



THE  
CHURCH  
AT BLUE RIDGE



A community of disciples being changed by the  
Gospel using their gifts to multiply disciples in  
Blue Ridge and around the world.

# THE CHURCH AT BLUE RIDGE

If you had asked Rodney and I five years ago what we thought we would be doing today, planting a church would have been the last thing either of us would have told you. Five years ago, I was just entering seminary in North Carolina, and Rodney was pastoring a church in South Georgia. He was married with kids and I was single. We were hundreds of miles apart in both location and season of life, and each of us had very different ideas of God's plan for our lives—we didn't even know the other existed yet.

But even then, God was at work sovereignly orchestrating the events of our lives for His good purposes. God eventually sent us both back to Greenville, SC and brought us together at The Church at Cherrydale. After seminary, I was struggling to find my place in the church world, and Rodney was emerging from a season of rest away from local church ministry. For both of us one thing was sure, we knew God had called us to serve the church, we just didn't know when, where, or how.

But God knew all of this, and there at TCC under the leadership of the pastors. God birthed and confirmed a dream in both of our hearts. We were supposed to be church planters, and we were supposed to plant a church in a part of Northern Greenville county called Blue Ridge.

Months of planning and praying have gone into our preparation to see this dream become reality. We will both admit to you that we had no idea how to "plant a church," when we started, and in many ways, we still don't. But we are learning, and more importantly God is being faithful in spite of our weakness. He has shown us tremendous grace over the past months as we have been planning, building relationships, and now raising support.

We are convinced that planting a church in Blue Ridge is what God has called us to do, and we know that He will be faithful to see the dream he has given us become reality. We are excited about the great things God is going to do in the future, and we pray that as you read on that you would consider how you and your family might play a part.

In Christ,

*Rodney Bradford*

*Robert McKinney*





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"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ""The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.""

**MATTHEW 9:36-38**



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# Do We Really Need Another Church?

For many, the thought of planting another church seems unnecessary. Particularly in the Southeast, there is a church on every street, or at least it seems that way. While it is true that the Southeast has an overwhelming number of churches, it is important to consider the following:

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- 1 We need as many tools as possible as we seek to reach North America with the Gospel.
  - 2 Not every church in the south is adequately reaching its community with the Gospel.
  - 3 Church planting was commanded by Jesus and practiced by the early church.
  - 4 It is working around the world.
  - 5 It allows for the creation of healthy church values at the outset of the church.
  - 6 It aids in the transformation of a community.
  - 7 It motivates and encourages existing churches in a community.



## THE PEOPLE OF NORTH AMERICA

- The total US population is 301 million people.
- Four out of five Americans do not go to any church (approximately 240 million people). To put that number in context, if the unchurched population in the US were its own country, it would be the eleventh most populated nation on the earth.
- Most of the church-going population are located in rural America, as the percentage of church goers drops drastically in the cities.
- Of the 301 million people living in the United States, only 15 million of those have surrendered their lives in obedience to Christ.
- North America is the only continent in the world where the church is not growing.

## THE CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

- Only 17.5 percent of Americans were in church on any given Sunday in 2008.
- In the last 15 years, church attendance has decreased by 36 million people nationwide; while the population of the United States has increased by more than 30 million people.
- No county in America has a greater percentage of churched persons today than a decade ago.
- Southern Baptist churches only baptize 3.4 people per 100 resident members.
- Almost 4,000 churches close each year (10 per day, 72 per week); while only 1,200 churches are started each year (3 per day, 24 per week).
- In proportion to the population of the US, there are less than half as many churches in the United States today as in 1900.
- The church-to-population ratio in the United States peaked at one church for every 430 in World War I, but today there is only one church for every 6,194 people.

## **Why Do We Need Another Church in South Carolina?**

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There are an estimated 4.7 million people in South Carolina, and 70% do not claim to be born again believers.

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On any given weekend, only 22.7% of the population of South Carolina is attending a church (evangelical, mainline, or catholic).

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On any given weekend, only 16.2% of the population of South Carolina is attending an evangelical church.

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Only 7% of the population of South Carolina is attending an SBC church.

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The attendance in evangelical churches in the state decreased by 1.4% between 1990 and 2005 in spite of the growth in population and the seeming increase in the number of churches.

