

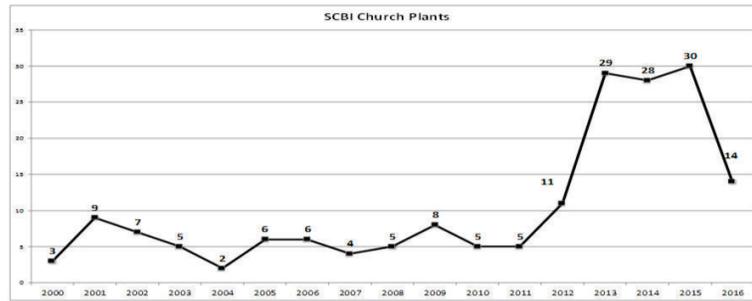
CHURCH PLANTING REPORT

John Horn, Church Planting Team Leader

God blessed SCBI with a record number of **30 church plants in 2015!** This was our goal for the year and He was faithful to accomplish it. We were also grateful that in September the Lord brought Pastor Bob Weeks to join our Church Planting Team as the new Church Planting Catalyst in the Western Region. In the following reports you will see that our Risen King used this great Team in partnership with our valuable associational leaders (Directors of Missions, Associational Coordinators, and others) and sending pastors to advance His Kingdom in Indiana through church planting in a myriad of ways.

Together we offered five Assessment Development Retreats in Indianapolis, along with multiple Hispanic Church Planter Assessment Events, to **discover and deploy new planters**. Three Church Planter Basic Training Events took place at Highland Lakes to sharpen the skills of these planters. In addition, we offered six church planting centers throughout the State to develop a farm system for future planters, to provide a development program for our current planters, and to facilitate fellowship opportunities for our planters and planter wives. We also continued to provide twelve months of coaching for our planters and were acknowledged by NAMB's Coaching Coordinator as having one of the best planter coaching systems in the country. Furthermore, to assist our sending churches and mature church plants with preparing to start additional church plants, we offered Churches Planting Churches Training events twice this year.

Having **quality leadership** arranging for these quality church planting systems has been used by God to enable us to maintain a church plant success rate of 83% in the last five years. Now that our NAMB partner is introducing the new Send Network Planter Process, we will have an opportunity to update these systems and take our leadership and quality of church planting to a new level in 2016-2017. We are excited about what God has in store for SCBI Church Planting in the year to come!



Year	Plants	Year	Plants	Year	Plants
2000	3	2006	6	2012	11
2001	9	2007	4	2013	29
2002	7	2008	5	2014	28
2003	5	2009	8	2015	30
2004	2	2010	5	2016	14*
2005	6	2011	5		

**As of the date of this report*

Church Planting – Southwest Region
Dale Eakes, Church Planting Catalyst

What an **exciting year** in Southwestern Indiana. We have seen God’s movement and blessings both in church planting as well as pastoral development and church health.

Over the past year, **five new plants** have developed in Southwestern Indiana, through the partnership of SCBI and local church ministries:

- New Life in Cannelton, planted by Keith McCahey in December 2015
- The Princeton Church in Princeton, planted by Wayne Wester in January 2016
- Servant Fellowship Church in Boonville, planted by Ryan Moore in April 2016
- Rios de Aqua Viva in Evansville, planted by Alfonso Soto in June 2016
- Redeemer Fellowship in Evansville, planted by Matt Castro in July 2016

Each church plant has a **wonderful testimony** of its ministries and how God is using those ministries to push back the darkness in Indiana. New Life in Cannelton had a baptismal celebration day on June 26, 2016, with seven baptisms. They have more than a dozen

professions of faith and are looking to add to that number every week.

The Princeton Church has been able to purchase an old building and, while renovating it, found **great witnessing opportunities** to their local community. The local newspaper stopped by to see the process. In this work, they have had several professions of faith and many recommitments to personal spiritual development.

Servant Fellowship in Boonville started with just three adults. They had **three professions of faith** through an ongoing Bible study they developed and established in the local community.

Rios de Aqua is a Hispanic plant in Evansville. They began **ministering** this summer and have already been reaching out to their community by seeking ways to impact the local Hispanic culture for Christ.

Redeemer Fellowship is a new plant **on the campus** of University of Southern Indiana. This ministry began in July but has already been successful in seeing professions of faith and lives changed.

We were blessed to have several **mission teams** from out of state to help with the evangelistic efforts of our local plants and churches. These teams did everything from construction to personal evangelism, children's events and even laundromat ministries. We have been blessed to see an increase of ministry partners financially, as well.

