

SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." -HEBREWS 11:1 KJV A Field of FATTE

A 20-YEAR VISION FOR SOUTH RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH TO GLORIFY GOD AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.

**AUGUST 9, 2020** 

2659 South Chipley Ford Rd, Statesville, NC 28625 | 704.876.1520 | southriverbaptist.com

#### **OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

One hundred and forty years ago, God planted South River Baptist Church on South Chipley Ford Rd. Through those years God has done great things on the church grounds and through His people as they spill out into the surrounding area. When God planted the church 140 years ago, few could imagine what would be built on the property. No one knew the impact a small country church would have on the Statesville community, Iredell county, our country as well as the world as a river of believers would flow outside the walls of the church to touch lives with gospel truth.

South River has been blessed with a gift of 28 acres of land. God has given the land and now we must seek His face to know what we are to do with it. We can't imagine what God is going to do in and through us over the next 140 years if He tarries. But we desire to dream and to believe He can do great and awesome things! This is a vision from the heart of the pastor confirmed by the entire staff, the brotherhood of deacons, and the Strategic

## **OUR MOTIVATION AND PASSION**

What you see on these pages is a church for every day of the week. Our worship of the One true God will not be limited to Sunday activity. We are called to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Each grouping of buildings seen on the following pages highlights an aspect of that love for Him. Our wholehearted devotion to God enables worship to occur in a variety of ways daily on these grounds.

We also believe that pure and undefiled religion ministers to orphans and widows in need. Thus, portions of the church grounds are devoted to ministry efforts that reach these vulnerable individuals.

### **OUR LEADERSHIP**

DR. CHRIS THOMPSON Senior Pastor Pastor for Children Discipleship Pastor for Worship Ministries Pastor for Student Discipleship Pastor for Worship Ministries Pastor for Student Discipleship	
	WNSELL
STRATEGIC VISION TEAM	Discipleship
JACK HUFFMAN DONNIE NIEMANN GENE DELLINGER ROBERT COLVERT CAROL STEV	EWART
DEACON LEADERSHIP	
JACK HUFFMAN FRED BRADBURN MARK CARTER ERIC DAVIDSON CREIGHTON GIB	BSON
JERRY KOCH ED RUNKLE KEVIN SOUTHER GARY STWEART STEVE WARRICKS	}

What These Stones MEAN?



As you enter the church property, you will be overwhelmed by a large mass of twelve river stones stacked one upon another. The immediate question that will arise is what are these stones and what do they mean?

The stones will be a new church sign centered on the expanded church property. They do more than welcome people to South River Baptist Church. These stones represent a statement of faith that we serve an awesome God who still delivers people through the waters of life. The stones are a testimony that we believe God is doing something amazing on these church grounds. They provide a witness for those passing by the church inviting them to acknowledge God's presence among His people and to surrender their lives to Him.

This is the testimony that we are building something to the glory of God just as God instructed His people to do in Joshua 3. God instructed Joshua to identify a key leader from each tribe to pick a stone from the floor of the Jordan River to build an altar and witness for future generations of what God did when He delivered His people into the Promised Land. So here, the key leadership is making a statement of our conviction that God is leading South River into the new land to erect buildings and establish ministries that will enable the worship of God throughout the week in a myriad of ways.

As you enter these church grounds, we want everyone to know that God has done and is doing a great work on these church grounds. For the younger generation, we want to inspire them to believe God has done and will do great things through His people. For those driving onto our church grounds, we want them to know that our God is an awesome God! Each cluster of buildings and green areas is a testimony of our wholehearted love for Him and desire to life authentically as His people.









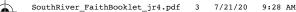




- 1. New South River Sign
- 2. Family Life Center Renovation and Addition
- 3. Foster Care Homes
- 4. Expanded Cemetery
- 5. Exercise, Walking, and Bike Trails
- 6. Missions Warehouse
- **7.** Biblical Counseling Center and Medical Clinic
- 8. Soccer and Baseball fields
- 9. New K-12 School





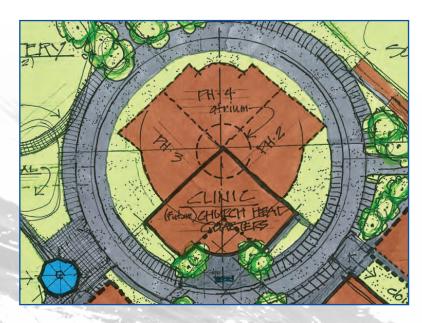




#### **OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

This cluster of buildings and green areas focus on our physical and emotional wellbeing. There will be three essential elements: a free medical clinic, a biblical counseling center, and green areas for physical fitness and whole health wellbeing. We believe that God gives life, sustains life, and desires we live healthy lives. He also invites us to a personal relationship that enhances our daily living.

