

CONNECTING THE MISSION FORCE WITH THE MISSION FIELD.

As a network of Southern Baptist churches, we exist to engage the mission force with the mission field both here in Jax and beyond. We stand ready to come alongside you and your church leadership to help you pursue the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

CONTENTS

In this report, you will find a brief overview of the various ministry highlights of the common mission shared by churches within the Jacksonville Baptist Association.

04
05
10
11
12
14
17

4 Annual Report 2018 Annual Report 2018

WELCOME

Our tag line, connecting the mission force with the mission field, is more than a slogan, it is a statement of our passion, vision and strategy. We truly believe that we are better together. Jesus emphasized unity among his followers and the early church clearly demonstrated this unity in common mission that existed between local churches. In this report, you will see many ways JBA churches are living this out, but here are a few highlights that are currently underway:

- JBA churches deepened our commitment to build church planting and revitalization partnerships in South Florida through the **Send>>South Florida** (Miami) initiative of the North American Mission Board and the Florida Baptist Convention. We are well on our way to meeting the goal of 20 partnerships by 2020!
- JBA churches drafted and proposed adoption of the **Jacksonville Statement on Gospel Unity and Racial Reconciliation** produced by a team of JBA pastors at the request of our JBA Lead Team. You can co-sign this statement at www.Jacksonvillestatement.org and a written copy is included herein.
- JBA churches conducted our first ever **Church Planter & Replanter Couple Assessment** designed to give guidance and counsel to those called to start or restart churches.
- A dozen JBA churches participated in a multiple-day **Church Refocus Workshop** led by pastor Dr. Rob Peters.
- JBA churches journeyed into a beautiful path of disaster restoration with **Pastor Junior Martinez of Iglesia Bautista La Gracia in Puerto Rico**. We have had the joy of sending relief by way of prayers, multiple teams and funds to rebuild and strengthen this sister SBC church in order to impact Puerto Rico with the gospel. This opportunity was presented to our JBA network by the Send Relief arm of our North American Mission Board.

As you can see, we are actively pursuing our passion to **Equip** existing churches, **Expand** the Kingdom through church planting and **Engage** every believer in the mission of Christ. Until the return of our Lord, may we be found faithful in this calling.

Serving together,

Rick Wheeler *Lead Missional Strategist*

JACKSONVILLE STATEMENT ON GOSPEL UNITY

Preamble

As evangelical Christians we acknowledge the reality that division and disunity are tools of the Enemy against the proliferation and spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Whether in families, local church bodies, neighboring churches, or even denominational entities, division has unfortunately been far too normative throughout church history.

Race, as commonly defined, refers to the various ethnicities, skin colors, and cultural heritages of human beings. As evangelical Christians, we acknowledge the sinful divides among those of differing races that, at times, have been ignored or worse, excused within the church.

Reconciliation refers to the acknowledgement of human brokenness and the need for restoration to God through Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:20-23). In that he has reconciled humanity to himself, Christians are to be reconciled one to another, as children of God (2 Corinthians 5:18).

Great strides toward reconciliation occurred in the United States throughout the second half of the twentieth century. Yet, many continue to experience great division and painful separation due to ethnicity, cultural heritage, and/or race. While acknowledging much has been done to reconcile over recent decades, it is clear we have far to go.

Racial reconciliation for Christians is not solely, or even primarily, a political issue. Racial reconciliation for Christians is not merely a social justice issue. Racial reconciliation for Christians is not a public relations issue. Racial division is a sin issue. Therefore, racial reconciliation for Christians is a gospel unity issue.

To ignore sin is to affirm sin. Therefore, the pastors and leaders serving together in local churches and denominational entities have deemed it right, timely, and proper to present a clear, concise, biblically-founded, gospel-centered statement on gospel unity and racial reconciliation.

We believe that God has created all humanity in His image, male and female, with diverse skin tones and ethnic histories. As image-bearers we exist for the glory of God knowing that brings us the greatest good. We believe that salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone and that he died so that all may be saved (John 3:16). This offer is for all people. Believing we need clarity on the issues of unity and racial reconciliation among believers, we offer the following affirmations and denials.

Articles

Article 1

WE AFFIRM that racial reconciliation is a gospel issue.

WE DENY that racial reconciliation is solely a social issue.

Matthew 15:21-28; Romans 1:16-17; Galatians 2:11-14; Ephesians 1:9-10, 13; 2:1-10, 13, 14-22; 3:3-5

Article 2

WE AFFIRM that the gospel alone offers hope and celebrates what the world fears.

