



## **Our Purpose Statement:**

"Our purpose, as a fellowship united in our Lord Jesus Christ, is to worship God through evangelism and discipleship by the power of the Holy Spirit."

# Our desire and goal can be summarized in the following words:

"Loving God...Loving You" (Mark 12:30, 31)

# Our philosophy of ministry (or "core values") includes the following:

- Faithful, enthusiastic preaching and teaching (II Timothy 4:2)
- God exalting, Spirit-infused worship (Psalm 145:1-7)
- Significant, focused commitment to the **Great Commission** (Mark 16:15)
- Purposeful discipleship and leadership training (Matthew 28:19, 20)
- Individual and corporate attention to the Great Commandment (John 13:34, 35)
- Intentional, creative outreach (I Peter 3:15)
- Concentrated devotion to **prayer** (Acts 2:42)



## **Background:**

To achieve our mission as stated above, the Pastors and Deacons, with consultation from other ministry leaders, have developed a long-range Plan which will give general guidance to DBC's activities from 2008 until 2013.

This document is the result of an ongoing process of prayer, evaluation, consultation and determination. It has been our desire from the outset to determine God's direction for this ministry in the future.

Denbigh Baptist Church has a long history of faithful service to the Lord, including excellent Bible teaching, missionary zeal and, in the last 35 years, a Christian school that has grown quite large. It is our desire to build on this heritage and expand our ministry with a clear focus and direction. As our ministry grows, we want to be more purposeful in our steps and move together.

## Our goal has been to look at:

- The past RESPECTFULLY
- The present REALISTICALLY
- The future OPTIMISTICALLY



## **Our Presumptions:**

We anticipate that the following will remain true in the coming years of our ministry together:

### Regarding our congregation:

- o It will *grow*. In the last 4 years, our average attendance has grown by approximately 18%. Nearly half of that growth has come in the last year.
- It will be fairly transient. Due to the influence of our business sector, the military presence on the Peninsula and the desirable area in which we live, people move into and out of the area frequently.
- It will change. In the last 4 years we have transitioned from a congregation of primarily middle aged and older members, to a family with a broad spectrum of ages, including a rapidly growing segment of young families.

## Regarding our resources:

- We will have sufficient finances to meet our budget needs.
- We will have sufficient personnel to staff our ministries and accomplish our goals.

## Regarding our plan:

- It is grounded in our commitment to the Biblical model of church life.
- It is flexible. That is, it can and will require adjustment as we move ahead. "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." (James 4:15)
- It is inclusive. We anticipate that all of our ministries will use this plan to guide their decision making processes.



#### **Our Ministry Emphases:**

Denbigh Baptist Church will be actively pursuing ministry in the following areas:

- 1. Missions
- 2. Discipleship
- 3. Family Strengthening
- 4. Outreach
- 5. Worship
- 6. Fellowship

<u>Emphasis 1 – Missions</u> (reaching out through people and ministries beyond the borders of our local church ministry):

In addition to our present commitment to significant financial support for missionaries and ministries around the globe, we purpose to:

- Send our Pastor and his wife on an annual visit to one of our missionaries. The purpose of this is to encourage our missionaries and allow our pastor to return with a first hand vision of how we can more effectively partner with them.
- Execute at least one adult mission trip to expose more of our people to the blessings of missionary service and to assist our missionaries on their fields.
- Send a missionary (single or family) from our church into cross-cultural ministry.
- Increase the emphasis of our mission conference on young people to challenge them more effectively regarding missions.
- Develop an overall strategy for short-term missions (including adult, youth, etc.)

## **Emphasis 2 - Discipleship**

We sense a pressing need to provide a program of discipleship for our church family. We don't just want to be well-informed about the Scriptures; we want to be a people who are continually growing in their walk with

Christ. We purpose to:

- Implement a church-wide small group ministry.
- Implement a program of Bible study and discipleship specifically geared for men to complement our existing ladies' ministry.
- Establish a purposeful discipleship strategy to followup with new believers, and encourage all of our church family to move to the "next level" in their walk with Christ.
- Institute a teacher training program.
- Establish the foundation for a Bible Institute that will provide advanced training.
- Develop a counselor training program.

#### **Emphasis 3 – Family Strengthening**

We are very concerned for the state of the family in our culture. Family agendas that are inconsistent with Scripture as well as a pace of life that provides little time for nurturing family relationships and growing godly children has brought about difficulty in many homes. In order to address this trend, we purpose to:

- Establish a rotation of family focused Bible studies to assist in developing marriage relationships, parenting skills, financial management principles, etc. for our families.
- Hold family related seminars to offer specific, focused opportunities for growth.
- Offer resources for counseling for those who have found these areas to be overwhelming. This includes the foundations for a counseling center.

Emphasis 4 – Outreach (reaching into our community to strengthen our presence and to develop relationships that will lead to opportunities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ).

We are concerned that our influence in our local community is insufficient as we view the many lost people around us. The nature of our culture and ministry today causes us to realize that we must be both personally prepared and willing to be creative in our attempts to engage our community with the gospel. We purpose to:

- Develop outreach initiatives through our Outreach Team. They will seek to brainstorm new ideas and evaluate existing tools for outreach.
- Produce a DVD as a tool to inform people in an engaging fashion about our ministries.
- Continue to develop our web presence.
- Develop a strategy for our summer ministries, especially our children's outreach programs.
- Consider humanitarian outreach opportunities.

#### **Emphasis 5 – Worship**

Since worship (exalting God and inviting others to do the same) is the church's task, we purpose to enhance our worship ministry by:

- Establishing a second morning worship service both to accommodate the increasing attendance, and to broaden the style of our worship experience.
- Enhancing our media ministry to include video feeds throughout our buildings; possible web based video ministry, and greater use of video support in our services.
- Upgrading our audio/visual equipment to facilitate the needs of our increasingly media oriented ministry.
- Appointing a children's ministry coordinator (for the worship services)

#### **Emphasis 6 – Fellowship**

Recognizing the need for intimacy in our relationships as brothers and sisters in Christ, we purpose to:

- Further develop our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday "Family Day" activities.
- Continue more personal fellowship through a hospitality dinner program.
- Strengthen our women's retreat ministry for their mutual fellowship and encouragement.
- Establish an annual retreat for men to facilitate "iron sharpening iron" among the men of our fellowship.



In addition to these emphases, it is valuable for us to put our goals for staffing and facilities down so that we can have focus and direction as we look to the future. Each goal indicates both a projected time frame and the areas that would be directly affected by that advance.

## **Staffing Goals:**

Short Range (0-2 years)

- Youth Pastor / Spiritual Life Director
- Business Manager / Facilities Coordinator

Mid-Range (2-5 years)

 Worship (Music) Pastor, perhaps with another associated responsibility

Long Range (5-20 years)

- Christian Education Pastor
- Family Ministries Pastor
- Children's Ministries Director

## **Facilities/Property Goals:**

Short Range (0-2 years)

- Consolidate Nurseries
- Renovate Youth House
- Acquire additional parking

Mid Range (2-5 years)

- Renovate Brewin Building
  - Classroom space, Handicap facilities, modernization of entire building

Long Range (5-20 years)

- Finish Balcony
- Renovate/update Auditorium
- Acquire Oyster Point Office Complex
  - Office space, Bible Institute,
    Counseling Center, studio,
    classroom space
- Acquire Oyster Point Shopping Center
  - o DBCS