In Southwestern Indiana, we have also seen great participation in our **Church Planter Center (CPC)**, which held classes last fall and this past spring. The CPC is not only open to planters, but leaders, pastors and lay leaders from established churches to participate.

At the start of this past year we had **several areas** we wanted to focus on to see new plants started. Praise goes to the Lord, as we hit all of those areas! In the next year, we hope to see several more rural plants to help reach some of the smaller communities in Southwestern Indiana.

We ask you to join us in **prayer** and consider how you might become a part of what the Holy Spirit is accomplishing in Southwestern Indiana.

Church Planting - Central Region and Asian
Steve Blanchard, Church Planting Catalyst

In the past year, one of my primary goals has been to assist church planters to **establish new works** in Central Indiana. This was accomplished in several different ways. First, I helped in the assessment process of potential planters. We have a very robust method of evaluating potential planters by looking at their personal calling to ministry in general, and to church planting specifically. I was involved in three of these assessment events. Through this process we have identified two planters for central Indiana since last fall as well as additional planters for other parts of the state.

A vital part of the church planting process is to serve as **coach** for church planters. I was blessed to coach ten church planters this past year.

Another means of assisting our church planters has been to help them **find established churches and pastors** who will consider supporting them in various ways. Pastor Fred Brown (Friendship Baptist Church, Franklin) and Pastor Jeff Sanders (New Whiteland Baptist Church) have found ways they can tangibly support Church Planter Josh Crisp by sending one key family from their congregations to serve with his leadership.

A major associational event will be a Mission Outreach Challenge, which will be held in November 2016. This event will provide an opportunity for Indianapolis and central Indiana **planters to connect with our churches** through mission fairs, a challenge event for youth and speaking in individual churches. The Mission Outreach Challenge is designed to challenge the members of churches in our association, to consider ways that they can be on mission locally, nationally and internationally.

Through joint efforts of Central Indiana church planters, local churches and churches from other states, the groundwork has been laid for **new plants**:

- Great Mercy Church (Chris Dean) in the Bates-Hendricks neighborhood, Indianapolis Southside
- The District Church (Dwayne Gibbs) meeting in a movie theater in Keystone at the Crossing Fashion Mall in Indianapolis
- CityChurch (Dan Pride) meeting at Central Christian Academy in Indianapolis

- Indy Jiayin Church (Michael Man) a Mandarin-speaking church is meeting at Northside Baptist Church, Indianapolis
- Redeemed Community Church (Bryan Sullivan) in Acton
- Restoration Church (Matt Brewer) in Noblesville
- The Good Shepherd Church (Brad Nally) at an apartment complex near the University of Indianapolis
- Calvary Hispanic Mission (Daniel Rodas) meeting at Calvary Baptist Church in Greenwood
- The Grove Church (Josh Crisp) in Bargersville
- Christ Community Church (Nathan Shaver) in Indianapolis

Church Planting – West Region
Bob Weeks, Church Planting Catalyst

This has been an exciting and rewarding time to **begin the journey** as part of our State Convention of Baptists in Indiana staff. There is a groundswell of excitement that is beginning to build in the Wabash Valley Association. Much of that can be contributed to Leader Labs. Leader Labs are not seminars or teaching times. They are guided conversations around a single topic where participants share insights and foster discovery as we see “we are better together than we are apart.” Out of the fertile soil of Leader Labs is growing the desire of churches to plant churches! By the end of 2016 or early 2017, Wabash Valley Baptist Association will increase in size by two churches.

From the onset, I have asked God to send a church planter to **Terre Haute**. Ask and you will receive! A gentleman born and raised in Terre Haute is currently in the pipeline to be ready to plant a new church in Terre Haute where the Gospel is so desperately needed. God is at work! As a result, the churches of West Central Baptist Association are lining up to help this new church plant.

The White River Baptist Association is still supporting our **Haitian and Spanish-speaking** language plants in Washington. Additionally, they helped a church, that was once dead, to rise to new life. Shoals Baptist Church took a bold step for the future by intentionally closing their doors and entering a replant effort. The Family Fellowship of Shoals is standing on the shoulders of Shoals Baptist Church with new leadership, new vision and a new desire to see Christ proclaimed to the people of Shoals.

Friends, **the future is now**. Some say the world is spinning out of control. Don't believe it. The fields are white for the harvest. The church planting movement in Indiana is working to push back the darkness. Join the movement.

