



SOUTH *baton rouge*
Church of Christ

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO GOD | ONE ANOTHER | THE COMMUNITY

Kingdom Vision 2030

As a people, we desire to fully experience, live out, and be transformed by the love of God, the way of Jesus, and the abundant life of the Spirit. We, the South Baton Rouge Church of Christ, choose to live more deeply into the following areas:

Following the Way of Jesus with Undaunted Courage

We desire to be wholly devoted to God and increasingly more like Jesus. We wholeheartedly choose to live boldly as disciples under the guidance of His kingdom teachings rooted in the Sermon on the Mount and in the Greatest Commandment to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We recognize that following this way of Jesus will not always be easy, that we may well face opposition and hardship, but we are determined to shine like stars in a darkened world.

Radically Pursuing Community

Our aim and hope is for everyone to experience authentic community and deeper spiritual relationships. We desire to completely embody the unity of the Spirit and reconciliation that the gospel makes possible by being a community of love, mercy, repentance, forgiveness, and grace characterized by greater inclusion and diversity with passion.

Boldly Embracing God's Mission

God is on a mission to rescue, redeem, and restore all things through Christ and we boldly join God in His mission. We want to have hearts that break for what breaks God's heart and to pursue the acts of justice and love of mercy that God desires. We commit to join together the varied gifts, talents, and resources that God has given us individually to build up and prepare the body of Christ for these works of service and outreach to which we are called. We earnestly embrace the Great Commission, doing whatever it takes, to share and embody the gospel for all the world.

The following comments and evidences were heard during the vision committee, congregational and young adult sessions and are meant to provide future implementation teams additional input. What changes the Spirit leads our church to implement will be under the oversight of the SBRCC eldership.

Following the Way of Jesus with Undaunted Courage

By 2030, we hope to see evidence of these commitments in the following indicators:

- People visibly devoted to, united with, and centered on Christ.
- People who are shaped deeply by the scriptures, knowing that the written word reliably points us to the Living Word, Jesus, so that we may surrender ourselves to his teachings.
- People devoted to prayer, recognizing our strength comes from God.
- People utilizing multiple opportunities for spiritual growth both corporately and individually.
- People who wholeheartedly pursue discipleship, spiritual formation, and increasing Christlikeness first in ourselves and then also in each other.
- People who proclaim through our worship and baptism our allegiance to God alone and our commitment to serve him only.
- Our worship gatherings will be beautifully engaging for the church, unchurched, and the next generation.
- Our worship gatherings will help shape us more deeply into Christ's character and point us outside the walls to God's mission.
- Our worship gatherings will embrace both meaningful tradition and creative innovation.

Radically Pursuing Community

By 2030, we hope to see evidence of these commitments in the following indicators:

- Our communal life will be central and focused. The table of Jesus will be a powerful symbol of the inclusion and relationship we experience in one another.
- A sense of belonging will characterize our interactions with one another.
- The beautiful diversity of our city and world will be more closely mirrored in our leadership, our worship gatherings, and our ministries.
- People of all ethnicities, genders, and ages will be empowered to fully participate in our corporate worship gatherings and the multiple ways we live out that worship in our daily lives.
- All Christians will be free to fully utilize their God given talents in His kingdom.
- Guests are inundated with welcome, hospitality, and an invitation to engage more deeply in our church community.

- We will pursue greater vulnerability with one another. We will feel safe and purposefully engage with each other in difficult but meaningful conversations. Sounds of prayer, confession, and spiritual conversation will become the norm.
- We will cultivate family health: not only the nurturing of healthy individuals and families (marriage, parenting, stewardship, etc.), but also placing an emphasis on family from a kingdom perspective. The love, nurturing, and spiritual growth of children, youth, and emerging adults will be a primary focus. Practical life training is evident.
- We will actively pursue unity in Christ alone on the common ground of God's grace, understanding that unity in the midst of diversity is a sign of spiritual maturity. We will seek to accept any differences among us that do not negate the power of God and his grace. We will seek to embody the following principle: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love."
- Our life together will be a refuge for all seeking safety, healing, and acceptance.
- Unleash the power of technology to enhance Christian fellowship.
- Regular offering of fellowship and hospitality in large and small groups.
- Intentionally expanding and deepening the relationships each person has in our congregation.

Boldly Embracing God's Mission

By 2030, we hope to see evidence of these commitments in the following indicators:

- We will be characterized by an outward focus that seeks to reach and bless our community.
- We will be a church that aggressively points the unchurched and the next generation to Jesus. We dream of being a church where it's true that... "the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
- We will be committed to doing all things with excellence.
- We will have a reputation in our community of generosity, being those who bring hope and empowerment (as salt and light). The church is actively engaged in Matthew 25 ministries.
- Our ministries will seek alignment within the vision.
- Our facilities and assets will be enhanced to help us live out our kingdom vision.
- We will be a church where young and old are encouraged, expected and assisted in discovering their vocation and giftedness for service in the kingdom.
- An ever increasing pool of people that say SBRCC helped lead me to Jesus.
- Our fellowship and relationships serve to draw people to Christ.
- Intentional about equipping our members to be effective evangelists.
- See members being funneled into short term and long term ministry and mission work.