WE DENY that anything other than God and the full message of the gospel provide the hope and answers needed for humanity.

Psalm 28:7; 46:2-3; Lamentations 3:18; Matthew 12:21; Romans 8:24-25;

12:12; 1 Corinthians 13:13; Galatians 5:5; Hebrews 11:1, 7; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:3, 1 John 3:3

Article 3

WE AFFIRM the biblical teaching of race references the differences between Jewish and non-Jewish peoples.

WE DENY the definition of race that creates a racial hierarchy based on inferred biological inferiority.

Leviticus 19:34; Acts 8:26-40; Romans 10:12; Ephesians 2:11-3:8; 1 Corinthians 12:13

Article 4

WE AFFIRM that Scripture teaches that Canaan was cursed by Noah due to his son Ham's actions and that Cain was marked by God following the murder of his brother Abel.

WE DENY the curse of Canaan, often called the "Curse of Ham" and the mark of Cain, wrongly defined as a change of his skin color, refers to racial superiority or inferiority or has anything to do with differing skin tones of people.

Genesis 4:15; 9:20-25; 10:6

Article 5

WE AFFIRM that gospel-centered racial reconciliation is a pursuit of love for others flowing from Holy Spirit-empowered obedience of those who repent, believe in the cross and resurrection of Jesus by faith, and are justified by faith in Christ.

WE DENY that ethnic diversity is synonymous with gospel-centered racial reconciliation.

Deuteronomy 10:17-19; Matthew 25; John 13:34; Acts 10:34-35; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 4:32; James 2:8

Article 6

WE AFFIRM that God has designed marriage to be a covenantal, lifelong union between one man and one woman, regardless of race or ethnicity, for His glory, signifying the covenant love between Christ and His church.

WE DENY that marriage between a man and woman from differing racial or ethnic backgrounds to be sinful.

Genesis 2:23-24; Matthew 19:6; 2 Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 5:22-23; 28-29; 31

Article 7

WE AFFIRM that pastors are uniquely called and positioned to shepherd their people toward gospel-centered racial reconciliation understanding that diversity is actually at the heart of the gospel.

WE DENY that racial reconciliation can be forced upon others through human means. John 21:15-17; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-2

Article 8

WE AFFIRM the resolutions approved at Southern Baptist Convention annual meetings repenting of the sins of racism, most notably slave-holding, of past generations, and the need for continued work toward gospel-centered racial and ethnic unity.

WE DENY that the sins of past generations can be ignored and need not be acknowledged. Nehemiah 9:1-2; Jeremiah 6:16; Daniel 9:16

Article 9

WE AFFIRM that all human beings are image bearers of God.

WE DENY the validity, truthfulness, and right standing of any and all organizations, groups, or individuals claiming racial superiority of any kind.

Genesis 1:26-27; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 2:15; James 3:9; 1 Peter 2:17; Revelation 7:9

Article 10

WE AFFIRM that unity in our churches must be founded in Christ alone.

WE DENY that unity in our churches can be founded in political ideologies or national identity.

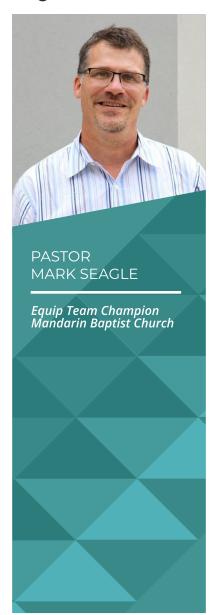
Psalm 20:7; 133:1; Daniel 2:21; Matthew 6:33; Romans 8:28; 13:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 2:13-15; Jude 3; Revelation 7:9-12

Sign this statement at Jacksonvillestatement.org





EQUIP TEAM REPORT



The Equip Team remains committed to strengthening churches through coaching, training and resources that raise the leadership capacities and the evangelistic focus of JBA churches.

During the past year, we experienced several key benchmarks and outcomes:

Our first micro-loan was funded to a church plant to assist them in obtaining much needed sound equipment as they meet in a public school.

We had ten emerging worship leaders apply and receive financial assistance from the Walter L. Brown scholarship fund. What a joy to see these scholarships awarded!

Our 11th cohort of Kairos Coaching launched this year - we now have seen a coaching movement take shape as over 100 JBA leaders have completed our coaching qualification.

Pastors regularly meet for revitalization conversations facilitated by pastor Albert Byrd in our Pastor's Advance group.