Church Planting - Hispanic
Jesus Pacheco, Church Planting Catalyst

A new Hispanic work started at Warren Baptist Church in **Indianapolis** last April 2016. Pedro Guzman, a retired pastor from the Dominican Republic, serves as planter. They already have an attendance of about 40 and baptized four people in June!

Parkside Baptist Church in **Columbus** has a new Hispanic work meeting in their building. Starting in January 2016 attendance is approximately 35 and five people were baptized.

A new Hispanic work began meeting at Cornerstone Baptist Church in **Greensburg**. Sebastian Nicolas is the planter at Hope's Point Hispanic Mission in Shelbyville, but also assists the new work in Greensburg.

Victor Alfonso Soto is the new church planter for the Hispanic work at Oakhill Baptist Church in **Evansville**.

In southern Indiana, there are two new works that have started in partnership with the Southeastern Baptist Association and local churches. The first is meeting at Charlestown Road Baptist Church in **New Albany**. Ugandi Avila, Cuban pastor from Louisville, is the church planter. The other is a mission work from First Southern Baptist Church in **Clarksville**. Yurian Santiesteban is a Cuban pastor from Louisville serving as the church planter.

There is a Bible study meeting in a trailer park at **Sellersburg**. Pastor Cesar Cano, with Cooper Chapel Hispanic Church in Louisville, is leading this outreach.

Another Bible study is meeting in **South Bend**. Pastor Diego Bartolome is leading this effort, with Iglesia Alfa Y Omega of Logansport sponsoring this outreach effort.

A **Bible Training Center** for pastors and planters provides a three-year diploma program. Three centers will have classes starting the

middle of August 2016. Those locations are Jasper, Southern Indiana/Louisville and Indianapolis. There are already 45 students registered. Please pray for this leadership school project and its students. Teachers will be Pastor Ernesto Fernandez, Pastor Daniel Rodas and myself. Our initial goal was to see fifty participants. Next year the plan is to open an additional center in Seymour.

Thank you for your prayers!

Church Planting - East Region
Bobby Cox, Church Planting Catalyst

The east region continues to develop **indigenous church planters** by recruiting, assessing and training. Over the past twelve months, the Athens Church in Columbus has launched, becoming a local autonomous body under the leadership of Pastor Aaron Lentz. The launch was March 2016 with over 200 in attendance. Athens continues to maintain a weekly attendance of over 100. The church is witnessing many professions of faith and baptisms. Athens Church currently has three groups that meet weekly to reach out to the community.

Crosspoint Legacy Plant in **Richmond** launched in May 2016 with over 90 in their first service. Pastor Dan Conrades is the lead pastor and Brandon Doyle is a student pastor. The building has been in transition for two years, with much needed renovation occurring within the past eight months.

Pastor Brian Underwood is the planter for Crossroads Church in **Eastern Baptist Association**, which will launch in September 2016. They are praying for a good number of people to participate and rejoice in the blessing of a new facility.

Iglesia Bautista Shalom in **Madison** continues to move forward, averaging 35 in weekly attendance. Pastor Francisco Llerena is grateful for the partnerships that have made this work effective in reaching the Hispanic population in Madison. The partnerships for the work include, but are not limited to, Calvary Baptist Church in Madison, First Southern in Versailles, Hanover Baptist, Brushy Fork in Canaan, Ryker's Ridge in Madison and the South Central Baptist Association.

I am currently working with Donnie Yates with Bible studies in **Rush and Jennings Counties**. The group in Rush County remains a small group with about four or six in attendance. However, the Jennings County location has the potential to become a plant at some point in 2017.

An opportunity exists in the **Batesville** area for the start of a Bible study in late 2016. The hope is to see a new church plant take place in this area where there is currently no SBC witness.

I served as coach to six church planters and provided resources for them. I traveled to South Carolina to **recruit** planters to serve in Indiana. My visit included seven associations and three churches.

I continue to promote **sending church** information throughout associations and local churches. I have participated in four church planter assessments, two basic training events and two church planting partnerships in South Central and Whitewater Associations.

God has truly **blessed** His work in church planting in the East Region in 2015/2016. I look forward, with great anticipation to see what God will continue to do. To God be the glory! Partners in the Harvest, 1 Corinthians 3:9

Church Planting - North Region

Doug Jividen, Church Planting Catalyst

What an **exciting year** we have had. Three associations (North Central, Miami, and East Central) have a common thread of Church Planting, Church Strengthening, Developing Leaders, and Evangelism.

