

A NEW CHAPTER

MCLEAN BIBLE CHURCH

"Looking back at the past six decades, we praise God for His hand upon our church. In recent days, our elder board has been working with David to discern the right approach for this new chapter of MBC. As we prepare to step forward with faith into the new season ahead, we are more excited than ever to see all that God has in store for our future."

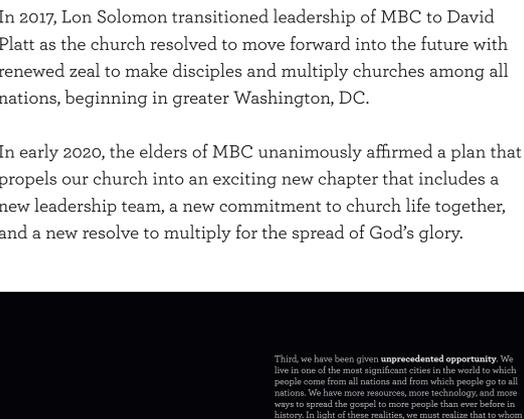
MBC ELDER BOARD

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS OVER THE YEARS



THE EARLY DAYS

In 1961, five families planted a new church to reach metro Washington, DC, led by Albert Ford. These families laid a foundation for global mission at the heart of MBC, sending members with the gospel to remote, unreached places in the world. In 1971, Allan Gardner became the pastor, and he led MBC faithfully through 1979.



A SEASON OF GROWTH

From 1980-2017, MBC experienced tremendous growth and influence under the dynamic leadership of Lon Solomon. In order to accommodate continually increasing attendance, the church purchased a large campus on Leesburg Pike near Tysons Corner. Expansion also continued around metro Washington, DC, leading to the establishment of additional MBC campuses in Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William, and Montgomery County.



A NEW CHAPTER

In 2017, Lon Solomon transitioned leadership of MBC to David Platt as the church resolved to move forward into the future with renewed zeal to make disciples and multiply churches among all nations, beginning in greater Washington, DC.

In early 2020, the elders of MBC unanimously affirmed a plan that propels our church into an exciting new chapter that includes a new leadership team, a new commitment to church life together, and a new resolve to multiply for the spread of God's glory.

Third, we have been given **unprecedented opportunity**. We live in one of the most significant cities in the world to which people come from all nations and from which people go to all nations. We have more resources, more technology, and more ways to spread the gospel to more people than ever before in history. In light of these realities, we must realize that to whom much is given, much is expected.

ENVISION

THE FUTURE OF MBC, FIRMLY GROUNDED IN OUR RICH HISTORY YET

DECISIVELY FOCUSED ON ATTEMPTING GREAT THINGS FOR GOD

DEAR MBC FAMILY,

Words really can't express how humbling it is for Heather, our kids, and me to be a part of this church, and all the more for the privilege of being a pastor in it. I have spent the last couple of years learning so much about God's grace in MBC, and I have come to three conclusions.

First, we are a **unique family**. We come from over 100 different countries, we represent varied socioeconomic situations, and we hold diverse political opinions. In a world—and a city—that is so often divided along these lines, we possess a supernatural unity that can only be explained by the gospel.

Second, we are surrounded by **urgent need**. In addition to deep needs we all have in our lives, marriages, families, and work, we live in a city filled with over 5 million people who are currently without Christ. Beyond our city, approximately 3 billion people in the world have never even heard of His love. Add to all of this a global pandemic, and there is no shortage of need around us.

These expectations are what this booklet is all about. William Carey once said, "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God." The purpose of the pages ahead is to cast a vision for the next chapter of MBC: To paint a picture of every member of this church family cared for by the body of Christ, growing in the likeness of Christ, and making disciples for the glory of Christ. To introduce a plurality of leadership in the church that does not revolve around any other person than Christ. To envision the future of MBC, firmly grounded in our rich history yet decisively focused on attempting great things for the God from whom we expect great things.

As a unique family surrounded by urgent need, I pray that God will give us great grace to meet unprecedented opportunity for His great glory together in ways that are far beyond what you or I could ask or imagine.

I love you, church.

DAVID

GLORIFYING GOD AMONG ALL NATIONS, BEGINNING IN GREATER WASHINGTON, DC

UNIQUE FAMILY + URGENT NEED = UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY

There are **OVER 100 COUNTRIES** and diverse personal backgrounds, socioeconomic situations, and political opinions represented at MBC.

Instead of being divided, we are supernaturally **UNITED** by love for Jesus.

OVER 6.1 MILLION people in metro DC, **87.5%** of whom are not in church. That's **OVER 5.4 MILLION** people apart from Christ.

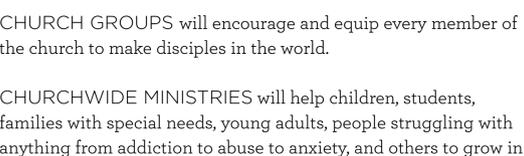
OVER 3 BILLION PEOPLE in the world in **OVER 7,000 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS** who have little to no access to the gospel.

Through reaching new locations, starting new churches, and strengthening relationships with existing churches, we want to spread the gospel like never before in our city.

