

Our Field of Dreams Future Story of FBC Jefferson

“Build it and they will come” is our theme for the next decade of ministry. To be a “Faith Soaring Church,” we must dream! We dreamed years ago, and our dreams were not realized. It takes faith to dream again. Congratulations on accepting the challenge!

Now it’s time to take our dreams and allow God to help us overcome obstacles, which will be before us and make these dreams a reality for the sake of the kingdom of Christ and our church.

For ten months, you have prayed and discussed the answer to this question: “Where do we go in the next ten years?” Our focused prayers and discussions led us to these four main areas where God has revealed His plan for our church. Our future story will focus on missions, technological innovation, discipleship, and spatial issues.

Our Field of Dreams includes:

1) The Mission Field

- We will design and implement new ministries to take our church to the community.
- By 2028, we will make multiple mission trips a year, both domestic and foreign.
- We will shift more money to missions where we have direct or indirect knowledge of the mission work that is being done. We will send less to mission agencies where we have less knowledge and accountability of how our money is being spent.
- Our youth group will take on more mission projects and mission trips.
- By 2028, we will need to add a third worship service to meet the additional needs of our members.
- We will designate a worship leader for the contemporary worship service.

2) The Field of Technology

- We will begin using various social media outlets to reach our community.
- We will create a position for a Social Media Intern, which will target a younger, college-aged, or potentially high school-aged person. Under the supervision of the ministerial staff, the intern will manage various social media and online platforms for purposes of marketing, outreach and discipleship.
- We will investigate hiring a tech staff member to handle any issues or upgrades that may arise.
- We will expand our Wi-Fi coverage in our existing buildings.
- We will make technological upgrades such as:
 - o Projection units and screens in the sanctuary
 - o A rear projection system in the balcony for the choir

- o Remote controlled blinds for special presentations
- o Improvements in the quality of our sound system; and
- o Make enhancements to our security system.

3) The Field of Discipleship

- We will form small discipleship groups for Bible studies, fellowship, recreation, hobbies, mentorships, support groups, which will meet at various times and places determined by the groups.
- The recreational activities housed in our newly completed facility will create newcomer ministries and lead to new and different ways to disciple each other.
- Starting immediately, we will make RightNow Media available to our membership. RightNow Media is an online video based media library with access to over 15,000 video-based Bible studies and over 2,000 videos for children. Within this library. Sunday School teachers, pre-school parents, and members can build their own Bible study programs. They are useful for individuals as well as small groups. We will offer this library to the families of our Weekday Pre-School as well.

4) The Construction Field – A Multi-Purpose Facility

A recurring theme in each of the areas was the need to build a multi-purpose building. Within these walls, we will find additional space for worship, Sunday school, training on a variety of topics, youth and recreation space, media access and availability, with open areas for fellowship and much more.

The question then remains, when do we start this journey?

Our church is eager to begin this journey. Our growth is hindered by a lack of space in our Reach Contemporary Service. Also, we have no place for the entire church to gather and fellowship. Seating for meals is insufficient.

By October of this year, our goal is to vote on a Building Committee and their job description. Part of their job will be to find and hire a qualified church architect, which we would like to see in place by the beginning of 2019.

The Building Committee will tour other churches that have similar facilities to gather ideas to share with the architect that they believe will help meet our ministry needs.

In addition to the new multi-purpose facility, our prayer groups and scenario teams identified other modifications, which can be made to our existing buildings. We will seek an architect to advise us on ways to maximize the use and space of our current buildings.

For example, the fellowship hall could be expanded into the courtyard.

Once a drawing of a new facility is completed along with any enhancements to the existing building and a cost analysis made, the church will enter into a capital fund-raising campaign to raise any additional money for the project that may be needed.

We hope to break ground on the new facility in 2019.

We would like to see our facility completed by the end of 2020. While we will not move with haste, we want to proceed with enthusiasm.

We want to continue to be good stewards of our current space, and work hard to build the membership of our church through strong relationships.

The building may attract the people, but it is our welcoming and genuine church family that will keep them here. We want people to come to Jesus. That happens through relationships.

We will build our discipleship programs to allow people to grow in their faith and to feel as though they have found a second family.

We will build our worship services to renew their souls and give them new lessons and perspectives to think about every time they worship.

We will build our missions to allow our families and those in the community to help those in need.

IN OTHER WORDS... When we build our church on the Rock, God our Father, and they will come!

The direction is plain... **build it, and they will come.**

Future Story of Ministry Response Form
First Baptist Church, Jefferson, Georgia

1. What do you affirm or celebrate about this story? What excites you about the future of our church?
2. What would you challenge or question about this story? Where do you need a deeper understanding?
3. What would you suggest that would strengthen and sharpen this story?
4. If offered the opportunity, what part of the story would you most like to participate in making it happen? Where would you want to volunteer?

Name (Optional) _____