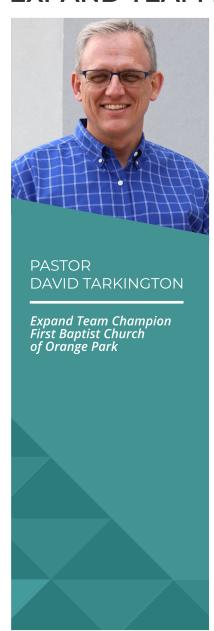
Pastor Jimbo Stewart frequently meets with churches and leaders to pursue church replanting efforts. We are launching a replanting residency program and working towards raising up several new pastor couples in this area.

We Celebrated a Pastor/Wives Date Night and a Men's Steak Night honoring pastor couples by investing deeply into the lives and marriages of pastors.

In the upcoming months, be on the watch for workshops that feature assistance in the areas of preventing sexual misconduct, campus safety and security as well as financial stewardship and generosity in the church.

We count it a privilege to come alongside busy pastors and ministry leaders and equip them in their call to serve.

EXPAND TEAM REPORT



God continues to call out Kingdom leaders to be church planters in our city and beyond. This year the Expand Team has assessed 11 couples who are in various stages of church planting.

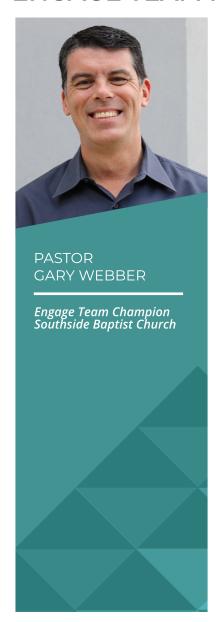
Since the inception of our JBA church planting assessment center, we have assessed 71 couples considering the path of church planting. Today, through our JBA Lead Team, we recommend two church plants for membership into fellowship with the association. We are also walking with several more through the credentialing process.

Our God is a GREAT GOD doing a great work in our city and beyond we get to partner with HIM!!

Your church can play a vital role in the church planting effort in our city. Individually and as a church you can encourage, pray for, and refer a potential church planter to the association. The Expand Team provides training, coaching, resources and opportunities to be part of a church planting family. We want to make it easier to plant a church in Jacksonville and harder to do it by yourself!

As an association we are also committed to assist in church planting in the three counties in southeast Florida through **Send>>South Florida**. Our goal is 20 JBA churches in partnership with 20 church plants by 2020.

ENGAGE TEAM REPORT



The Engage Team experienced a "reboot" in 2018 beginning with the addition of Mike Reed as the Missional Strategist for Community Engagement. We have also shifted our focus to prioritize launching missional hubs throughout the greater Jacksonville area.

These hubs are church-led, community-based, and evangelistically-focused. The increased emphasis on evangelism as the major point of our community engagement led to the creation of SWARM Gospel Conversations Training. This training is designed to equip ministry teams to engage people with the simple but powerful message of the gospel.

To date over 70 pastors and church leaders have been equipped in five of these Gospel Conversations training events.

In November the Engage Team will introduce another new training opportunity called "Contextual Clarity and Community Engagement." The aim of this training will be to provide churches with a tool for community mapping. This will help churches and leaders better understand their ministry context and more effectively engage their neighbors in gospel conversations.

Plans are also underway for **REACH'19**, a city-wide effort to minister to the faculty, staff, administrators, and students and their families in public schools as they prepare to begin the next new school year. This project will use many of our existing faith-based partnerships to create even more effective ways to serve our communities.



LEADERSHIP SLATE

We exist to engage the mission force with the mission field both here in Jax and beyond.

If you don't demonstrate leadership character, your skills and your results will be discounted, if not dismissed. | Mark Miller

