

Dear Church Family:

On May 17, 2014, Sharon Baptist Church (SBC) held its first Annual Foundations for Ministry Retreat. The purpose of this event was to begin the process of evaluating each of our current ministries for how effectively they align with and properly support the overall mission of SBC;

Each ministry was assigned a team leader. All participants were encouraged to join one of the teams where they have passion for a particular ministry. After the teams were assembled, the first task was to create a mission statement. This was done in part by identifying the tenants within the churches mission statement that their respective ministry supports (or should support)

Once the mission statement for each ministry was created, the teams began the process of evaluating each program within the ministry for how effectively it aligns with and properly supports the specific ministry. This evaluation process uses our Foundation for Ministry Decision Making to decide which ministries stay, which go, and which need improvement. It was developed by the Church Council at their retreat in February. This Foundation for Ministry Decision Making consists of 4 pillars.

- 1) Our Mission Statement - This is our “true north”; it continually reminds of us of why we exist.

To God’s glory, we exist to faithfully worship Christ, to develop disciples, and to nurture a loving community of faith that serves and shares the gospel with South Charlotte and the world.

- 2) Our Guiding Principles - Our guiding principles act as boundaries; as long as we stay within these boundaries, we remain on solid ground.

- Prayerful Community
- Biblical Integrity
- Christ-focused
- Discipleship Driven
- Empowered and Yielded to the Spirit
- Focused on Stewardship
- Gospel-Centered and Evangelistic
- Pursuing Excellence in Everything

- 3) Our Central Ministry Focus – The most important things we do daily in order that we fulfill our mission

- Prayer
- Worship

4) Our preferred Culture - The culture that we are committed to creating that will maximize our ministry's impact and achieve our key purpose (mission).

We Believe Every Believer Should Be Committed To:

- Evangelistic (Go tell...)
- Mission Minded (Gospel ministry through service)
- Excellence (High Standards)
- Worshipping (Worshipful Church)
- Hospitable (friendly, warm and welcoming)
- Faithful to the Word (...all based on God's Word)
- Discipleship (followers of Christ)
- Spirit Filled (submissive will)
- Prayerful (Pray without ceasing)
- Loving Relationships (So they will know we are His...)

The goal for all of this work is to insure that all that we do at SBC is perfectly aligned to effectively support the churches mission. Furthermore, that everyone that is involved in a ministry at SBC knows exactly how their individual efforts align with and properly support the overall mission of the Ministry Team. This is paramount as we strive to have everyone involved, motivated, excited, and passionate about ministry at SBC.

The ministries identified and recommended by the Effective Structures task force are the following:

- Worship (Retreat Team Leader – Robbie Page)
- Youth (Retreat Team Leader – Joe Lanman)
- Adult (Retreat Team Leader – David Martin)
- Children (Retreat Co-Leaders – Shelle Page & Danielle Smith)
- Missions (Retreat Team Leader – Susan Williams)

- Guest Services (Retreat Team Leader – Victor Smith)

Each Ministry Team developed a mission statement based on which tenants of the churches mission it supports, and a list of short and long range goals. They are as follows:

Worship Ministry Team

Mission Statement - To God's glory, we exist to keep our members and guests focused personally and collectively on the person and the work of Jesus through the elements of praise, prayer, and Biblical preaching.

Team Members

- Robbie Page
- Anne Marie Holder
- Neal Davenport
- Madline Lawrence
- Gina Ernsberger
- Dana Ernsberger
- Tim Wooten
- Susan Wells
- Sandra Page
- Michelle Campbell

Initial Goals

- Thoroughly evaluate the viability of splitting our current Sunday a.m. worship service into two services, one contemporary and one traditional.
- Review the data from church wide worship surveys and make recommendations to the staff and church council on how the current service format might be improved.
- Evaluate and make recommendations regarding our Sunday evening, Wednesday evening, and special services (i.e. Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve, Hanging of the Green, etc.)

Youth Ministry Team

Mission Statement - To make God smile we exist to deepen discipleship of our youth, to be a refuge for one another and to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with peers, neighbors and the world.

Team Members

- Joe Lanman
- Tiffany Martin
- Cheri Davenport
- John Bolton
- Joe Lanman
- RaLinda Register

Initial Goals

- Pray about how to incorporate parent involvement/education and intergenerational involvement into the program.
- Evaluation of Sunday School--reaches a different group than Sunday night; is good for those visiting with their families; they do Bible study, prayer and fellowship during this time. Meets goals of mission statement.
- Goals for Sunday School--make comfortable for visitors, make sure students are getting basic Bible knowledge, work on stronger prayer lives, and fellowship/harmony in group, learn to give testimonies and get other generations involved with them.
- Evaluation of The Refuge Sunday night program--goal is FWWD (fellowship during game time, worship, word time, and download for life application) so meets goals of mission statement. Different group of students attend Sunday morning.
- Goals to work on for The Refuge--more accountability for checking on missing members, get more people working with youth, have accountability partners and maybe change once every month or two to help get to know each other and help each other grow as Christians. Review the data from church wide worship surveys and make recommendations to the staff and church council on how the current service format might be improved.

