



We believe that the South Central Conference Office exists to strengthen and support the mission and ministry of the churches in the South Central Conference. Therefore, the South Central Conference Church Ministries & Mission Development Department exists to assist pastors and their church leaders in leading their churches to become more Spirit-led and Mission-driven. We do this by providing pastors and their church leaders with ministry coaching and support in five fundamental areas of Church Development: 1) Prayer, 2) Mission, 3) Spiritual Gifts, 4) Small Groups, and 5) Ministries. When engaged sequentially, these become one fivefold strategy for leading churches to become more Spirit-led and Mission-driven.

10-STEP SPIRIT-LED, MISSION-DRIVEN PROCESS

Our SCC Vision for the next five years is focused on four major emphases: #1 Transformational Evangelism; #2 Christian Education; #3 Community Engagement; and #4 Youth & Young Adult Empowerment. The Church Ministries & Mission Development Department has been tasked with assisting pastors and their church leaders in moving their churches forward with #1 Transformational Evangelism and #3 Community Engagement. To do so, we recommend churches follow our 10-Step Spirit-Led, Mission-Driven Process. In our previous edition we introduced Step #1: Discover the Mission. This month we move on to **Step #2: Describe the Vision.**

When things got tough a few weeks ago during Super Bowl LVII in Glendale, Arizona, Kansas City Chiefs

quarterback Patrick Mahomes was motivated to play through the pain of a high-ankle sprain—not because his mission was simply to win a football game, but because his vision was to hoist the Lombardi trophy, and be crowned Super Bowl Champ!

In his bestselling book *Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*, Simon Sinek suggests that people are motivated most, not by “what” they do—the mission, but by “why” they do it—the vision. This means as leaders, if we desire to motivate the masses, we must move from the informative step of clarifying mission to the inspiring step of casting vision.

Casting vision is about painting a picture of our preferred future. It’s describing the dream that we want to become reality. And it is this



Furman Fordham, II, Director
Church Ministries & Mission Development

dream, this vision—especially during times of challenge and trial—that galvanizes and energizes people to continue moving forward with the mission.

Jesus understood this. That’s why immediately after He rearticulated the mission and began His ascent

Continued on page 2

THE SCC CHURCH MINISTRIES &



10-STEP SPIRIT-LED, MISSION-DRIVEN PROCESS, *Continued from page 1*

back to heaven, two men in white apparel, presumably angels, said to the disciples: “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11). Jesus had sent them to describe the vision. He sent them to give the disciples their “why.”

Frequently, when churches today speak about their vision, reference is made to a strategic plan with short, medium, and long-range goals. It

may include something like launching a community mentoring program within the next year; baptizing 100 people within the next three years; increasing giving by 100% within the next five years; and breaking ground on a new worship facility within the next seven years. However, as admirable and appropriate as plans such as these may be, they should never be confused with the ultimate vision Jesus gave to His church.

Executing the mission of making disciples who make disciples results in a Christian church; but doing it

to prepare people for Jesus’s soon return results in an Adventist movement. Having family and friends to join us in saying, “Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him and He has come to save us,” and hearing Him reply, “Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord” will be our “Super Bowl victory!”

Describe this vision and God will create Holy Spirit-inspired momentum within His church!



**SUNDAY
MARCH 5 & 12
8AM**

**UPPER ROOM PRAYER
MINISTRY SMALL GROUP
TRAINING**

JOIN VIA ZOOM:

[HTTPS://SOUTHCENTRALLIVE/PRAYERROOM](https://southcentrallive/prayerroom)

MEETING ID: 924 3897 5468

PASSCODE: SPIRIT

PASSCODE: 338162

DIAL IN: (646) 931-3860

MEETING ID: 924 3897 5468



Compass is a monthly publication of the South Central Conference Church Ministries & Mission Development Department

MISSION DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Small Group Equals Safety

We are already in March, and you may wonder what I will do with the men at my church to impact the community or city we are in. The first and most important component is prayer. Secondly, establish small groups. Why you may ask? Most men do not like to share information about themselves unless it has a purpose, or they feel as if trust has been built within the group. So, for these men, a small group equals a "Safe Space" with safe people that they can trust.