Associational Officers

Moderator Elijah Simmons, Norwood Community Church

Vice-Moderator Greg Varndell, First Baptist Church Jacksonville Beach

Clerk Jeff Litton, JBA Staff

Treasurer Sarah Parnell, San Jose Baptist Church

Budget/Stewardship Chairman Chris Coram, North Jax Baptist Church

Leadership Team

Moderator (Chairman) Elijah Simmons, Norwood Community Church

Vice-Moderator Greg Varndell, First Baptist Church Jacksonville Beach

Treasurer Sarah Parnell, San Jose Bapitst Church

Budget/Stewardship Chairman Chris Coram, North Jax Baptist Church

Engage Team Champion Gary Webber, Southside Baptist Church

Equip Team Champion Jimbo Stewart, Redemption Church

Expand Team Champion David Tarkington, First Baptist Church Orange Park

At-large Member Reggie Bryant, Shiloh Metropolitain Baptist Church

At-large Member Victor Reyes, Iglesia Bautista Neptune

At-large Member | Jeff Stockdale, The Point Church Jacksonville

Budget and Stewardship

Chris Coram, Chairman 21 North Jax Baptist Church

Sharon Grant 19 St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

Matt MacNaughton 19 Grace Life Church

Paul Schmittling 19 Fresh Start Church

Cierra Bennett 20 City.church

Young Kim 20 Jax Korean Central Baptist Church

Darren Sides 20 Southside Baptist Church

Troy Dixon 21 Normandy Park Baptist Church

Chris Pruitt 21 Hillcrest Baptist Church

Nominating Team

Frank Ciresi 19 University Baptist Church

Matthew Meadows 19 New Berlin Church

Jeremy Pellum 19 First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, South Campus

Teri Allen 20 Arlington Baptist Church

Bruce Hickson 20 Unity Missionary Baptist Church

Manny Keyser 20 Parkwood Baptist Church

Jeff Bedwell 21 Chets Creek Church Southside

Tammy Benedict 21 Deermeadows Baptist Church

Orvin Feliciano 21 Jones Road Baptist Church

^{*} NAMES IN BOLD ARE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL BY JBA CHURCH MESSENGERS





9 KAIROS GRADUATES

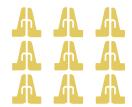






IN JBA MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED (\$111,953.53 SINCE INCEPTION)





11 CHURCH PLANTER & REPLANTER COUPLES ASSESSED

3 PRAYER GATHERINGS AT 9 LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT GREATER JACKSONVILLE





10 CHURCHES ACTIVELY PARTNERING IN PUERTO RICO

There are two churches presented for membership into the Association:

Fil-Am Christian Ministry & Morning Glory Christian Fellowship



BUDGET

Leadership Team	2019	2018
Staff Team Development	4,500	10,500
Staff Team Retreats	1,500	1,250
Associational Promotion	6,000	5,500
Associational Meetings	3,000	3,000
Contract Workers (net)	27,600	46,000
Christmas Bonus	4,000	3,900
Workers' Comp Insurance	2,250	2,500
Staff Team Salaries	307,043	282,769
Employer Paid Annuity	30,704	25,812
Staff Team Insurance	85,615	69,311
FICA	5,165	7,193
Medicare	1,208	1,682
Senior Staff Reimbursables	17,850	16,100
TOTAL	496,435	475,517
Budget/Stewardship Team	2019	2018
Building Maintenance Reserve	4,000	4,000
Building Maintenance	6,500	5,000
Insurance - Office	9,000	8,500
Janitorial	3,960	3,780
Maintenance Contracts	4,000	4,500
Telephone	3,900	4,500
Utilities	9,000	9,500

Garbage Pick-up	300	3,000
Audit/CPA Review	3,700	3,500
Legal	500	500
Computers	9,000	11,250
Contingency	2,000	2,000
Office Automation	2,750	2,750
Office Supplies	5,000	3,500
Postage	1,000	1,000
Banking	900	1,000
TOTAL	69,830	72,600
Family Tables	2010	2010
Equip Team	2019	2018
Church Development	14,000	15,000
Priority Connections	2,500	2,000
TOTAL	16,500	17,000
TOTAL Engage Team	16,500 2019	17,000 2018
Engage Team	2019	2018
Engage Team Priority Connections	2019	2018
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives	2019 2,500 6,500	2018 2,500 6,500
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives Church Impact Initiatives	2019 2,500 6,500 6,500	2018 2,500 6,500 6,500
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives Church Impact Initiatives TOTAL	2019 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500	2018 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives Church Impact Initiatives TOTAL Expand Team	2019 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500	2018 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives Church Impact Initiatives TOTAL Expand Team Church Planting	2019 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500 2019	2018 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500 2018 10,000
Engage Team Priority Connections City Impact Initiatives Church Impact Initiatives TOTAL Expand Team Church Planting Priority Connections	2019 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500 2019 10,000 2,500	2018 2,500 6,500 6,500 15,500 2018 10,000 2,500

THE JACKSONVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

2700 University Blvd. S., Jacksonville, FL 32216

Telephone: 904.727.6800 E-mail: jba@jaxbaptist.org