

Mid-South PCA Church Planting Network - Reverend Hunter Townsend Brewer
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The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley
Presbyterian Church in America
Shepherding Committee
Annual Report

Thursday, May 31, 2017

Greetings in Christ,

My work as the ministry coordinator of the Mid-South PCA Church Planting Network continues to progress, Lord willing, in a Christ honoring manner. The Network has grown to thirty partner churches in Covenant, Grace, Mississippi Valley, and Southern Louisiana presbyteries. We support 4 works. They are: Rev. Josh Kines planting in Lafayette, LA; Rev. Mike Winebrenner planting in Horn Lake, MS; Rev. Jeff Wreyford planting in Jonesboro, AR; Rev. Dan Anderson planting in Little Rock, AR. We are also assisting 2 future works. The Network is setting aside funding for a church plant on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and assisting Grace Presbytery regarding locating/selecting a church planting candidate. Also, we are setting aside funding for a future plant in Monroe, Louisiana and we are helping MS Valley presbytery find a church planting candidate.

My role as coordinator is multifaceted. First, I spend a good bit of my time visiting partner churches encouraging them regarding the multiplication of new churches and providing updates concerning the plants we support. Typically, I address Sunday School classes, Wednesday Evening services, and weekend Mission Conferences. Additionally, I visit with the mission committees, deacons, and elders of partner churches as often as I can. I also reach out to churches that are interested in the Network. Lastly, I schedule time, usually over breakfast or dinner, with as many pastors of partner churches and non-partner churches as I can.

Secondly, another aspect of my role regards presbyteries. I visit all four that make up the Mid-South Network. This usually translates to 14 presbytery meetings a year. I also try to make as many MNA committee meetings as possible to provide updates on the Network and to be of any assistance regarding church planting. This is in keeping with our vision is to be a resource and catalyst for church planting in Covenant, Grace, Mississippi Valley, and Southern Louisiana presbyteries.

Thirdly, as ministry coordinator, I seek to be a resource for church planters. I visit the planters we support several times a year and communicate with them on a regular basis. I also spend a good deal of time talking with students, pastors, and couples interested in planting. This

includes visiting seminaries. This past year, I spent time at RTS Jackson and Charlotte as well as Covenant Seminary. In July, I will serve as an assessor for MNA in Atlanta.

Fourthly, a significant part of my job is administrative. This includes emails, newsletters, e-newsletters, executive committee meetings, social media, emails, and much, much more. I am responsible for organizing our Annual Gathering, which was held in April in the Jackson area. Dr. Harry Reeder was our keynote speaker. There is also a financial component. I need to keep our executive committee up to speed on revenue and expenses, planter support, budget issues, and partner church giving. Thankfully, we have a bookkeeper who helps me.

In terms of my calling as a teaching elder, I asked to preach, teach, and administer the sacraments regularly. I visit a partner church or one interested in the Network almost every other weekend. This typically involves teaching and speaking (i.e. providing an update). I preach 20 times a year on average.

My family is doing well. I am grateful for my wife who understands the necessity of me being on the road so much with my role. She is the very picture of grace and patience. Although I do not pastor a church, we use every opportunity to help my kids understand what daddy is doing and why church planting is so critical. When I am home, we attend Christ Presbyterian Church in Oxford as a family (my wife and kids are also there when I am gone). A real blessing has been the Wednesday evening service at College Hill Presbyterian Church. This is a consistent way for us to go together as a family!

Grace, Peace, and God Bless,
Rev. Hunter Townsend Brewer