

## **ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION STRATEGIST**

Title: ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION STRATEGIST

Classification: Full-time salaried Ministerial Staff

Recruited by: Associational Mission Strategist Search Committee

Employed By: Executive Committee

Accountable to: Executive Committee

### Qualifications:

1. The Associational Mission Strategist must be a person with a sense of call to missions.
2. He must be a person who demonstrates deep Christian commitment as exemplified by daily Christian living, church attendance, tithing, witnessing, etc.
3. He must possess sufficient formal training to qualify him to perform the duties of the office - preferably college and seminary, or their equivalent.
4. He must hold strong convictions concerning Baptist doctrines and polity.
5. He must be thoroughly cooperative with the work of the Alabama Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention, and their affiliated bodies.
6. He must exhibit sufficient experience in management and administration to enable him to plan, establish, coordinate, conduct and evaluate the association's work.

### Principal Function:

To lead the Marshall Baptist Association to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the cooperative effort of her member churches. The local church exists to glorify God through making disciples of all people. Our Association exists for the churches. Our purpose can only be achieved through the advancement of the Kingdom of God through the local church.

The Associational Mission Strategist's primary role is to ensure the following takes place: To ENCOURAGE the local pastors and church leadership by ministering to and supporting them; To EQUIP pastors and ministry leaders of the local church; and to harness the power of our collective churches to increase evangelism and mission by ENGAGING all people with the gospel locally and globally.

## Responsibilities:

- 1. WORK WITH AND ASSIST MINISTERS:** This involves being a pastor to the pastors, relating to the associational ministers' conference, assisting in church/minister conflicts, conferring with pastors wanting to move or considering a move, orienting new ministers in the association, developing pastoral support systems, and by providing growth opportunities for ministers.
- 2. WORK WITH AND ASSIST CHURCHES:** This involves helping churches to come to grips with the idea of and commitment to being on mission; assisting churches in fulfilling their mission, working with pastor search committees; visiting the churches for routine, crisis, ceremonial or functional visits. It also involves the idea of the association as a resource to the churches, Teaching and preaching in the churches (when invited to conduct revivals, supply or to do interim work, teach study courses, etc.)
- 3. STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE CHURCHES:** This emphasizes the concept of the association as a family of churches or as a network in which churches give and receive assistance among themselves. It involves a conscious fostering of fellowship and mutual commitments between and among the churches of the association, developing a sufficient degree of unity in faith and practice to enhance the fellowship and working together of the churches. The creation of an environment in which churches want to be on mission together is the essence of this function.
- 4. WORK WITH AND ASSIST ASSOCIATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERS:** This involves organizing the association in order to carry out the objectives of the association. It involves working with the executive board and with various committees and the officers of the association. It also involves working with the associational Council and program organizational leaders to develop the leadership team of the association.
- 5. PROVIDE MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP:** This involves leading the entire association of churches to develop and maintain a mission perspective; instigating or starting new work; establishing points of witness; using program organizations in mission work; interpreting to the association the needs of the persons in the association's area for evangelism, ministry, or mission enlistment, placement, training, and supervision of volunteers functioning as mission strategists for the association.
- 6. MAINTAIN DENOMINATIONAL AND OTHER EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS:** This involves relationships with other associations, state conventions, Southern Baptist Convention, other Baptist bodies, and other denominations or religious bodies; with business, social, educational, and welfare agencies; and with city, county, state, and national governments. It involves public relations and serving as the interpreter of the denomination to the churches and the interpreter of the churches to the denomination.

7. GENERAL LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION: This involves responsibility for leadership for the entire associational life and discerning priorities for the allocation of time, money, and other resources. Administering includes such processes as planning, organizing, enlisting, equipping, stimulating, guiding, coordinating, communicating, and evaluating the total work of the association.

8. OFFICE, BUSINESS, AND STAFF MANAGEMENT: This includes office management, staff supervision, financial management, property management, legal affairs, assisting churches to work together, and serving as a general resource person for denominational information.

9. OVERSEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARSHALL BAPTIST RETREAT CENTER IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RETREAT CENTER COMMITTEE AND THE RETREAT CENTER DIRECTOR: Give general supervision to the Retreat Center Director.

10. When staff vacancies occur the Associational Mission Strategist shall follow the guidelines of the Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual.