Dear Church Family,

In the following pages, you will find the 2016 Annual Report. Overall, it’s an exciting report filled with stories and reports about how God has been working through the campuses of Brentwood Baptist Church. There is much to celebrate in what is happening at the Lockeland Springs (our newest campus), West Franklin, Avenue South, Woodbine, Station Hill, and Brentwood campuses. Every week, God confirms His leading throughout the Middle Tennessee Initiative.

Yet, there is much to do. The reward for good work is more work. The Lord continues to open opportunities and challenges before us. Over the coming years, we’ll continue to plant churches, establish regional campuses, and repurpose transitioning congregations. That means more and more of us will be used in leadership and pioneering roles in the days ahead.

And that’s how I want you to read this report.

Read and discover how God has been working in and through the ministries of our church. Then, draw a line forward to see where you think God will continue to lead us. Allow God to show you where you can best be used to share the good news of Jesus with our very broken world.

I know there are a lot of people who are pessimistic about the North American church’s future. I’m not one of them. I believe the church is going to have a strong and anointed future because our nation is asking questions only Jesus can answer. I believe there is a unique and unbelievable future ahead for our church and each one of you.

Read through these pages. Celebrate what God has done…and what He will yet do.

Mike Glenn
Senior Pastor

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Dear Church Family,

Serving as one of your 12 Trustees for Brentwood Baptist Church in 2016 has been an honor and privilege. Each of us realizes it is imperative that we as Trustees prayerfully seek God’s guidance as we work with our staff’s Senior Leadership, Finance Ministry, and Staff Resource teams to make decisions that are God honoring and in the best interest of our church.

Our Executive committee for 2016 included myself as Chairman, Craig Reed as Vice Chair, and Eddie Lunn III as Secretary.

2016 was a wonderful year when we saw God do great things in and through our church. Our Annual Report is an overview of the year, highlighting the work of the ministries that God allowed us to participate in.

Looking back at all that was accomplished over the past 12 months clearly demonstrates how blessed this community of believers is.

Thank you,
Gene Torti
Chairman, Board of Trustees, 2016
Objectives

1
Engage people in Middle Tennessee and beyond with the gospel.
*Matthew 28:19-20*
*Acts 1:8*
*Luke 24:45-48*

2
Equip and empower our people for deeper levels of connection, worship, discipleship, and service.
*Colossians 1:27-28*

3
Develop and send out a growing number of workers and leaders to service.
*Ephesians 4:11-13*

4
Each campus will evaluate the physical and spiritual needs of their communities, and then effectively serve and share the gospel in those areas.
*Matthew 5:13-14*
*Luke 9:11*
*1 Peter 4:10*

Strategies

These are the strategies by which our church’s leadership guided our ministry efforts in 2016

**ONE**
Create a system that includes budget resources, people resources, due diligence and risk assessments that allows for a regional campus every three to five years, a repurposed church every two years, and a church plant every year

**TWO**
Each campus pastor will develop a team of leaders with at least one person coordinating a unique and sustainable ministry plan for each education, healthcare, and poverty initiative that complements the church’s broader MTI initiatives

**THREE**
Study and then design a church-wide evangelism strategy that can be in place and work effectively for each of the unique campus settings by third quarter

**FOUR**
Implement an expanded missionary-sending process and training resources for our partners and members

**FIVE**
Ensure DNA alignment and communication across all campuses that fosters the idea of one church and a “we” mentality

**SIX**
Ensure central support’s work is efficient for each campus’ needs

**SEVEN**
Evaluate planning processes, governance, bylaws, and multi-campus model to ensure they allow for continued growth for years to come

**EIGHT**
Develop with teaching pastors an easily communicated baseline expectation for all members to engage in daily discipleship that leads to spiritual growth and service for use in teaching and assimilation classes

**NINE**
Provide biblical and practical tools along with best practices for families to use to engage their family influence

**TEN**
Develop and implement a tracking system for fully engaged members that know, embrace, and serve the church using their time, talents, testimony, and treasure

