

2020 VISION

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GARLAND

JANUARY 11, 2009
Revised January, 2015

Here is what I envision for FBCG in the year 2020:

CHURCH

- I envision a church that looks like heaven with a passion to take thousands of people with them.
- I envision a congregation which helps to heal and restore hurting believers.
- A congregation which does not hide behind stained glass windows but gets outside of the walls, involved in the lives of people, meeting needs and sharing the Good News of Jesus in both action and word.
- I envision a church which is a vital part of Garland and the surrounding area ... meeting needs, healing hurts, offering hope and encouragement, a beacon of light in a dark culture.
- I envision a congregation in which everyone feels like family regardless of their background, ethnicity or socio-economic level.
- I envision a place that is a haven for souls ... a special place where God's presence is felt continually in a powerful way.
- I envision a church characterized by faith and commitment while trusting God to accomplish the miraculous ... that which only He can do!
- I envision a congregation with a passion to fulfill the Great Commission (its purpose for existing) and a commitment to fulfill this commission with excellence.
- I envision a people passionate about obedience to God.
- I envision a people who consistently practice appropriate stewardship before God and are always obedient to give financially "above and beyond" to the Lord.

FACILITIES

- I envision facilities adequate enough to house this growing family.
- I envision a state-of-the art worship center with comfortable seating, technologically advanced lighting and sound with high-definition broadcast capability.
- I envision facilities which are current, freshly-painted, brightly-lighted, efficiently-used, attractively-decorated, beautifully-landscaped and electronically-secure.
- I envision adequate parking and brightly-lighted lots to accommodate those who desire to be at FBCG.
- I envision attractive, inviting and user-friendly signage inside and outside of our facilities which communicates warmth and a positive appeal.
- I envision a facility worthy of the great God we serve.

MISSIONS

- I envision a church which delights in giving itself away. A congregation in which every member is involved in missions in some form (going, giving, praying or engaging).
- I envision a church where the members realize they are missionaries each day as they go about their daily activities.
- I envision a church which sends out at least 40 mission teams each year, both locally and globally, and is involved in helping plant new churches while participating in significant ongoing mission partnerships.
- I envision a Friendship House ministry which continues to impact this community by meeting needs and sharing the Gospel, while partnering with other great works such as Hope Clinic.
- I envision quality programs which reach into the heart of the area while meeting the needs of both members and non-members. Such qualitative programming will include ESL and GED classes, Grief Share, Divorce Care and Divorce Care for Kids, as well as other future programs.

BIBLE STUDY

- I envision Bible Study groups meeting on-campus in Sunday School units and off-campus in weekday units or homes for study, fellowship, outreach, the meeting of needs and organizing for ministry.
- I envision a church in which every member is involved in one of these Bible Study groups.

FAMILY MINISTRY

- I envision a church which reaches equally to all age groups within our culture ... preschool, children, teens, college, single adults, young adults, median adults and senior adults.
- I envision each of these age groupings engaged in ministry and active at FBCG.
- I envision a church that is a happy, bright and attractive place, with inviting classrooms and play areas, which excite preschoolers and children about God and His Word.
- I envision a church that is an oasis and refuge for teens. A place where they feel loved and know they are special while God's Word is upheld as their standard in this modern culture.
- I envision strong and qualitative Men's and Women's Ministries which meet the needs of both members and non-members.
- I envision a church that is the centerpiece for family activity.

RECREATION MINISTRY

- I envision a dynamic and outward-focused Recreation ministry which is active both on-campus and off-campus while ministering to FBCG members and serving as a "front door" of the church to non-members.
- I envision the addition of recreation property which could include sports fields to accompany the powerful Upward Program. In addition, this property could include other resources to expand various recreation opportunities.
- I envision the wonderful McDonald Activity Center continuing to be vital in this community, with its ministries and usage expanded.

MEDIA MINISTRY

- I envision a church which reaches across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and beyond through various media avenues with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- I envision a church which makes its services available through video streaming, webcasts, podcasts, radio and television broadcasts and other technological means available in the years to come.

LANGUAGE MINISTRIES

- I envision a church which supports and is actively involved in language ministry.
- I envision a church which reaches into the various ethnic communities across this great city to meet needs and lovingly reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- I envision a church in which all languages, colors and groups feel loved, welcomed and wanted.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

- I envision a church with a Child Development Center where parents of Garland and surrounding communities actively seek to place their children because of the high quality of religious instruction and Christ-like care.
- I envision a growing, active and positive Child Development Center of high quality.

ENDOWMENT

- I envision a church with enough money in reserve to adequately scholarship the ministries of the church where no fund-raisers are needed and no girl or boy is left behind because of a lack of funds.
- I envision the FBCG Foundation having enough in reserve to provide substantial scholarships for college, university and seminary students of FBCG to have a portion of their educational pursuits supported.
- I envision a congregation with enough funding to help future ministers to come to FBCG for internships and training as they prepare to impact the Kingdom of God in days to come.

FLAGSHIP

- I envision the First Baptist Church of Garland being a flagship church for Christian involvement in the city of Garland, the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, the state of Texas, and throughout the entire Southern Baptist Convention.
- I envision a church which lovingly, joyfully and faithfully fulfills the Great Commission, commanded by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20, until He returns!