Three is a Charm

Have you ever wondered why the number 3 is so powerful throughout scripture? For example, God is God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. God is also omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent.

We find the number 3 representing God as if it was His trademark. The curious thing about this trademark is that it shows up in various places, starting with His creation...

He made the atom with 3 parts (electron, neutron, proton) and used it to create a world with 3 parts (land, sea, air), all within a universe with 3 parts (matter, time, space).

Within the Bible itself we find many appearances of the number 3. There were 333 prophecies concerning the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. Jesus Christ was crucified at the age of 33, after a ministry that lasted 3 years. He spent nine (3 x 3)

For too many of our men, church is a place with surface relationships that do not go beyond a casual nod or handshake. And during the week, when they experience trials and challenges, they are lonely and detached. However, small groups can deepen relationships and provide men with much needed support, lessening the feeling of loneliness and isolation.

You might say that we only have 3 men at our church, but that is a great place to start. There doesn't need to be more than 3 men in a group. The important thing is to stress to each member of the group the importance of trust and accountability. Building this first group will establish a good foundation for future groups.

hours on the cross, with 3 of those hours in darkness. He was buried for 3 days and 3 nights and resurrected on the 3rd day.

Yes, the universe and the Bible have their Creator's trademark stamped all over them. It is no wonder that Paul uses God's trademark in describing the three essentials for Christian existence and survival.

1 Corinthians 13:13

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1. *Faith Makes it Possible*
 - a. To Live Differently – Heb 11:1, 6.
 - b. Salvation – Eph 2:8
 - c. Daily Christian Life – Gal 2:20
2. *Hope Makes it Worth it*

Biblical hope is, "A confident expectation which rests upon the promises of God."

 - a. Glorious Hope – Rom 5:2

These men now have the confidence to start their own small groups. This will happen just because you stepped out as the Pastor or Men's Ministry leader and started a small group at your church.

I, along with the South Central Conference Men's Ministry team, will be working on a small group training schedule. Be on the lookout for this valuable information. Please remember our focus is small groups equal a "Safe Space" for trust and accountability to grow.



Pastor Reginald Robinson
*Director,
SCC Small Group
Ministries*

- b. Lively Hope – 1 Pet 1:3
- c. Blessed Hope – Titus 2:13

3. LOVE Makes it Easy

Love is the greatest gift because love is everlasting. Why?

When Christ returns:

Faith will be lost to sight. We'll see Him face to face.

Hope will be lost to fulfillment.

But Love will live on because we will love Him and each other for eternity—because LOVE NEVER FAILS!!!! And now abideth faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is LOVE.

FAITH makes it possible; HOPE makes it worth it; LOVE makes it easy.



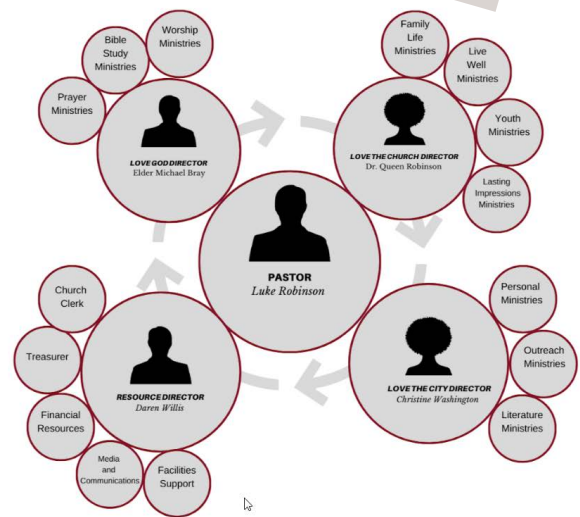
Pastor Jeffery L. Watson
*Associate Director,
SCC Church Ministries
& Mission Development
Department*

Addition by Subtraction at South Nashville

A Spirit-led, Mission-driven (SLMD) church's congregation is designed around a straightforward and strategic process that moves through the stages of spiritual growth. SLMD is a new design for church ministry. The South Nashville Seventh Day Adventist (SNSDA) church believed that the SLMD process would significantly make a difference in our discipleship process. For years, SNSDA did not grow as projected, and minimal numbers of people came to know Christ. Ironically, this was not due to a lack of knowledge about Christ but the complexity of our church's current focus and process for ministry. Research indicated that complex churches were struggling. SNSDA was a complex church. Our desire for reorganization allowed us to see one of the most powerful paths to progress: subtraction. Quoting engineer Leidy Klotz, "Sometimes the best way forward involves removing, streamlining, and simplifying things."