**ELEVEN**
Establish standards for our first impression strategies to ensure our initial engagement with guests (on campuses and online) is comprehensive and allows us to orient them to full engagement fulfilling our mission

**TWELVE**
Develop two compelling campaigns which will help identify and draw out people to serve within the church, followed by aggressive training and assimilation into service that will show itself in a five percent increase in the “leader” and “volunteer” statistics in the Scope and Summary

**THIRTEEN**
Use a more comprehensive recruitment strategy to attract top ministry leaders to our residency

**FOURTEEN**
Create a sense of calling and “church pioneer” course that trains people to help us multiply and serve churches through planting, revitalization, and new regional campuses

**FIFTEEN**
Each campus will study demographics and organically engage their nearby community so we can meet realized needs and determine needs over the next two to three years for every community where a Brentwood Baptist campus is located
In 2016, we continued to see God do incredible things through the ministry efforts of Brentwood Baptist Church and the Middle Tennessee Initiative. There are countless stories we could share of how He has been at work among all six campuses. One unique story in particular shows how the many streams of what God is doing in Middle Tennessee flow into a greater picture of not only what He has done in 2016, but also what is to come in 2017. And that is the story of Brentwood Baptist’s relationship with Mill Creek Baptist Church.

Founded in 1797, Mill Creek Baptist Church has been a part of the Middle Tennessee area for over 200 years. It was the first Southern Baptist church in the area, and in 1833, the first Tennessee Baptist Convention was formed at Mill Creek. The church existed until the early 1900s. The church then relaunched in 1930 and became the Mill Creek Baptist Church it is today.

The Mill Creek is also a physical body of water that runs throughout Middle Tennessee from the Cumberland River to Nolensville, connecting many communities in the region.

Often when God is at work, it becomes clear that like streams flowing into a river, He is bringing several facets together for His glory and the work of His kingdom. He brings together individuals, families, churches, and communities so that lives will be changed forever. That is exactly what we’ve seen Him do as He’s called us to minister alongside Mill Creek Baptist Church. Like Brentwood Baptist they have a burden for connecting people here in Middle Tennessee to Jesus.

Three and a half years ago, God led a man named Bill Blair to become the bivocational pastor of Mill Creek Baptist Church. After becoming a follower of Christ and sensing God’s call to ministry, Bill developed a passion for reaching the incredibly diverse area of Nashville known as the International Corridor.

In this area along Nolensville Road, there are thousands of people from all over the world who have come to America as immigrants and refugees. In fact, right now in Nashville there are around 50 different nations represented.

It’s for this reason that Bill felt called to be a part of ministry in that community. He recognized that the nations can be reached with the gospel right here in Middle Tennessee. As he continued to seek the Lord’s direction for ministry opportunities, Bill was surprised to discover God’s plan for him was not church planting as he originally thought, but rather church renewal. He was called to be the pastor of a church that was located right in the heart of the International Corridor—exactly where God had called him to serve.

“This is an exciting time for us here in Nashville. God has given us a great opportunity to bring serious transformation to the culture of this city through the gospel. There is no better way to transform the city except through the gospel of Jesus Christ.”
— Fady Al-Hagal
Mill Creek Baptist Church had been declining for some time, and God has used Bill to help bring life back into the church. Over the last three and a half years that Bill has led the church as its pastor, 19 people have been baptized. The church is growing into a healthy, multicultural and multigenerational church body, and lives are being changed.

One of the lives that has been changed directly through the ministry of Mill Creek is Ariel Lopez. Brentwood Baptist has been partnering with Mill Creek Baptist Church by bringing the mobile Medical Dental Unit to the church and hosting events for people in the community to receive free medical and dental care. Ariel came to an event early in 2016. As he talked with one of the evangelism volunteers with the MDU that Saturday, Ariel was introduced to Bill who invited him to be baptized the next day.

Since that Sunday when he was baptized, Ariel has become an active member of the church. He’s now become an integral part of the Hispanic ministry at Mill Creek. Each Sunday morning, Ariel translates Bill’s sermon into Spanish using translation devices Brentwood Baptist helped purchase to support the new, growing Hispanic ministry of Mill Creek.

Not only has God given Ariel the gift of salvation through Christ, He has given him a church family. Ariel explains, “My life is going toward a good direction. No matter what happens, God has me here for a reason. Translating and being here as a brother in church with all the people here is where I’m meant to be. This is the only place where I come and feel like somebody loves me. That’s what I love about being here, and that’s why I love translating. I’m helping other brothers and sisters understand the message.”

In addition to helping Mill Creek purchase translation equipment to reach Spanish-speaking members of the community, Brentwood Baptist is also partnering with them in 2017 on a project that will potentially have a reach far beyond the midstate. It will happen through a partnership among Mill Creek Baptist Church, Brentwood Baptist, and the Tennessee Baptist Convention. It will be called the International Leadership Training Center. Beginning this fall, six to ten international church leaders who are called to pastor and disciple within their own people groups living in Middle Tennessee will receive training, accountability, and encouragement so that the gospel will not only impact those living in Middle Tennessee, but also around the world as some in the international community travel back home and share the hope of Christ with friends, family, and neighbors.

The International Leadership Training Center will be led by Fady Al-Hagal, who currently serves as the Associate Director of Church and Community Relations for World Relief Nashville, one of Brentwood Baptist’s Hope for the World ministry partners. Fady is a Syrian immigrant who has served as a pastor for 20 years in Martin, TN. In his role at World Relief, he helps churches in Middle Tennessee learn how to engage the international community here at home.

Fady’s leadership will be instrumental as Brentwood Baptist and Mill Creek work together to reach the growing population of Nashville so that the gospel will reach people from all over the world. He explains, “This is an exciting time for us here in Nashville. God has given us a great opportunity to bring serious transformation to the culture of this city through the gospel. There is no better way to transform the city except through the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Through financial support from Brentwood Baptist, both Bill and Fady are able to lead the way in these exciting new ministry efforts that are taking place in and through Mill Creek Baptist Church.

Like the varying streams of a flowing creek, God is bringing His people together through the Middle Tennessee Initiative. Through partnerships with other local churches, we have the opportunity to work together to advance His kingdom in homes, churches, and communities in Middle Tennessee and even to the ends of the earth.
As the central campus of Brentwood Baptist Church, much of the work that’s done on the Brentwood campus in some way influences all of our campuses; it’s a blessing to see how each unique campus influences the ministries of the Brentwood campus as well.

Despite our continuing to “run members off” from our Brentwood campus to support the work at our regional campuses, our worship attendance was up year over year.

There was refining of the JourneyOn discipleship strategy, including a streamlining of processes and strategies, challenging our people to love God, make disciples, and live sent. More than 470 people participated in mission journeys, while over 13,000 were involved in some way in a missions-related project.

Our membership process was evaluated and adjusted to allow those joining our church to be placed into service more quickly and efficiently. We celebrated a quarter-of-a-century of faithful service by our Senior Pastor, Mike Glenn. In January of this year, he challenged the members attending the Brentwood campus to be more diligent than ever to share the gospel with the unconnected where we live, work, and play. While God is blessing our church in its expansion around Middle Tennessee, we must not neglect what God wants to do in and around 37027.

We’ve had a front-row seat this past year to watch Jesus do some incredible things at our campus. We grew spiritually and numerically, and we continue to be grateful for the opportunity to minister to the Melrose and surrounding communities.

An example of this is our ongoing partnership with Carter Lawrence Elementary, which continued to open doors of relationship with faculty, students, and family. This is just one ministry partnership that has given us the privilege of helping address the issues of food insecurity, poverty, as well as healthcare. We were excited to serve more actively on local university campuses, meeting students and building new relationships with administrations.

Additionally, the property all around our campus is alive with new construction and hundreds of incoming new neighbors. That’s why we spent this past year exploring strategies for how we can build relationships in these apartment communities with young professionals and be seen as a blessing to the community. We’re excited about all that transpired last year, and we look forward to another year of ministry.

130 people were involved in Mentor Relationship per month
356 people participated in 7 Serving Saturdays
80% increase in baptisms, with the majority being adult baptisms
On average, 317 adults participated in weekly discipleship groups. That’s 60% of Sunday morning worship attendance.

Brentwood Campus

THE CHURCH AT
Avenue South

WINS

WINS

23% increase in baptisms
Over 4,000 in weekly worship attendance
21% increase in discipleship attendance
Christmas Eve attendance was up 12.1% from last year
The Church at Station Hill

When The Church at Station Hill launched in 2010 as the first regional campus of Brentwood Baptist Church, we sensed that God was up to something significant. We had no idea that six years later we would be connecting people to Christ from a new “forward-operating base” on thirty acres in one of the fastest-growing communities in the nation. 2016 was our first full year in our new home at 8083 Station Hill Drive.

We are now averaging nearly 1,000 in worship attendance which has led us to add an 8:00 a.m. worship gathering that started on January 8, 2017. There are 50 group opportunities for adults to be in discipleship/small group communities. 95 people participated in mission journeys that yielded 57 professions of faith. In support of MTI, our LIFE Groups put together 1,188 “Jet Pack” meals for hungry children in our community through The Well Outreach. 16 families have been equipped as host homes in the “Safe Families” program through Bethany Christian Services.

As we moved to our new location, our convictions were summed up by a launch team member who said, “I pray that when our location changes, our focus doesn’t.” By God’s grace, we see evidence of that same continued focus as we move into 2017 focused on being disciples who intentionally re-order our lives and priorities to make disciples of Jesus in southern Middle Tennessee and beyond.

The Church at Lockeland Springs

This past year of 2016 was a year of transition and preparation for Lockeland Springs. Following the church vote to have Lockeland Baptist Church merge and become Brentwood Baptist Church, we immediately began cultivating relationships and developing leaders within the local community. We launched a Prayer and Planning Team mostly made up of people from the surrounding neighborhoods. We also trained a dozen people in community-focused disciple-making as a way to prepare for the future ministry opportunities we would encounter there.

Late in the year, we launched our first community LIFE Group off campus, with a second one happening on campus on Sunday mornings. We also held several community events that allowed us to make new connections with neighbors around the Lockeland Springs community. Church members from our other campuses have been serving in interim pastor and worship capacities. We are deep into the search process for a Campus & Teaching Pastor to lead this new work at Lockeland Springs.

Even with the ministry at this campus in its very earliest stages, we are already seeing people respond to the changes that are happening. The opportunities at The Church at Lockeland Springs are tremendous, and we’re excited to see what the Lord will do in East Nashville in the months ahead.

WINS

- Sunday Morning attendance grew from an average of 20 to 53
- 85 people attended Songwriter’s Night, our first community event in the Lockeland Springs community
- 120 people attended “Trucksgiving,” a Thanksgiving celebration and community event with food trucks
- Renovations were made to the building to prepare us for future ministry

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WINS

- 120% increase in discipleship ministries
- $140,000 given toward our campus-specific Hope for the World Missions Offering goal of $60,000
- Over 700 people served in mission projects with our MTI ministry partners
- We saw 51 professions of faith, 39 baptisms, and had 141 people indicate some form of gospel response after our worship services
THE CHURCH AT

West Franklin

2016 proved to be an incredible year for The Church at West Franklin. God is at work, and He has chosen to allow us to join Him in the task. This is evidenced by the reality that, for the first time, our Sunday morning attendance has surpassed the 400 mark several Sundays. Vacation Bible School numbers doubled from the year before in both registration and baptisms. The number of students involved in a LIFE Group more than doubled, including 15 new sixth graders who moved up to the student ministry. Both our choir and musicians doubled in number. Likewise, the number of The Church at West Franklin members who participated in local and international missions increased every month throughout the year. Over 100 members were involved with the Engage Middle Tennessee day.

The highlight of the year came when a middle aged man surrendered to Christ during the "Our Mess, His Masterpiece" sermon series in August and September. He came to the realization that he, like Judah in the Bible, desperately needed a Savior. He and his wife were both baptized within a couple of weeks. Now he, along with his entire family, are actively involved in worship, discipleship, and service. As God wills, we will join Him in seeing more unchurched and lost souls come to faith in His Son, be baptized, and become disciples who make disciples.

THE CHURCH AT

Woodbine

2016 was a year of growth and maturity at The Church at Woodbine. We launched Begin Anew in the fall. Adults from over a dozen countries are coming not only to learn English, but to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ through our “Storying” discipleship. This past summer we had a VBS Sports Camp, where over 100 children participated for a week, and 19 children gave their lives to Jesus. Seven of them are being discipled through our weekly Good News Bible Club as part of our Day Care ministry. We went on our first Mission Journey to Rogersville, TN where 30 people gave their lives to Jesus. Our Urban Arts Center “The Battleground” launched at the beginning of 2016, and we are seeing up to 35 children and students participating, four of whom have given their lives to Christ. We have also sent out three missionary units to the mission field in Africa, Taiwan, and the Middle East. Finally, we had our first “Christmas Around the World” musical, with over 400 people in attendance, incorporating five different languages in the service.

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CONGREGATION

Kairos

Kairos is an honest and unique way for young adults to connect to God and each other. We do this through worship, community, and service. We are proud of our people and love it when we hear stories of healing and hospitality, especially when it involves those who are wounded and skeptical of the church.

Like the story of James Dunkin, who was invited to a Thanksgiving meal hosted by one of our Kairos leaders: “I didn’t know what to expect. I wasn’t sure if I would be judged or looked down on. You hear so many bad stories about Christians that de-humanize them. That is just not true! Tonight I fell in love with this group of individuals, each having their own story to tell, their own walk with Jesus and purpose. I’ve only know each of them for a short time but they already feel like family.” James is now fully engaged in the Kairos Community and meeting weekly with his Bible Reading Group.

CONGREGATION

The Deaf Church

The first sermon of the year challenged members to engage the Middle Tennessee Deaf Community. We quickly encountered the Deaf Community producing about 40 new Deaf contacts, and about mid-year we shared with the community the launch of the DeafGo Bible App. People around the world are logging into the Bible app and seeing the Word of God in sign language. It is stirring a hunger for God’s Word around the world and right here in Middle Tennessee. We cannot begin to measure the impact all of this is having in the Deaf Community locally, nationally, or around the world.

Our third group of students graduated from the Deaf Theological Center, equipped for God’s next steps in their lives.

Camp SummerSign is a place that engages Middle Tennessee Deaf children, youth, their siblings, and families for 8 weeks. Children from 8 surrounding counties attend this camp. This summer we focused on producing the program “God’s Creation” which was performed on the final night of camp. The audience was filled with their teachers, interpreters, parents, extended family members, our church members, and many of you cheering on these amazing kids. God’s creation came to life that night!

These are a few of the ways we engaged our community and the world through technology, training, and connecting the Deaf to Jesus Christ.

WINS

- 6 high school students, 10 children, and 1 parent professed faith in Christ and 4 teenagers were baptized through Camp SummerSign

- The DeafGo Bible App launched 200 Bible stories in the heart language of the Deaf

- The Deaf Theological Center class included 2 Deaf from China who returned to China to serve with Story One Team, 3 who are serving with IMB, and 2 who are working with the DeafGo Bible Project
Worship
- 542 Choir members
- 170 Worship & Arts Academy students
- 23 Worship & Arts Academy teachers