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Only 28% of people ages 18-34 attend church.

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The average attendance of churches in the state is 130 people.

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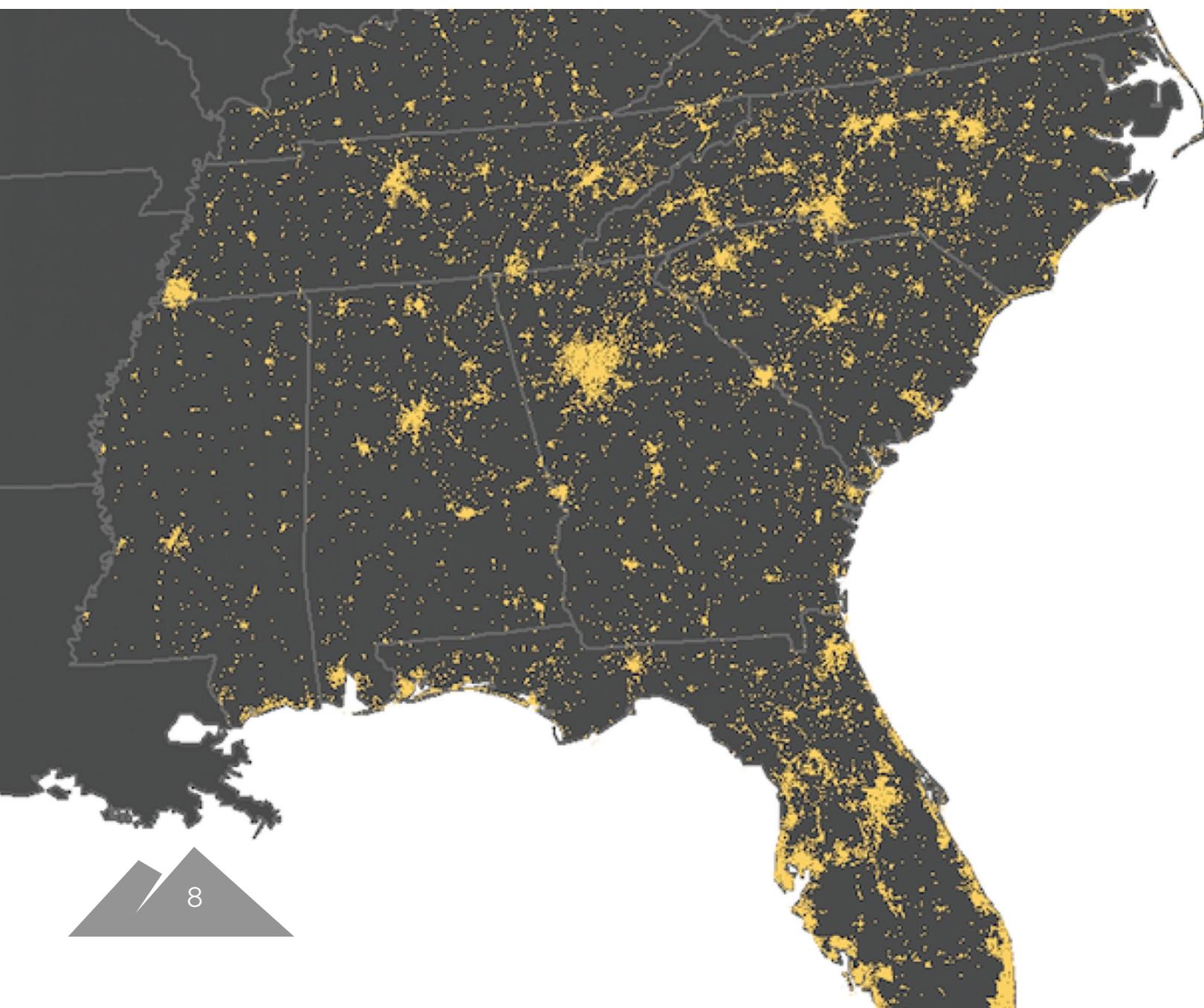
A net gain of 344 new churches is needed by 2030 in order to maintain 2010 church-to-population ratio. That is just to maintain the current level of churches.

