# TOGETHER WE ARE ONE

**2016 ANNUAL CELEBRATION** 



# How can we focus on growing a healthy church where we serve, while at the same time cultivate oneness among many local churches in our greater Northeast Florida region?

I believe this is a key question that every pastor and church leader in our network should address. Well established churches, along with new church plants, must actively seek out ways to go beyond the "my church only" thinking that leads to isolated, consumer-driven congregations. Our city is too big, the culture is too diverse and the lostness is too dark, for just one local church expression to try to do this alone. In fact, we need each other to carry out the mission Jesus has given to us.

That is why he prayed for us to be one. Think about that for a second...when Jesus prayed for us, he could have prayed for many things, but Scripture is clear that he specifically prayed for oneness.

#### John 17:20-23

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Jesus prayed specifically for the maturity of our oneness as His followers so that the world might believe in the One who was sent. This means that our evangelistic witness in the world is directly tied to our unity.

I love how my friend Jason Dukes puts it: The work of God comes alive among us through the Holy-Spirit enabled unity of a typically selfish, divisive, my-agenda-seeking people around a selfless, reconciling, restorative, His-Kingdom-seeking mission on which we've been invited by a loving, near, sanctifying Savior.

So today, we are calling for a renewed commitment to oneness. Here are some practical ideas of how this might look in the days ahead:

Take devoted time in Sunday worship gathering to solely pray for another local church expression, their leaders, their ministries and their fruitfulness. Allow that "put the interests of others above your own" stuff to also apply to local churches, and commit time every week to working toward the encouragement and success of another local church leader and ministry.

Put aside petty differences and serve the community together in ongoing, relational ways with no one local church's name tagged on the project, but rather for the sake of "on earth as it is in heaven" in your community.

There are many other ways that this idea of oneness can take shape, so pray for the Lord to show you how he wants you to specifically pursue oneness in our greater Jacksonville area.

I am grateful to serve alongside you and pursue oneness together. May the One who does immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine bring oneness, so that the gospel can go forward with an authentic witness into every square inch of our community.

Unto the Praise of His glory,

Rick Wheeler
Lead Missional Strategist

### MIAMI PARTNERSHIP

**PG 01** 

# JAXNICITY SURVEY RESULTS

**PG 03** 

# 2016-17 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP ROSTER

**PG 05** 

### **2017 BUDGET**

PG 07

# MIAMI PARTNERSHIP

# AGREEMENT

# Partnership with the North American Mission Board's Send Miami Initiative

Our first formal partnership with NAMB's Send Toronto initiative was an overwhelming success. Many of our Jacksonville Baptist Association churches developed relationships with church planters in the Greater Toronto Area and celebrated opportunities to pray and provide resources for the cause of Christ in that region. While we intend to continue our partnership in Toronto, we look forward to a new partnership opportunity with NAMB's Send Miami Initiative.

Since Miami is just a few hours' drive from Jax, and in such great need for the Gospel and new churches we feel overwhelmed by a sense of responsibility to partner with that region of our state. The Miami area is known for its immense wealth and poverty. One study ranked Miami as the richest city in the U.S. while over one-fourth of the population lives in poverty. The area is also known for its diversity. Miami is a crossroads of cultures with half of the population born outside the U.S. 5.92 million people live in the Miami Metro area and 89% remain unreached by any evangelical church.

The purpose of this partnership is to share our Kingdom resources with those serving in the Miami Metro area in order to help achieve the Send NA goal of planting 169 churches in the next five years. We plan to do this by establishing church-to-church partnerships between individual churches in Jax and church planters in Miami.

#### We encourage church partnerships to include:

**PRAYER** 

Intentional prayer support that seeks God's favor and protection upon the Kingdom work being done in Miami.

**PEOPLE** 

A consistent flow of people visiting Miami from Jax for the purpose of assisting church planting and church revitalization ministries in a way that is appropriate for the ministry context.

**PROVISION** 

Investment of resources to support the work of church planting and church revitalization ministries throughout Miami.

In order to develop these partnerships, the JBA will:

Sponsor, schedule, and support frequent vision trips and serve as a connector for churches to find the most effective relationships.

Offer leadership training and coaching to planters and network leaders as requested.

Leverage opportunities to join in common mission endeavors as the Lord brings these opportunities.

# SURVEY RESULTS

Several years ago we commissioned a report called "JAXnicity". In this report we identified the various people groups within the mission field of our city. Now we are working on discovering the labors. We want to know how we are doing as a network so that we can better explore how we can work together to reach our city and beyond. To this end, 74 JBA churches were surveyed, resulting in 49 responses. We identified:

### **SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS**

32 CHURCHES ARE IN 52 SCHOOLS

# **MULTI-HOUSING** COMMUNITIES

17 CHURCHES ARE IN 26 COMMUNITIES

Beyond regular giving through the Cooperative Program to SBC causes, JBA churches are active in the following locations:

**NORTH AMERICA** 

AFRICA

**EUROPE** 

CENTRAL AMERICA

ASIA

SOUTH AMERICA

The following numbers represent churches involved in these areas of ministry:

