

Redemption Hill Church

Prospectus



Why Plant a Church in Boston?

What do you think of when you think about Boston? Is it the American Revolution? Maybe it's the Sox, Celtics, Pats and Bruins? What about "Hahvahd" or "Clam Chowda?" Or could it be medical research or politics? For all of these reasons Boston is one of the most identifiable and influential cities in America. What most people do not consider is the spiritual brokenness that fractures the city. They fail to realize that the spiritual climate is incalculably colder than the lowest lows of a Boston winter. Multitudes flock to the city once dreamed to be a "City on a Hill," but most remain blind to the spiritual darkness that pervades the city.

When we think about Boston, we envision a city made up of thousands of people who will be transformed, one by one, by the redemption found in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We believe this will happen as God sends laborers to that great city to plant gospel-centered, Bible saturated, Christ-exalting churches. That is why in the summer of 2010 we will uproot our lives and move there to plant Redemption Hill Church for the good of the city and the glory of God. The following four realities grip and invigorate us as we think about laying down our lives in one of the most unreached cities in the United States.

The Need

Tragically, only 2.5 percent (145,000) of the 5.8 million people in Greater Boston attend an evangelical church. This is staggering when you consider that the International Mission Board and other missions agencies define an "unreached people group" as "a people group in which the number of evangelical Christians totals less than 2 percent of the population." That means 5,650,000 people in Greater Boston do not worship God and need the redemption found in Jesus Christ alone. Not surprisingly, there are very few healthy evangelical churches and even fewer Southern Baptist churches. Currently, only two Southern Baptist Churches have more than 250 worshipers in attendance. According to the Greater Boston Baptist Association, Southern Baptists make up approximately one-third of a percent (0.35%) of the population in Boston!

The Nations

Boston is a global city where the nations have gathered. People have immigrated to Boston from over 150 nations to study, work, and live. Planting a church in Boston provides the opportunity to reach and disciple people from Cambodia, Brazil, China and Iran. We pray that many of these new believers will be sent back to their home countries as missionaries. Thus, we envision reaching the nations through the back door in Boston.

The Influence

Boasting over 100 colleges and universities with more than 250,000 students, Boston has been called the "Athens of America." Schools like Harvard, MIT, Boston College, Boston University, Northeastern, UMass-Boston, Berklee College of Music, and many others give credence to the title. World leaders such as John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Bill Gates have been educated in Boston. It is the cultural hub of New England and one of the most influential cities in our nation.

The Spirit

Finally, and most importantly, through prayer and providence, we believe that this is where the Holy Spirit is leading us to serve. When God saved us, we lost the right to determine the direction of our lives.

Thus, we will embark on this journey of faith confidently clinging to Christ's promise "to build His Church" (Mt. 16:18).

A Strategic Location for Reaching Young Adults

College/University	Student Population	Distance from Target Area
Harvard Medical School	1,345	0.5 mi
Emmanuel College	2,400	0.7 mi
Simmons College	4,760	0.7 mi
Wentworth Institute of Technology	3,412	0.7 mi
Northeastern University	20,749	0.8 mi
Boston University	32,735	1.2 mi
Berklee College of Music	4,054	1.4 mi
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	10,220	2.0 mi
Harvard University	19,140	2.8 mi
Boston College	14,395	2.9 mi

Total 111,865 students less than 3 miles from target area



Mission Statement

Redemption Hill Church exists to glorify God by living out his mission as a community transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Core Values

It is our prayer that the following three core values will define and drive our existence as Redemption Hill Church. If every member devotes themselves to the gospel, community, and mission, we believe the Lord will bless us with a healthy church and use us greatly for his Kingdom.

gospel

The gospel is the good news that God is redeeming people for himself and restoring his good creation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The gospel is the power of God to change lives and renew cultures. The gospel both saves and sanctifies us. It will motivate everything we do as a church. It will change the way we love, give, serve, speak, parent, and view others. We will seek to know and live the gospel by devoting ourselves to the Word of God. Because we know God and his gospel through the Bible, we will saturate everything we do with God's Word. Through a constant dependence on the gospel we will demonstrate that we value and treasure the Triune God more than anything life can give or death can take away. This will enable us to glorify him in all things. Ultimately, to say we value the gospel is to say we treasure Christ. He is our life and our hope (Ps 119; Lk 9:23-24; Jn 17:17; Rom 1:14-17, 8:1-4, 11:36 12:1-2; 1 Cor 10:31, 15:3-4; 2 Cor 5:13-21, 8:9; Gal 6:14; Eph 2:1-10; 2 Tim 3:14-17; Titus 2:11-15; 1 Pet 3:18; Rev 21:5).