In the **North Central** Association, Church Planters Tim Lee, Sweh Velilla, and Clarence Smith, continue to grow their plants. In addition, the association has been meeting together to develop a new strategy for reaching the population of over 500,000 living in the metro area of South Bend/Elkhart.

In the **Miami** Association, Church Planter Chris Ellis is doing a wonderful job growing his plant/restart in Tipton. We are praying for a planter to help launch a plant in the Wabash area. There is tremendous need in this community to penetrate the darkness that has no

SBC presence.

Finally, the **East Central** Association has a new church planter, Cedric Anderson. He is the son of Pastor Lonnie Anderson in Kokomo. Cedric is planting in Muncie and is doing a wonderful job. Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Kokomo and Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie are sponsoring Cedric's plant.

Church Planting – Southeast Region **Mitch Whidden, Church Planting Catalyst**

God continues to amaze us in the Southeastern Region of Indiana. Our church plants over the last two years are strengthening and growing. Each of these churches are community mission-minded churches, committed to **reaching their communities for Christ**. These new church plants include:

- Empowerment Community Church in New Albany (Pastor Richard Pimpleton)
- Faith Fellowship Church in Elizabeth (Pastor Jason Walton)
- Refuge Church in Sellersburg (Pastor Shea Allen)
- Redeemer Church in Jeffersonville (Pastor Brad Walker)

There are also four churches **in the works**. The goal is for these to launch either this year or early next year. The groups are all already meeting, outreaching, and studying the Scriptures together. Three are Hispanic works. Southeastern Indiana has seen a lot of growth in the Hispanic community and we are committed to ministering to this growing need through church planting. Jesus Pacheco has faithfully helped us locate and equip Hispanic planters in our area. We are thankful to God for sending him to our state to help meet this growing need. Our sending churches have also been an important part in making these plants possible. The appreciation for the faithfulness of the sending churches and their pastors cannot be overstated. Churches in the works include:

- New Albany, (Hispanic) planter Yurian Santiesteban with the sending church Charlestown Road Baptist
- Sellersburg, (Hispanic) planter Victor Morales
- Clarksville, (Hispanic) planter Ugandi Infante with the sending church First Southern of Clarksville
- Jeffersonville, (River Ridge community) planter Patrick Lynch sending church Eastern Heights Baptist

We also believe God for more plants in the **future**. Over the next year, attrition will begin to shift in many ways toward outlining rural areas, many of which have no Southern Baptist church at all. One of these future plants includes Memphis area. There is already a group meeting and outreaching there with about 30 people in attendance! We will assess a potential planter for Memphis in August. Our goal is to plant churches in English and Marengo as well. We will have outreaches in these areas in 2017 in order to share the Gospel and begin these plants by reaching the lost. Please pray for God to send planters to Marengo and English.

God has been so good to us this year that there is too much to mention, we are **praising Him** for all of our new works as well as new partnerships.

Conclusion

John Horn, Church Planting Team Leader

In February of 2016 we received word from NAMB that we had succeeded so well with planting a record numbers of churches that we would no longer be allowed to overspend the Church Planting Strategy Budget we receive annually from NAMB. (This overspend was approved by NAMB leadership prior to SCBI being told we need to stay within budget.) The overspend we have this year has caused us to bring a halt to funding new church planters for 2016-2017 and to write a SCBI Church Planting **“Re-Set”** which will insure that we avoid overspending in future years.

While this has been a painful process to go through, it is possible that God will use it to prepare us for our best days yet in church planting, similar to the experience of the Apostle Paul, the Great Church Planter in **Acts 16**. He had a plan for planting record numbers of churches throughout Asia Minor, but God allowed him to experience an unfulfilled ambition (verses 6-7). Then (verses 8-9) God enabled Paul to see an unexpected redirection—he saw a vision of the man from Macedonia who said, “Come over here and help us.” At that moment, Paul had to make a choice about whether he was going to stay where he was or practice an unhesitating obedience (verse 10). Because he followed God’s leadership, Paul had the joy of bringing the Gospel to Europe through church planting. He eventually was allowed to complete his plan for church planting throughout Asia Minor.

Perhaps **our plan** for planting record numbers of churches in Indiana in 2016-2017 will be an unfulfilled ambition due to a shortage of funds. If we are open to seeing God's unexpected redirection through this time of "Re-set," and, like Paul, unhesitatingly obedient to His calling to share the Gospel in creative new ways, then I believe in 2018 and beyond we may see the greatest advancements ever in SCBI church planting!