FOOD. CLOTHING ORPHAN CARE & SHELTER

INTERNATIONAL **PEOPLE GROUPS** 

**SPORTS** 

HUMAN **TRAFFICKING** 

**RECOVERY** 

SANCTITY OF **HUMAN LIFE** 

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CRIMINAL **JUSTICE** 

**ARMED FORCES & 1ST RESPONDERS** 

**HEALTHCARE** 

COUNSELING **SERVICES** 

**DISASTER RELIEF** 

#### **ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS**

A. MODERATOR B. VICE-MODERATOR

C. CLERK

F. BUDGET-STEWARDSHIP

CHAIRMAN

D. TREASURER

**Bob Barrett, FBC Orange Park** Elijah Simmons, Mt. Horeb Laura Gregory, JBA staff Sarah Parnell, San Jose Hal Hunter, The Church at Argyle

#### LEADERSHIP TEAM

Moderator (Chairman) Vice-moderator Treasurer Stewardship Chairman Equip Team Champion Engage Team Champion Expand Team Champion At-large member At-large member At-large member

Bob Barrett, FBC Orange Park Elijah Simmons, Mt. Horeb Sarah Parnell, San Jose Hal Hunter, The Church at Argyle Mark Seagle, Mandarin Gary Webber, Southside David Tarkington, FBC Orange Park Jeff Stockdale, The Point @ St. Johns Reggie Bryant, Shiloh Hwan Kim, Jax Korean Central

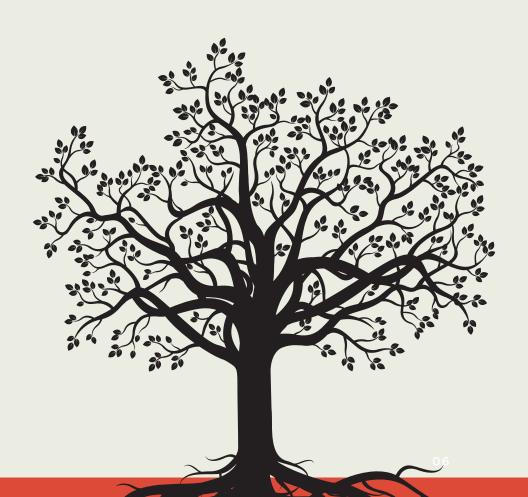
#### NOMINATING TEAM

Chris Drum Meagan Mayo Dave Paxton Barry Townsend Ginna Ashby Wayne Rees Frank Ciresi Jeremy Pellham **Matthew Meadows**  FBC Baldwin 17 The District Church 17 FBC Orange Park 17 Elevation Church 18 Fruit Cove 18 Remedy Church 18 **University 19** FBC Jax South 19 New Berlin 19

#### STEWARDSHIP & BUDGET **PLANNING TEAM**

Rick Miracle Chris Coram Jeff Stockdale Bob Landham (vice chm) Mike Reed Hal Hunter (chm) Matt MacNaughton **Sharon Grant** Paul Schmittling

Westside 17 North Jacksonville 17 The Point at St. Johns 17 Deermeadows 18 San Jose 18 The Church at Argyle 18 **Grace Life 19** St. Paul 19 Jax Heights 19



Leadership Team	2017	2016	Equip Team	2017	2016
Staff Team Development	10,500	10,500	Church Development	12,000	12,000
Staff Team Retreats	1,250	1,500	Vacation Bible School - Training	500	1,500
Association Promotion	5,500	5,500	Priority Connections	2,000	2,000
Annual Meeting	3,000	3,500			
Contract Workers	24,000	18,000	TOTAL	14,500	15,500
Christmas Bonus	3,600	3,500			
Workers' Comp Insurance	2,500	2,750			
Staff Team Salaries	274,533	282,032	Engage Team	2017	2016
Employer Paid Annuity	25,060	21,323			
Staff Team Insurance	73,368	60,300	Priority Connections	2,500	2,500
FICA	6,983	8,383	City Impact Initiatives	6,000	6,500
Medicare Senior Staff Reimbursables	1,633	1,933	Church Impact Initiatives	6,000	6,500
Senior Starr Reimbursables	14,600	16,100		14 800	4
TOTAL	446,528	435,321	TOTAL	14,500	15,500
Budget/Stewardship Team	2017	2016			
			Expand Team	2017	2016
Building Maintenance Reserve	4,000	4,000			
Building Maintenance	6,000	6,500	Church Planting	8,000	8,000
Insurance - Office	8,000	9,000	Priority Connections	2,500	2,500
Janitorial	3,600	3,000	NAMB Send City Initiative	4,000	5,000
Maintenance Contracts	6,250	6,000	TOTAL	14,500	15,500
Telephone	5,100	5,000		14,500	15,500
Utilities	9,750	10,000			
Lawn Maintenance	3,900	3,900			
Garbage Pick-up Audit	2,700	2,250 5.750			
Legal	5,750 500	1,500			
Computers	11,250	1,300		2017	2016
Contingency	2,000	2,000	BUDGET TOTAL	589,028	583,421
Office Automation	2,750	3,000			
Office Supplies	4,000	4,500			
Postage	1,000	1,500			
Debt Service	21,250	21,250	MONTHLY	49,086	48,618
Banking	1,200	1,200	REQUIREMENT FROM CHURCHES		
TOTAL	99,000	101,600			

# Connecting the Mission Force with the Mission Field



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