The intriguing part of looking at a new church design is that you would be motivated to add and not subtract, but the Spirit led us to do exactly that: subtract. An addition ends with something to display. Subtraction ends with removing something until there is nothing physical or tangible to show later on. There is general agreement that while the concept is powerful, subtraction takes work to put into effect. Subtraction was hard to digest and tougher to share with board members and the church body. The Ministry Placement Team (created to jump-start the SLMD process) along with the pastor agreed to pray daily for the Holy Spirit and follow the guidance of the Church Ministries & Mission Development Team at the SCC Conference to face the hurdles met when subtracting.

In 1 Corinthians 3, believers are



called God's children (v.1), God's field (v. 9), and God's building (v. 9). We are God's children. We begin as spiritual babies because we are born again (John 3:3). That process is critical. Just as babies need the right environment to grow physically, people need the right environment to grow spiritually. In simple terms, SNSDA church leaders and members must be able to provide a clearly defined process of how someone moves from being a new Christian to becoming a mature follower of Christ. A clearly defined process encourages people to progress through it because they know the expectation. The people (members and leaders) within any organization must know the process because they are integral to fulfilling it. This concept birthed our "Love God, Love the Church, Love the City, and Resource Ministries." (See organizational chart.)

Transformation Process/ The How: Love God, Love the Church, Love the City.

The organizational chart illustrates the HOW of the SLMD process. Imagine a guest coming to our church wanting to become a member. The guest would first encounter our Love God Ministry which exists to lead

people to connect with Jesus through prayer, worship, and Bible Study. Then, to strengthen their relationship with God by connecting with others, he or she would participate in our Love the Church Ministry. Through their connection with God and a need to serve the people in practical ways, he or she would participate in our Love the City Ministry.

The Spirit-led, Mission-driven process is designed to partner with God and move people through the stages of spiritual growth. SNSDA believes this transformation process creates an environment that promotes clarity, unity, and a demonstrated sense of spiritual growth. We understand that people are at different places in their spiritual journey. The process flows logically and is applied to each ministry in the church. The church abandons everything that is not in the process.

Does this all resonate in your church too? Do you see how subtraction can have a greater impact than addition? If so, we encourage you to become an SCC Spirit-led, mission-driven church too!

Christy Carter
Ministry Placement Team Director
South Nashville SDA Church

Southern Union WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION

COMING Together 2023



Orlando, Florida **AUGUST 24-27, 2023**

WOMEN'S

MINISTRIES

COMING Together 2023

Signs by Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek
14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane, Orlando, FL

Early Registration: \$325 | Sabbath Only: \$125
Beginning February 1, 2023

Regular Registration: \$250 | Sabbath Only: \$150
Beginning April 1, 2023

Collegiate Women: \$200 | Sabbath Only: \$100
18-26 years

Teens (Teen Track): \$175 | Sabbath Only: \$75
13-17 years

**Sorry, no on-site registration*

Room Rate:
\$164 Per night/per room **Plus taxes/svchg reserving your room*

You must register/pay your registration fee before reserving your room

Additional Info:

- \$10 off Parking per night
- 10% discount in Harvest on breakfast buffet only, must show badge

and MORE!


Erica Jones
NADWV Assoc. Dir.


Edith Ruiz
Inter-American Division WM Dir.


Michele Pierre
Theology Counselor


Eden Levy
Student Pastor


Vanessa Harrison
Pastor, Miami Temple


Heather Cross
NAD Ministerial


April Smith
SACWM Dir.


Gina Snell
BOL Comm. Dir.


DeeAnn Binkow
NADWV Director

WELLNESS



Curtis and Paula Eakins
SCC Health Evangelism Ministries