Through a growing partnership with Radical, we want to spread the gospel on the front lines of the most urgent spiritual and physical needs in the world.

WE GLORIFY GOD BY MAKING DISCIPLES AND MULTIPLYING CHURCHES AMONG ALL NATIONS, BEGINNING IN GREATER WASHINGTON, DC.

We glorify God by making disciples and multiplying churches among all nations, beginning in greater Washington, DC.



VISION WHERE OUR EYES ARE FOCUSED

We will fix our gaze on the glory of God every week in our WORSHIP GATHERINGS and then scatter to make His glory known in all that we do.

MISSION WHAT WE'RE CALLED TO DO

CHURCH GROUPS will encourage and equip every member of the church to make disciples in the world.

CHURCHWIDE MINISTRIES will help children, students, families with special needs, young adults, people struggling with anything from addiction to abuse to anxiety, and others to grow in the love of Christ.

We will expand into NEW LOCATIONS and start NEW CHURCHES for the spread of the gospel to more people in more places.

GOAL WHY WE'RE WORKING TOGETHER

We will not settle for anything less than the global goal of our God: the spread of His glory right around us through LOCAL OUTREACH and far from us through GLOBAL OUTREACH, particularly in places where the gospel has not yet gone.

GOD, MAKE US A CHURCH THAT IS CONFIDENT IN YOUR WORD AND PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR PRESENCE.

We want to boldly believe in Your Word, passionately engage in Your worship, pray for that which can only be accomplished in Your power, and experience that which can only be attributed to Your glory.

GOD, MAKE US A CHURCH OF RADICAL DEVOTION AND RADICAL GRACE.

We want to leave behind casual expressions of Christianity and cheap distortions of grace to love You with everything we have and love our neighbors as ourselves.

GOD, MAKE US A CHURCH OF JUSTICE AND GENEROSITY.

We want to spend our lives and resources generously to do justice for the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized, and the unreached.

GOD, MAKE US A CHURCH THAT EXPRESSES DIVERSITY AS WE EXPERIENCE UNITY.

We want to actively grow our church in racial competency and empathy, as well as political humility and integrity, and to build an environment where people from diverse perspectives feel at home.

GOD, MAKE US A CHURCH THAT WELCOMES AND MOBILIZES ALL GENERATIONS AND INTENTIONALLY REACHES THE NEXT GENERATION.

We want to mobilize men and women from every age to show and tell teenagers, children, preschoolers, and those yet unborn who You are, how You work, and why Your love is better than life itself.

A NEW > LEADERSHIP TEAM

DAVID PLATT LEAD PASTOR

David has been Lead Pastor of MBC since 2017. He is also the founder and president of Radical, an organization aimed at serving churches for the accomplishment of the Great Commission. He has authored several books including *Radical*, *Radical Together*, *Follow Me*, *Counter Culture*, and most recently, *Something Needs to Change*. He and his wife Heather have five children.

As our Lead Pastor, David will continue to provide general oversight to the spiritual welfare of MBC alongside the Board of Elders. He will oversee the new Leadership Team to set vision for the entire church, and he will continue to serve as the primary teacher in our worship gatherings.

MIKE KELSEY LEAD PASTOR, PREACHING & CULTURE

Mike has been a pastor at MBC for over 13 years. Mike's long history with the church provides him with deep institutional knowledge and a unique perspective on where MBC has been and where the Lord is now leading. He and his wife Ashley have three children.

As Lead Pastor of Preaching and Culture, Mike will lead MBC to engage in current cultural issues in order to reach new and emerging generations as well as people disconnected from and disenfranchised by the church. Through increased involvement in preaching, oversight of Worship and Communications, and coaching and training of pastors, Mike will help biblically shape the culture of MBC as we engage the culture around us with the gospel.

WADE BURNETT LEAD PASTOR, EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Wade, Amy and their three children come to MBC from Nashville, Tennessee. Wade's path to pastoral ministry began more than 20 years ago when he and Amy helped plant a new church out of his law firm's conference room. Wade eventually left the practice of law and transitioned full-time into a lead pastor role, helping shepherd the new church from a handful of friends to more than 1,000 people across multiple locations. For the past eight years, Wade has also served as a coach and consultant for many of the largest churches in the country, most recently as a founder of The Church Leadership Group.

As our new Lead Pastor of Executive Leadership, Wade will help provide primary supervision for our church's strategy, staffing, and implementation. In that capacity, Wade will directly supervise many of our ministry directors, including Church Groups, Next Generation, Local and Global Outreach, Training, Church Planting, and Operations. As we prepare for the launch and multiplication of new MBC locations in the new season ahead, Wade will also maintain a significant focus on creating a culture of collaboration across our entire church.

We want to look to Jesus alone as the ultimate Leader of MBC. We want to be focused not on one pastor, but on God's Word. For this reason, we want to foster a healthy plurality of leadership at every level of our church. This new leadership team of three Lead Pastors is designed to serve and shepherd our church alongside other pastors as well as leaders from diverse backgrounds, including men and women with unique gifts in different roles (some on staff and many not on staff) who are all working together as one body for the accomplishment of our mission.