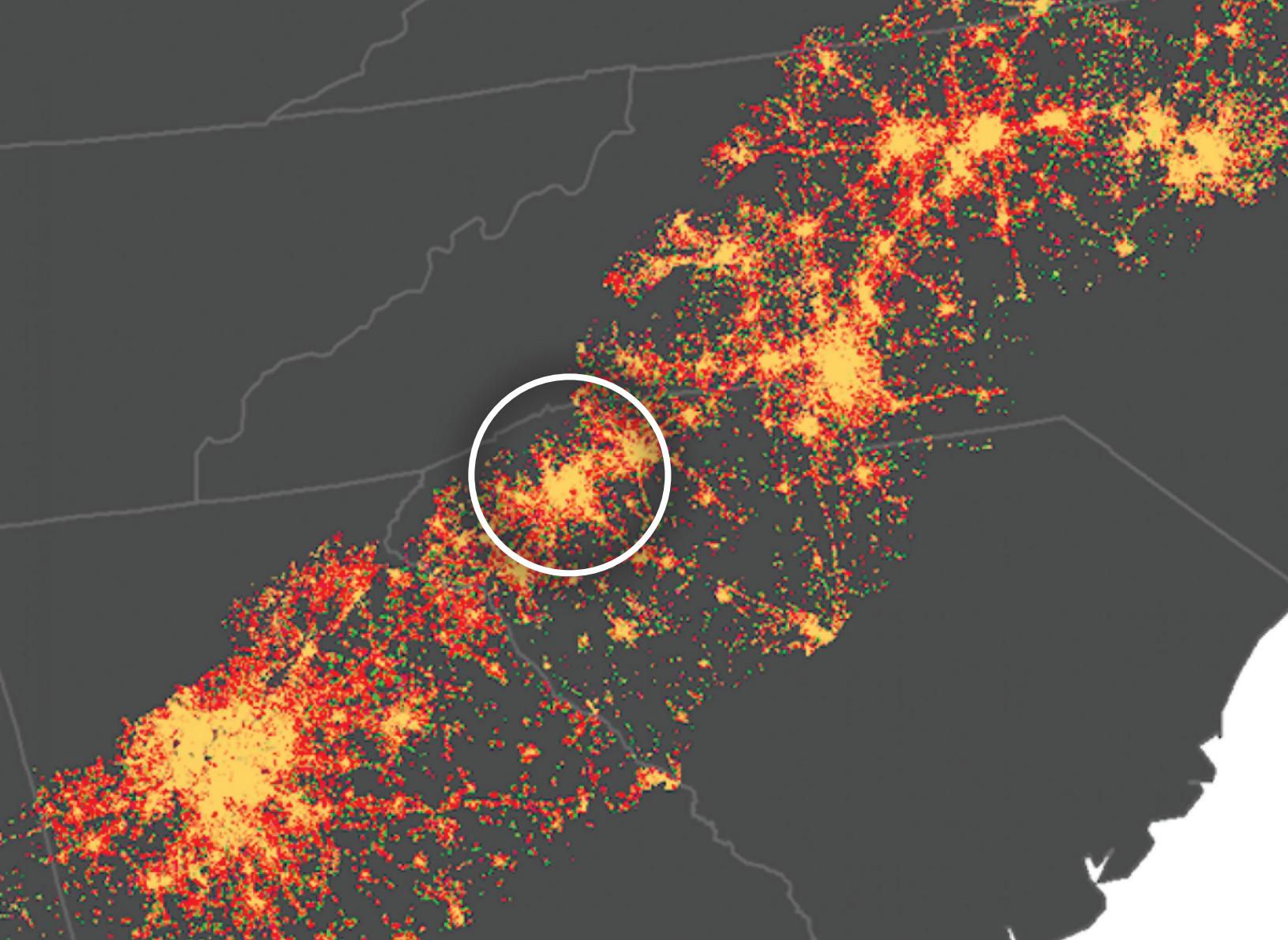
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## WHY DO WE NEED ANOTHER CHURCH IN THE UPSTATE?

Approximately 1.3 million people live in the counties which comprise the Upstate of South Carolina. Statistics show that Greenville County, the largest in this area, is experiencing some of the fastest growth in the state. As of April 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the population of Greenville County to be around 451,225, and expected it to grow by another 23,000 in just 3 years.