community

The gospel creates a new community who covenant to live life together as the church. We will strive to be a diverse community welcoming those of all ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds. We believe that our church should be as diverse as the people in Boston because of the diversity that will exist in heaven with people from every nation, tribe, and tongue. Redemption Hill will be a place where families, singles, college students, and senior adults from all cultures are united by Christ's work on the cross. Moreover, we will seek to display the manifold wisdom of God through loving and serving one another. Jesus said that our love for one another demonstrates that we belong to him. Thus, as we live in community we will give witness to the veracity and power of the gospel. Like the early church, we will gather for corporate worship and in small groups throughout the week (Jn 13:34-35; Acts 2:42-47; Rom 12:3-8; 1 Cor 12; Eph 2:11-22, 3:7-10, 4:1-16; Col 3:12-17; Heb 3:12-13, 10:19-25; 1 Pet 4:7-11; Rev 7:9-10).

mission

The gospel calls us to be a part of God's mission. Just as God seeks to glorify himself through redeeming worshipers and restoring his good creation, we seek to glorify him by declaring and displaying the gospel in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and social networks. This means that every member of Redemption Hill is a missionary who will strive to make disciples of all nations. As missionaries we will work to understand our city so that we contextualize the gospel effectively. We will also labor sacrificially for the good of our city and the world by engaging in deeds of mercy. Ultimately, we desire to play our part in God's mission of redemption by planting churches from Boston to the ends of the earth. All of our mission efforts will only be accomplished as we depend on the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish his work through us (Gen 1:27-28, 3:15; 12:1-3; Is 45:22; Mt 5:13-16, 28:18-20; Jn 17:1-26; Acts 1:8; Rom 10:9-17; Col 3:23; 1 Thess 1:2-10; 1 Pet 2:9-12; Rev 5).

"...I will build my church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18

The Team

Currently our team consists of five members from our sending church, Open Door Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC. Our church will be the fifth plant from Open Door since 2004. Another couple is making plans to join the team. Please pray for them and others who will join us as Christ builds his church. We anticipate relocating in June of 2010.

Tanner and Marsha Turley

Tanner and Marsha grew up in Christian homes and were saved by God's grace at an early age. Tanner grew up in the Bluegrass State and is a rabid Kentucky Wildcats fan, while Marsha hails from Thomasville, GA and enjoys bragging rights during football season with her beloved Georgia Bulldogs. They have been married three years and have one daughter, Parker. Tanner will serve as the Lead Planter and Pastor.

Education:

Ph.D. in Applied Theology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, May 2010

M.Div. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2006

B.S. in Public Relations from Kentucky Wesleyan College, 2003

Marsha graduated with a B.S. in Biblical Studies from Southeastern College at Wake Forest, 2006

Ministry Experience:

Intern and Teaching Assistant to the President, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC, 2004 to Present

Intern, Youth Worker, Assistant Teacher, and Care Group Leader, Open Door Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, 2004 to Present

Interim Pastor, New Life Baptist Church, Owensboro, KY, 2004

Associate Student Minister, FBC Owensboro, KY, 2000 to 2003



Josh and Jessica Miller

Josh and Jessica were blessed to both have parents that loved the Lord, teaching by example what it means to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. After dating throughout college, Josh and Jessica have now been married four years. The Lord has blessed them with three children (Alana, Matthew, and one on the way). Josh will serve as the Minister of Member Care and Administration.

Education:

M.Div. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, December 2009

B.S. in Aerospace with a Concentration in Professional Pilot from Middle Tennessee State Univ., 2005

Jessica graduated with a B.S. in Social Work from Middle Tennessee State Univ., 2004

Ministry Experience:

Intern, Youth Worker, Assistant Care Group Leader and Care Group Leader, Open Door Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, 2006 to Present

Alpha Omega College Ministry Leadership Team, Belle Aire Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, TN, 2004 to 2005

Youth Intern, Long Hollow Baptist Church, Hendersonville, TN, 2004



Abbey Cook

Raised in a loving Christian home in Burlington, NC, Abbey surrendered her life to Christ at the age of seven. God has continually established her steps and allowed her opportunities to serve Him abroad and in the United States. Abbey will serve the church in a variety of ways including using her gifts of administration and desire to disciple women and children.

Education

M.Div. in Women's Studies from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, May 2010

B.A. in Biblical Studies and Intercultural Studies from The College at Southeastern, 2006

Ministry Experience

Children and Youth Worker, Open Door Baptist Church, 2007 to Present

Childcare Coordinator for Connecting Point, Women's Ministry at SEBTS, 2007 to 2008

Women's Retreat Leader, Grove Park Baptist Church, Spring 2006 and Spring 2007

Short Term Missions, North America, Mexico, Central America, Austria, 2001 to 2006

Long Term Missions, Children and Youth Worker in San Salvador, El Salvador, August 2005 to December 2005



Our Need: Strategic Partnerships

Church planting is a journey of faith. As we embark on this journey to plant a church in Boston, we understand that we are engaging in a task immensely greater than ourselves. If this mission is to succeed, it will not be because of our own ingenuity and resources. One of the most beautiful realities of the gospel is how it brings people together to accomplish the mission of God. Our vision of seeing lives changed by the redemptive power of the gospel will only thrive as God brings people and churches together to accomplish his work in a way that we could have never done by ourselves. In order to see this vision become a reality, we need your help in reaching the 5.65 million people who need Jesus in Greater Boston. We are praying for strategic partnerships in the following three areas.