The Free Medical Clinic will be a stand alone 5013C tax-exempt non-profit that serves patients with limited means and no health insurance residing in northern Iredell county. To qualify for medical services individuals must be adults who fall below 250% of the federal poverty level and have no health insurance including Medicare and Medicaid. The goal will be to provide a clinic that potentially provides the following services: primary care medical appointments, limited specialty care, chronic disease management, lab services, dentistry, and a pharmacy. Through the support of South River Baptist Church, community sponsors, and donors, this volunteer supported clinic will seek to fill in the gaps in essential medical care in our community. Think of the good Samaritan who demonstrated His loved for God by loving His neighbor who was in need.



A Biblical Counseling Center will provide individual, couple and family counseling for teens and adults facing a range of life difficulties including depression, anxiety, marriage conflict, relationship problems, substance abuse and addictions, parenting and adolescent issues, and other spiritual concerns. The counseling will be based on the truths that a new life experience in Christ, the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, and the clear teaching of Scripture are sufficient to help change lives and enable people to experience transformed lives. We will focus on both grace and truth in the counseling process.

**Multiple Green Areas** throughout the property will include a walking trail that includes exercise equipment and stations especially designed for older adults. There will be an amphitheater, multiple gazebos, and picnic area for church and Sunday school functions. As well, a mountain bike course, ropes course and leadership challenge area may be constructed in the wooded sections of the property to provide a location to invite our community onto the property for witnessing opportunities.

## LOVING GOD WITH ALL OUR SOUL



This cluster of elements focus on our worship of the One true God in the sanctuary and a remodeled family life center redesigned for discipleship and fellowship. Our primary mission at South River is to glorify God in worship and to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Authentic worship fuels everything we do such as missions, training our mind, caring for our bodies, and reaching our community and countries for Christ. The redesigning of our facility is essential in order to fulfill our mission to glorify God and make disciples. We will begin a school in this facility until it requires its own facility.

The Family Life Center addition and renovation. There will be a second floor added in the existing family life center. The top floor will house our children's ministry area which will include classrooms, a special needs classroom, and a large venue for children's church and AWANAs. The bottom floor will

have moveable walls enabling many different configurations to allow gatherings of varying sizes. Such gatherings include new Sunday school classes, bridal and baby showers, funeral receptions, special dinners, and even large events such as our Christmas drama. A half-sized basketball court area will be available for use in the largest gathering area.

The **new Office Area** will be relocated to the entry way of the older church building that housed the children's classes. This shift provides a more welcoming and easily accessible cluster of office spaces. This space will house the pastoral staff offices, support staff offices and new conference room area.





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#### LOVING GOD WITH ALL OUR MIND

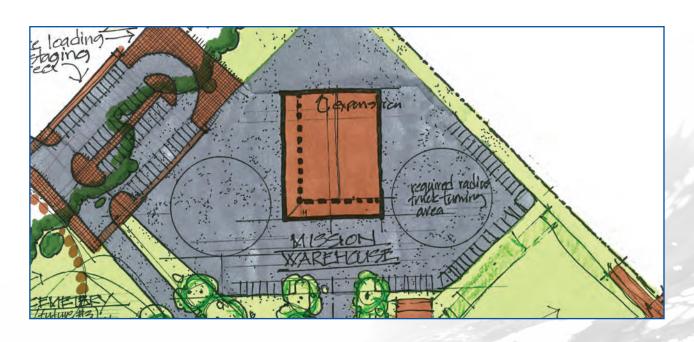


We believe all truth is God's truth and those who love God with their mind will love His truth. This cluster of elements focus on a K-12 school that will be built in phases as the school grows. Ball fields and a new gymnasium will be built for extracurricular activities to support the school. The school will seek to combine a Christian based worldview with a liberal arts methodology. Why a Christian classical liberal arts education?