**Below** is a map of the current urbanization of the American South East. The map displays the concentration areas of urban centers as of 2009.





**Above** is a map of the projected urbanization of the American South East in next 45 years.

If these current trends hold true, and there is no reason to think otherwise, the landscape of the Southeast and the Upstate will look very different in the next 45 years.

But sadly the church is ill-equipped to handle it. Within Greenville County, 20 percent (or 90,245 people) of the population is actively involved in a local church. This means that 80 percent (or 360,980 people) are not connected to a local church. In addition, there are currently only 278 Evangelical churches attempting to reach all 451,225 people. For the entire population to be reached with the message of the gospel and integrated into a local church, each church would have to average approximately 1,600 people.

# Who Are We?

**"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; "** -Isaiah 61:1-2

## **VISION**

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A community of disciples being changed by the  
Gospel using their gifts to multiply disciples in  
Blue Ridge and around the world.

## **MISSION**

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Making Faithful Disciples through  
the Gospel of Jesus.



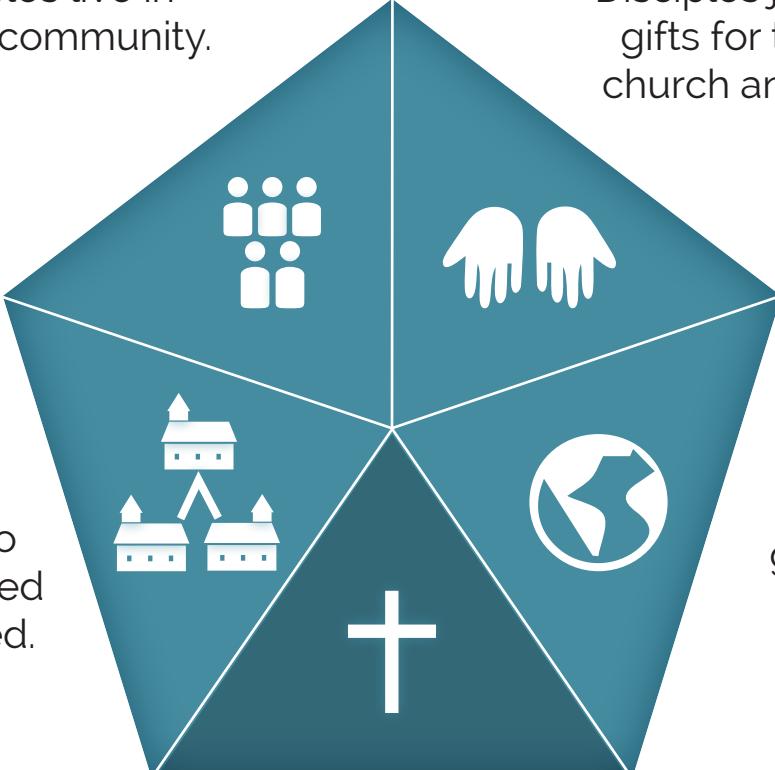
## CORE VALUES

Disciples live in biblical community.

Disciples joyfully invest their gifts for the benefit of the church and their neighbors.

Disciples desire to see Gospel-centered churches multiplied.

Disciples share the good news of Jesus with others in both word and deed.



Disciples begin their journey by embracing the Gospel of Jesus.

# What We Believe

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## THE HOLY BIBLE

Consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament, the Bible is alone and entirely the Word of God. The Scriptures are the God-breathed revelation of God Himself and is therefore wholly true in everything that it affirms and are thus without error in their original manuscripts. They were written by human authors under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and serve as the unique, final, and full authority on all matters of faith and practice and serve as the supreme guide for testing what is right and true in all cases. While one's limited abilities, traditional biases, personal sin, and cultural assumptions may often obscure the meaning of the Biblical texts, the work of the Holy Spirit can guide one into a right understanding and application of its intended meaning (Num. 23:19; Ps. 18:30, 19:7, 119:18, 119:96; Prov. 30:5; Is. 40:8; Matt. 22:29, 24:35; Mk. 13:31; Jn. 11:51, 14:26, 16:13-17, 20:31; Acts 20:32; 1 Cor. 2:13, 14:37; 1 Tim. 3:16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 6:18; 1 Pet. 1:10-11; 2 Pet. 1: 20-21, 3:16).