Discipleship
- 841 Discipleship Groups
- 22,465 people enrolled in Discipleship Groups
- 59 new LIFE Groups
- 7,002 people attended weekly Discipleship Groups

Preschool
- 80 children dedicated through 8 Parent-Child Dedication Services
- POPS (Parents of Preschoolers)
  - 3 dinners
  - 151 parents
  - 8 Moms Coffees
  - 11 Moms Dessert Nights

Children
- VBS
  - 2,593 children
  - 844 leaders
  - $12,350 given to missions
  - 78 salvations
- 92 children participated in the New Christian Class/Exploring Christ Class
- 14 Backyard Kids Clubs
  - 206 children
  - 106 leaders
- 74 children attended Kids Camp

Students
- Summer Events
  - 11 salvations
  - 10 recommitted lives
  - 40 student baptisms
- 6th Grade Escape
  - 78 students
  - 12 leaders
- Fall Retreat
  - 371 students
  - 70 leaders
- Beach Camp
  - 280 students
  - 56 leaders
- Vancouver & Chicago Mission Journeys
  - 111 students
  - 43 leaders
- Mission 615 & Mission 931
  - 92 students
  - 23 leaders
- Snowball Girls Retreat & Anvil Guys Retreat
  - 230 students
  - 71 leaders

JourneyOn Today
- 491 app downloads
- Website views
  - 13,129 Groups Finder page
  - 10,053 JourneyOn Today page
  - 2,552 JourneyOn Discipleship page
- 9,900 Foundations curriculum books distributed

Service
- 554 PLACE participants
- 52 couples in Building Blocks for Marriage
- $129,915 distributed through Benevolence
- 29 Celebration of Life services
- 82 DivorceCare & DC4K participants
- 16 graduates from REBOOT Combat Recovery

NurturE Team
- 8,379 cards written
- 818 flower arrangements sent
- 608 Care & Blessing Baskets given
- 84 Prayer Shawls created
- 85 freezer meals created
- 166 delivered meals prepared
- 71 Operation Enduring Blessing Boxes sent to active military
- 300 Smile Aids
- 21 Baby Baskets given

Prayer Ministry
- 20,542 Prayer Room Prayergrams, emails, & phone calls

Deacons
- 332 Deacons
- 24 Deacon teams
- 54 new Deacons
- 2,208 hospital/rehabilitation visits
- 646 care visits (assisted living/nursing home/homebound)

SeniorLink
- 1,000 stockings and $6,300 given in gift cards for the Copper Basin
Missions
- 17,169 instances of local missions involvement
- 41 missionary units (total of 68 men, women, and children) served as missionaries in 26 countries
- 631 members went on Mission Journeys
- 794 professions of faith on the field
- 751 members trained for evangelism

Deaf Ministry
- The Deaf Theological Center graduated 8 students who earned 15 units of credit from Union University
- DeafGo Bible Resource
  - 267 Bible stories translated and filmed in American Sign Language
  - 12,000 app downloads
  - Viewed in 34 countries

Medical Dental Unit
- 56 salvations
- 41 outreach events
- 595 volunteers
- 818 patients
- 1,003 teeth pulled
- $261,545 in free dental services provided

Christmas Food Baskets
- 741 volunteers
- 900+ baskets prepared and delivered

Food Drives
- 27,889 pounds of food given
- 1,110 volunteers
- 488 cars dropped off food during the drives

Church Planting Partnerships
- 9 church planting partners
- 296 salvations
- 166 baptisms

Communications
- 1,167,899 website views among all six campuses
- 17,390 followers on all social media accounts

Year Over Year Percentage Increases
- ↑28% 116 Salvations
- ↑29% 203 Baptisms
- ↑5% 10,602 Members (632 in 2016)
- ↑7% 6,031 Average Worship Attendance
- ↑14% Christmas Eve Services Attendance

$18.7 Million
Given toward the $17.25 Million budget | 8% above the budget

$1.38 Million
Given toward the $1.2 Million Hope for the World Missions Offering Goal | 15% above the goal