Prayer

Most importantly, we need prayer. We need prayer because we believe the world can be changed from our knees. The great missionary Hudson Taylor said, "Learn to move men, through God, by prayer alone." We need churches and individuals to join with us in praying for the city, our team, and the work that will be done for God's Kingdom. This mission will only flourish if God blesses our work through prayer.

Finances

Secondly, we need financial resources. Astronomical real estate, taxes, and city living make planting a church in Boston extremely challenging. In 2008, Boston was ranked second on the list for highest cost of living in America. We are estimating that we will need an annual budget of at least \$250,000 dollars for the initial phases of Redemption Hill Church. This should provide for the overall ministry budget including: staff salaries, start up costs and operational expenses. As we assess the financial needs of planting in Boston, we are confident that the God who sends us is also the God who will provide. We know that we serve a missionary God who overcomes challenges, big and small, for his name's sake. We expect to raise these funds through the combination of national and state organizations, as well as through individuals and a strong network of churches. Based on advice from local Baptist leaders who are experienced with church planting in Boston, our goal is to be completely self-sustaining after five years. This is a little longer than most North American church plants but necessary in this context. Thus, we are praying that many of our supporters will make three to five year financial commitments.

People

Finally, we need people. Whether it is short-term mission trips or permanent relocation, we are seeking people to join us in advancing the gospel in Boston. We pray that the Lord will empower many of our supporting churches to send mission teams who will engage in deeds of mercy and gospel witness.

We are eager to see how God is going to use us to accomplish his plan of redemption in Boston. We are trusting him to provide our every need. Perhaps God wants to use you to help establish Redemption Hill Church. Would you prayerfully and seriously consider joining our team by praying and supporting this work financially?

Financial Support

*All gifts are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to our sending church, "Open Door Baptist Church" and mailed to:

Boston Church Plant
c/o Open Door Baptist Church
9801 Durant Road
Raleigh, N.C. 27614

*please include a note designating the gift to "Boston Church Plant"

For more information contact Team Boston at bostoncp@gmail.com or Call Tanner Turley at 270.316.4524.

An Endorsement from Dr. Danny Akin, President, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary:

"For the past five years I have been a supervisor, mentor, and friend of Tanner Turley. I have observed his love for Jesus, his family, the church and the world. Boston needs church planters like Tanner who will declare and display the gospel of Jesus Christ with clarity, compassion and boldness. It is my hope that you will join me in praying for and supporting this great mission effort in one of America's most unreached cities."



Redemption Hill Church Timeline & Goals

Phase I: Preparation
(6/08-5/10)

- Develop Prayer Team
- Continue Regular Prayer and Planning Meetings
- Continue to Build Core Mission Team
- Visit Boston to Identify Target Area for the Plant
- Work to Form Strategic Partnerships with Churches and Secure Funding
- Launch www.redemptionhillboston.com
- Continue Networking with Other Planters and Pastors in Boston
- Finalize Church Documents & Solidify Incorporation Status

Phase II: Relocation & Pre-Launch Stage
(6/10-4/11)

- Move Team to Target Area, Get Acclimated & Begin Exegeting the City
- Establish Regular Meetings with key SBC Pastors and Planters
- Begin Full or Part-Time Jobs for Those Working Bi-Vocationally
- Establish Presence on Closest University Campuses
- Attend City and Neighborhood Events
- Core Group will Meet as the First Community Group
- Seek Additional Core Group Members
- Practice Relational Evangelism and Hospitality
- Begin Evangelistic Bible Studies and Discipling of New Believers
- Network with Other Gospel Workers in the City (Churches and Parachurches)
- Identify Specific Mercy Ministries
- Work with Supporting Church Mission Teams
- Find and Secure Meeting Location
- Establish Pre-Launch Interest and Worship Meetings
- Train Initial Covenant Members through the Initial Membership Process
- Recruit a Missions Team from Sister Churches for Launch
- Keep Supporting Churches Updated

Phase III: Launch & Year One
(4/11-4/12)

- Launch First "Public" Service
- Meet for Corporate Worship each Sunday
- Follow-Up with Visitors to Each Service
- Establish and Conduct Membership Class
- Launch New Community Groups on a Need Basis
- Establish Age Specific Ministries (Redemption Kids, Students, College, etc.)
- Redemption Hill Institute (Discipleship Classes)
- Begin Formal Community Group Leader Training
- Continue Different Mercy Ministries in the City
- Plan for Future Church Planting Opportunities, Internships, and Partnerships
- Cultivate North American and International Missions Partnerships

Phase IV: Year Two and Beyond
(4/12- ...)

- Establish Internship Program for Future Church Leaders and Missionaries
- Establish Consistent National and International Mission Trips
- Identify Leaders and Areas for Future Church Plants
- Commission National and International Missionaries
- Continue to Work Toward Self-Supporting Status
- Add Elders and Staff on Need Basis



BOSTON