## GOD

There is but one living and true God who is Creator, Sustainer, and Ruler of all things. This sovereign and all-glorious God, having in and of Himself all perfections and being infinite in them all, exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. To Him, all people owe supreme worship manifested in love, respect, trust, and obedience to Him as the rightful ruler of life (Deut. 6:4; Ps. 115:3, 138:5, 145:3; Jer. 10:10; Dan. 4:25; Matt. 16:16, 28:18-19; Mk. 12:29; Jn. 1:3, 1:14; Acts 5:3-4; Rom. 11:36; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; 10:31; Eph. 4:30; Col. 1:16-17, 2:9; 1 Tim. 1:17).

## TRINITY

Each member of the Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, are one God and exist without any division in nature, essence or being and are equal in all measures of the divine perfections. These three execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation and redemption and are worthy of the same confidence, obedience, and worship (Gen. 1:1, 26; Matt. 3:16-17, 28:19; Jn. 1:1-3, 4:24; Rom. 1:19, 20; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 4:5-6).

## GOD THE FATHER

God the Father exists as a personal, loving being who graciously and mercifully concerns himself with the affairs of humans. For His glory and by His word, He created the world out of nothing and continues to uphold, sustain, and govern all things in order to magnify His glory and to bring about His good, pleasing, and perfect will. He is all-powerful, all-loving, and all-wise and is perfect in each of the divine perfections. He hears and answers prayer and saves from sin and death all those who come to Him through Christ Jesus. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ, yet He remains fatherly in His attitude toward all men (Gen. 45:5-7; Is. 40:26, 41:21-23; Ps. 33:10-11; Prov. 16:9, 33, 19:21; Lam. 3:37-38; Am. 3:6; Matt. 23:9; Lk. 10:21-22; Jn. 3:16, 6:27; Rom. 1:7, 11:36-12:2; 1 Tim. 1:1-2, 2:5-6; 1 Pet. 1:3; Rev. 1:6).

## What We Believe, cont.

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### JESUS

Jesus Christ is God's only begotten son, born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life in his existence as fully God and fully man incarnate. During his life, he taught and worked many wonders and signs of God's kingdom on this earth as recorded in the four Gospels. He was crucified and buried as a substitutionary, atoning sacrifice for the sins of mankind and was raised from the dead bodily on the third day. Following his resurrection, He ascended to the Father's right hand where He is the head of the church and intercedes on behalf of the saints. He eternally exists as the divinely appointed mediator between God and man and perfectly fulfills and upholds the office of Prophet, Priest, and King of the Church. At the end of the age, he will return to this earth personally, bodily, and visibly (Is. 53:10-12; Matt. 1:18-25, 16:16-27, 20:28, 28:6; Lk. 1:26-38; Jn. 1:1, 14, 18, 10:30, 17:3, 20:28, 30-31; Acts 1:9-11, 20:28; Rom. 5:6-8, 6:9-10, 8:34, 9:5; 1 Cor. 8:6, 15:3-8; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; Eph. 1:4; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-20; 1 Tim. 2:5, 3:16; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:1-3, 4:15, 7:25, 9:28; 1 Pet. 2:21-23; Rev. 12:10).

### HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is God, possesses all the divine attributes, and proceeds from the Father and the Son in order to bring glory to the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit's role is to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He indwells all believers, baptizes and seals them at the moment of salvation, and regenerates, sanctifies, and empowers all who believe in Jesus. In empowering those to live a Christ-like life, he uniquely endows each believer with gifts for the building up of the body, guides believers in understanding and applying the Scriptures, and is an abiding Helper, Teacher, and Guide (Jn. 14:16-17, 26, 15:26-27, 16:9-14; Rom. 8:9, 14-17; 1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 1:13-14).

### CREATION & PROVIDENCE

God created the universe out of nothing by the power of His spoken Word for the purpose of displaying His eternal power and glory in order to bring glory to Him. The eternal God decrees or permits all things to come to pass and perpetually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events so as to maximize the glory due His name. His providential control of the world does not in any way make Him the author or approver of sin nor does it destroy the responsibility of moral beings who were created for the eternal joy of his possession (Gen. 1; Deut. 26:18; Prov. 16:33; Is. 35:10, 43:7, 46:9-11; Matt. 25:23; Jn. 1:1-3; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; James 1:13-15; 1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 5:9, 7:9-10).

