
*Southside Summit – Leadership Development
*Website/Graphic Design Assistance – Leadership Development/Church Revitalization
Annual Meeting/Joint Worship Service – Promote all four

*Ministries that are primarily or exclusively led by SBN Staff

The Team recommends that Staff Ministry Leadership be acknowledged in the new structure since Staff are leading most of the ministries under Leadership Development.