

RHBC

Vision and Strategy

4/25/2010

Part 1

RHBC—Intersecting Lives for Transformation

Previously adopted by RHBC in 2009

(Part 1 has not changed)

I. Making Disciples—the “Picking Unit”.

“go ye therefore and make disciples, ... baptizing them...” Mt. 28:19

- ❑ Investigate/Research/Develop List of ministry opportunities (locally, nationally, and internationally) by studying community needs and contacting appropriate organizations and leaders, and then help develop strategic outreach opportunities that would allow the church to impact these areas of need.
- ❑ Evaluate all current facilities and events from the eyes of a lost/unchurched person to see where areas of improvement might be found.
- ❑ Aggressively follow-up visitors, new members, and new Christians to get them quickly incorporated into the family of RHBC. Develop a climate of evangelism that permeates all we do as a church.

II. Maturing Disciples—the “Basket”.

“teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you...”. Mt. 28:19b

- ❑ Clearly stating our specific goal for member’s lives when they join:

An active member of Rolling Hills Baptist Church is one committed to the...

- Study of God’s Word in a small group
 - Corporate Worship
 - Giving of Tithes
 - Serving in a Ministry
- ❑ Implement small group ministry to strengthen disciples in all areas of growth.

This will involve training leaders to lead groups in various places, at various times of the week, and will include groups for outreach, for growth, support groups, and any other groups the church deems necessary to fulfill the vision of intersecting lives for transformation.

III. Maintaining Disciples—the cab and engine

“and they continued steadfastly ...”. Acts 2:42

- ❑ Research and help determine future growth space and building needs.

A team will be appointed to include trustees, deacon representative, staff, and children and preschool directors.

- ❑ Develop a means of ongoing evaluation to stay ahead of Leadership, Financial, and Involvement needs.

Introduction to Part 2

A generation ago, it was well understood what being a Christian, and being a church member meant. Most that were coming for church membership had come up in the church culture, so already had a working knowledge of the Bible, understood religious terms, had participated in the various classes in the church (such as BYPU, TU, SS, CT, or WMU). They knew how to act, knew that they should tithe, and that they needed to be involved in the church.

That assumption is no longer true. Today's generation has little history in church, no real knowledge of the Bible, and doesn't understand the church mindset, much less the ways of following Jesus as Lord. Therefore, expectations must be clearly spelled out, and reinforced at all levels. The church that expects the current culture to adapt to and readily grasp their culture, values, and norms will find itself left behind in its attempt to impact that culture for Christ.

The following vision and strategy is not an earth-shattering revelation for those who have a history in the church. For some, it will seem like stating the obvious. That is just the point. It is not obvious to those we're called to reach. Today's church must be intentional and specific in order to be effective. This document is an attempt to move from unwritten expectations to a clear declaration.

So, after 2 years of prayer and labor, this is a clear statement of what we understand to be God's purposes for us as a local church, and the specific ways we will accomplish those purposes.

We are called to reach a new generation of unchurched in Fairfield and beyond. This document is for them.

RHBC's Future

I see a church that receives and loves the unchurched as they *explore* faith, the searching as they *experience* faith, the struggling as they *strengthen* faith, and the growing as they *express* faith.

As we develop this culture, I see RHBC as a world-impacting church, where baptisms are common occurrences, where children are excited to learn about Jesus, and parents are eager to bring their children, where evangelism and church planting are a natural part of outreach and investment, where Christ-likeness is evident in members' lives, where members love serving one another, where leaders are developed, and faith is high for God's mission to be accomplished whatever it takes.

Within 10 years, satellite locations are expanding ministry and reach, new buildings are functioning to house growing needs, Saturday night services and other innovative ministries are functioning, and worldwide ministries are thriving.

RHBC Vision: *Intersecting Lives for Transformation*

RHBC Mission: *Leading People into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.*

With God’s blessings, these and much more will become reality at RHBC. They begin as we take a fresh look and offer renewed commitment to accomplish...

2 primary goals—

Making Disciples and Maturing Disciples.

I. MAKING DISCIPLES

Intentionally targets the *lost* and *unchurched*.

Community: Within a 7 minute drive of RHBC, there are 53,820 lost people. Their median age is 36. Of the 27,000 households in Fairfield, 10,000 have children. The average family size is 3.1.

Primary Goal for Making Disciples: Seeing FRANs (Friends, Relatives, Associates, and Neighbors) getting saved and becoming growing members of Rolling Hills Baptist Church.

How

Our *strategy* is (1) to cultivate and follow-up those who *Come* to us as *visitors*, *recipients* of benevolence, *events* such as Red White and Kaboom, Hospitality Dinner, Christmas or Easter, etc;

and (2) to be trained and ready as we *Go*, to intentionally reach those with whom we have existing relationships (FRAN’s), to ultimately share Christ verbally with them.



We will focus prayer, training, personal witnessing, and events for the purpose of helping each member take responsibility for their concentric circle (above), to **invest** in those relationships and **invite** those people at appropriate times to events *in order to win them to Christ*.

We will seek their salvation in 3 phases: **prayer, care and share**.

Prayer ministries will be developed and expanded that focus on interceding for the lost and unchurched, received from LIFE Groups, communication cards, emails, etc.

Care happens when we intentionally seek to develop relationships with them, and learn their needs so we can pray for them and help meet that need. Caring for those you are praying for may take the form of calls, friendship, meeting for meal, helping meet a practical need, or any number of other ways.