The curriculum will be based on a solid grounding in fundamental academic skills, an exploration of the arts and sciences and an understanding of the foundational tenets of our Judeo-Christian and Greco-Roman heritage. We have three primary objectives for our students: cultivate a God-fearing and Jesus-loving heart; teach skills essential to be productive citizens; nurture the moral qualities and habits of mind to be good citizens.

There are separate buildings for K-5, middle school, and the high school grades shown in a cloister style which is highlighted by green areas and covered walkways. This enables indoor and outdoor classroom experiences and provides communal areas fostering unity between the varying grades and stages of life for our students. These buildings can be built in phases as the school grows.

### LOVING GOD WITH ALL OUR STRENGTH



This cluster of elements supports the South River ministry outreach into the community and throughout our own country. The Missions Warehouse will be the facility to house and service our vans, buses and ministry trailers. We envision multiple metal storage racks to hold equipment, relief supplies, appliances, and basic needs for relief efforts. A walk-in freezer will enable the long term storage of food. A loading dock and small conference room planning area will also be housed here.

Outside the building will be tractor trailer turn around areas and additional parking for the ball fields and other narure areas surrounding the facility. A flag pole area will highlight our current ministry efforts with nations and states currently served by our ministry teams.





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# PURE AND UNDEFILED RELIGION FOSTER CARE HOMES AND WIDOW CARE

This designated area seeks to establish Foster Care Homes where we can demonstrate our authentic faith. These homes provide a safe home environment for children in need. Every child needs a family and a church family. These foster homes can help foster parents provide a safe, nurturing, and loving environment for the most vulnerable in society.

Our FLOCK ministry has revealed the gravity of the domestic problems in our society. The family unit in America has been decimated. Sadly, the casualties are the children. The church should be the one who steps in to redeem the situation and not the government. We believed our church must go beyond our current partnership with DSS to provide more than physical resources. We want to minster to the whole child – his emotional, physical, psychological, and spiritual needs.

We also envision a ministry to widows in need where those who have no family support can be properly ministered to and cared for. This cluster of building can potentially serve as a locale for such honored ladies to remain close to their church family in the absence of other family.

#### **TIMELINE**

August 9	4 to 6pm	Question and Answer Session in Church Sanctuary
August 12	6 to 8pm	Question and Answer Session in Church Sanctuary
August 15	10am - 12pm	Question and Answer Session in Church Sanctuary
August 16	6pm	Quarterly Church Business Meeting to Vote on Vision
September 13		Harvest of Faith Campaign Initial Offering
November 2020		Presentation of Phase 1
or January 2021		FLC addition and renovation and Missions Warehouse

#### **NEXT STEPS**

This is a vision for the next 20 years. It provides a glimpse of what we believe God can do through a body of believers completely surrendered to His will and who desire nothing more than to impact our community with the gospel for decades to follow. The vision is not etched in stone, but upon our hearts and minds as what is possible. And yet, God can do beyond what we have shared in this document.

#### What are the next steps?

- 1. We call on the church to pray for God's favor to accomplish this vision. Psalm 90:16-17 guides our efforts as we pursue a vision that impacts lives eternally. We ask God to clarify His vision for the work ahead, to lead us to attempt something glorious for His name that will inspire future generations of believers, to pursue His blessing and favor in completing His work, and to established firmly what is done.
- 2. We want the church to affirm this vision in a vote at our quarterly business meeting on **August 16**. The pastoral staff, deacon leadership, and Strategic vision team present this with unified conviction that this is a vision worthy of our God's great name and one that will demand supernatural blessing to accomplish. We present ourselves as instruments in His hands to attempt something great believing He will enable our church to establish new ministry areas all over the church grounds to bring a beautiful and bountiful harvest of souls.
- 3. We will initiate a **Harvest of Faith Capital Campaign** to raise funds to complete this vision building various elements over the next 20 years. South River will not go into debt to accomplish this vision. Each element of the vision will be built when we have funds in hand. We ask that the church prayerfully consider an initial offering for the vision which will be received on **September 13**. Beginning in the new fiscal year we will have **Prove the Tithe Sunday** on the first Sunday of every month where all receipts above the weekly budgeted amount will be designated to our reserve building fund account.
- **4.** The church will vote to begin the process to bring plans for Phase 1 of the campaign at a future quarterly business meeting.