Adult Ministry Team

Mission Statement - To God's glory we exist to faithfully worship Christ, to study and nurture spiritual growth, to promote intergenerational fellowship and discipleship to all members and all who willingly enter the doors of Sharon Baptist Church and to all the South Charlotte community.

Team Members

- TBD
- Judy Honeycutt
- Regina Fiegel
- Karl Keefer
- Dana Smith

Initial Goals

- Add 1-2 substitute teachers
- Publish curriculum for each class
- Arrange Sunday teachers meeting to assess what works and what doesn't
- Recognize needs of others at Sharon Baptist who are in some type of need

- Offer encouragement to everyone within the church to promote bonding and unity
- All adult get together
- Quarterly and semiannual preparation of sandwiches or snack packs
- Church wide preparation of Christmas shoe boxes and delivery to Samaritans Purse
- Encourage new membership
- Search for innovated ways to lead/facilitate a class

Children Ministry Team

Mission Statement – To God's glory, the children's ministry exists to faithfully introduce our children to Jesus, help them understand who He is and encourage them to develop a relationship with Him.

Team Members

- Shelle Page

- Danielle Smith
- Meredith Peebles
- Cecelia Beam
- Jackie Nash
- Scott Hathaway

Initial Goals

- Evaluate all ministries and events in this department so that what we offer reflects our mission statement.
- Ending Breakfast with Santa - Never gained families from event; not enough spiritual emphasis on the birth of Christ.
- Children's Church - Allowing Children/families the option to go to children's church k5-2grade
- Preschool- Creating a ministry liaison between the children's ministry/minister and parents of the school. (Ex) Prayer needs, praying for teachers, school...etc.
- -Syncing Chapel and the Classroom Bible Story together for a better understanding of the Gospel.
- Sunday School- potentially changing the material from 252 basics to Gospel project.
- -Recruiting more parent involvement
- Moving the Children's ministry location

Missions Ministry Team

Mission Statement – To God's Glory, missions exists to share the gospel and develop disciples by meeting the Spiritual and Physical needs of South Charlotte and the World

Team Members

- Susan Williams
- Michael Daily
- Hill Peebles
- Eleanor Jordan
- Brandi Luptak

Initial Goals

- Can we help make the Homeless Shelter meal fit into our mission statement? How can we do this? Hill Peebles in charge of this goal. I know you have already talked about this with the director and we will be going forward with getting something together to hand out.
- Mission committee standard distributions - Are these monthly/quarterly monies going to Christ based / centered organizations. I am in charge of this goal. I am going through our list of organizations that regularly receive monies from us to make sure we are only giving to Christ based organizations.
- Sharon Women - How can they plan opportunities/activities to share the gospel? Brandi Luptak is in charge of this goal. She will examine and determine what can be done to help Sharon Women come in line with our mission statement more consistently. In other words, she will investigate how this group can not only pray for other, fellowship, but also have a goal of evangelizing.
- Mission Trips - How can we offer more (domestic and international)? I am in charge of this through the missions committee. Obviously we just returned from one, but I would like to see at least two a year. One local, one international.
- Men's Ministry - The objective is really to see if there is any interest in keeping this and if so, how to improve/change in order not only to meet the needs of our church members, but to align with the mission statement. Michael Daley is in charge of this goal.
- Benevolence - We need to let more people know about this fund and that our members can support it as it supports our members. Eleanor is in charge of this goal.
- Offerings (Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon, etc.) Do these offerings support our mission? If so, what are realistic goals and how can we better promote? This is something that Brandi, Eleanor and I will look at...

Guest Services Ministry Team

Mission Statement - To God's glory, the Guest Services ministry exist to support the mission of SBC. We do this by creating and maintaining an environment that welcomes, informs, and serves our guest and invites them to worship joyfully.

Team Members

- Victor Smith
- Mollie Rowe
- John Jordan
- Dick Beam
- Ruth Gilbert
- Clara Pippin

Initial Goals

- Identify existing SBC programs that should fall under Guest Services
- Church sweep performed on 6/27; Listed edited an plan completed on what has go; Est. completion date 7/31; submit to Church Council for 8/18 vote
- Begin (August 8) work removing clutter; focus will be on most used and/or visible
- Coffee service – looking for coffee bar to replace folding table; Est 8/31; create a weekly plane to staff setup and clean up; purchase some new carafes; make our coffee service look appealing
- Create volunteer rotation for front door Greeters and coffee service; 8/8
- Signage for Guest Services desk; 8/16
- Submit budget request to David; 7/31
- Analyze guest surveys; submit report to Church Council on 8/18