Share is the ultimate goal, to give a verbal witness of the gospel, and a chance for them to receive or reject it.

Structure

We will accomplish this through the following ministries (each of which will have a team leader, and “manual” to train those involved):

HUG Team—**H**ospitality (Welcome Center, Visitor follow-up, and Children’s Registration), **U**shers, **G**reeters. This team develops and trains church by targeting those who are **COMING**, and seeks to transition them to be members. (*Discovering Church Membership will be moved to this team, as they seek to help non-members become members.*)

Evangelism Team—Coordinates events, develops plans, and trains church members in **GOING** to share the gospel with our FRAN’s with the 3 step model of prayer, care, share.

Children’s Team—creates a safe place for kids in all areas (SS/Children’s church/wed pm/VBS/etc.) so they can be saved as they learn and their parents will be attracted to RHBC.

Students Team—developing a youth system that witnesses to reach and disciple students and their parents in the Fairfield area.

Missions and Church Planting—This team promotes, discovers and facilitates all community, national, and international opportunities for impact ministries. It also keeps church planting before the church presenting possibilities, needs, and appropriate partnerships for Church Planting. (*This team will of necessity eventually become 2 separate teams*)

Dashboard

Results will be gauged by:

- *returning visitors
- *families with children attending
- *Regular public prayer for Unchurched
- * members investing in relationships with unchurched
- *Professions of faith and baptisms
- *Impact ministry projects and partnerships

II. MATURING DISCIPLES

Intentionally targets Christians.

Primary Goal for Maturing Disciples is every church member:

- ***growing** in the Word through involvement in a LIFE Group
- ***gathering** for weekly Worship
- ***giving** through tithes and offerings
- ***going** through ministry and witness

Ultimate Goal: To shorten the normal time it takes to make a committed disciple once they are saved and become a member of RHBC.

How

We will facilitate life transformation through Next Steps. Our strategy will be to intentionally lead each member to take the next step in their spiritual development. From the point of salvation, there are 4 steps we will lead each person through:

Starting Point, for New Christians/New Members
Refresh and Renew, for Members/New Members
Grow and Serve, for Members
Lead , for Members

Structure

We will accomplish this through the following ministries (each of these will have a team leader, and each would have a “manual” to train those involved):

Foundations Team—for new member mentoring and assimilation
Next Steps Team—takes new members from 4 week Starting Point class and intentionally moves them through the next 3 phases.
LIFE Groups Team—works with all small groups, (SS, Wed pm, Beth Moore, Kay Arthur etc.)

This team will seek to coordinate and expand all LIFE Groups. LIFE Groups play a key role in the final 3 phases of maturing disciples (Refresh and Renew/Grow and Serve/Lead), and will also have an evangelistic influence as certain topics of study at times will have “attraction” power to the unchurched.

Worship Team—works to assure quality worship services each week
Media Team—handles all promotion and worship services
Volunteer Coordination Team—works to make sure all ministries are fully staffed.
Administrative Support Team—made up of other teams needed for ongoing ministries to thrive—Finances, trustees, tellers, personnel for current staff, etc.

Dashboard

Results will be gauged by:

- *Observed and reported increase in obedience and Christ-likeness
- *LIFE Group and weekly worship attendance growing
- *Corresponding Giving increase
- *Number of Members involved in ministry

MAINTAINING DISCIPLES

This component is a secondary part of our strategy. It reminds us that we must continually monitor and as needed adjust and adapt our strategy to continue effectively making and maturing of disciples. Merely sharing it once a year, or to prospective members in a membership class will not suffice.

This will require creative ways of sharing the vision, and a constant monitoring by leadership of the dashboards above. As we monitor where we are with an eye to where we feel God is leading us, this will allow us to stay a few steps ahead in the continued and increasing capacity for making and maturing disciples.

How

It will be incumbent on the pastor as shepherd/leader to lead out in this part of the strategy, and to join with Making and Maturing Team leaders, Chairman of deacons, and other key leaders as needed, to evaluate the ‘dashboards’ above, and to seek God on how to perpetuate their continuation and expansion, and then leading the church to take action to perpetuate the vision of intersecting lives for transformation.

Key Areas of Consideration

Leadership Development-- trains people to be leaders and be involved in significant ministry.

New staff—alert to the time RHBC needs more staff, and leads to find them and bring them to church.

Future Facilities— evaluates our current facilities and leads RHBC in time of expansion or new building needs.

Finances— keeps church abreast of upcoming ministry or outreach challenges to assure participation and adequate funding.

Final Observations of RHBC Strategy:

This will become the ‘operating system’ that guides RHBC as we move into the coming years. It is streamlined, and freeing, so that pastor, staff, leaders, and church know exactly the course we should be on as we impact lostness.

Priority focus and financial provision will be given to these ministries. Plainly stated, it is where we will focus our priorities and place our resources.

Ministry outreach and discipleship will flow through the structure outlined in this document.

Ministry outreach and discipleship will collaborate in all campaigns and events. No single ministry team will be working alone—we will seek to involve all appropriate teams in all projects or campaigns.

This document is intended as a simple framework, a guiding document toward which to proceed. Details, methods and plans will be fleshed out as teams begin to organize and execute their ministries. ***If this document exists in this exact form in 10 years, we will have failed.***

Monthly Team Leader meetings will help assure that all teams are informed and all ministry activities and campaigns are coordinated around this vision.

Team Leaders will model all aspects of the mature Christian life, being pace setters in the areas of gathering, growing, giving, and going.