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## **MAN**

God created Adam from the dust of the ground and Eve from his side, and they form the foundation for all mankind. Men and women were both created in the image of God as the supreme object of His creation and were created for a loving relationship with God in order to bring glory to Him. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God in creation. One man and one woman were united in marriage and appointed with different, yet complementary, roles as a picture of Christ's love for the Church. The reality that all of humanity is created in the image of God means that every person, regardless of race or social status possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love (Gen. 1:26-27, 2:1-7, 3:1-7, 16-19, 19:6:5, 12:8-21; Jer. 17:9; Jn. 5:24; Rom. 1:18-23, 3:9-23, 5:12-19, 6:21, 23, 7:13, 8:6-7, 9:22; Eph. 2:1-3; 2 Thes. 1:9; James 1:14-15; 1 Jn. 3:14; Rev. 21:8).

## **SIN**

Both men and women were originally created without sin for relationship with God; however, through the deception of Satan, man choose to believe lies and willfully rebelled against God and His Word by choosing to take what was forbidden and thus declared their independence from, distrust for, and disobedience towards God. Through this willful act of sin, man fell from his sinless state and as a result the human creation was forever marred by physical, spiritual, and eternal death and the entire creation was likewise subject to futility, including sickness, decay, calamity, and loss. Adam's fall became the fall of all his posterity in such a way that the corruption, guilt, death, and condemnation belong rightly to every person in the human race and they now inherit

a nature and an environment inclined toward sin and evil. Man is born corrupt by nature, marred by an attitude and posture of disobedience to God known as sin, enslaved by choice to this sin, and morally unable to worship God rightly, and therefore under his just condemnation (Gen. 3:1-7; Ps. 1:1-6; Rom. 3:9-23, 6:12-23; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 2:4-9; Col. 3:5-6; Heb. 12:3-4).

## **SALVATION**

In the fullness of time, God, by his sovereign choice and his love for mankind, sent Jesus to bring people back into right fellowship with God and proper worship of Him. Through coming to the earth as a man, living a perfect life, dying in man's place, and being raised to new life, Christ absorbed our punishment, appeased the wrath of God against us, and removed the condemnation of the law against us. Through his substitutionary, atoning death, Jesus took upon Himself the payment for all those who would trust in Him thereafter, and all those who were saved prior to His death. Through the cross men of every tribe, tongue, and nation can be justified to God through his gracious and full acquittal of sinners, who believe in Christ on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ (Ex. 36:25-26; John 1:13-16, 3:3-16, 5-8; Acts 10:43, 13:39; Rom. 3:24-26, 4:23-25, 5:1-21, 8:1; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:1-9; Phil. 3:7-9; Col. 2:13-14, 3:13; Titus 3:5-6; 1 Jn. 2:12, 5:1).

### REPENTANCE AND FAITH

This gift of salvation is wholly a work of God's grace and is not the result of man's works. Regeneration, the act of coming to life in Christ, is a change of heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit who gives life to those dead in sin enlightening their minds spiritually and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. However, the receipt of salvation, and the resulting forgiveness of sin, is personally predicated upon and appropriated by repentance and faith. Faith is belief, on God's authority, in whatever is revealed in His word concerning Christ and accepting and resting upon Him alone for salvation. This faith results in genuine repentance which is evidenced when a person, being convicted by the Holy Spirit of the manifold evil of his sin, detects and forsakes it, humbling himself, endeavoring to walk with the Lord as a result of Godly sorrow. The result is a righteousness that comes by grace alone through faith alone (Prov. 28:13; Matt. 3:8-10; Mk. 1:15; Jn. 3:16, 36, 5:24, 6:40, 44, 65; Acts 2:37-38, 11:18, 13:38-39, 17:30, 20:21; Rom. 2:4-5, 3:21-28, 4:1-5, 4:17-25, 8:1, 10:3-4, 14, 17; 2 Cor. 5:21, 7:10-11; Phil. 1:29, 3:9; Eph. 2:8-10; Heb. 11:6; James 2:14-26).

### SANCTIFICATION

Those regenerated and justified by the death of Jesus are also sanctified by God's Word and the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Sanctification is the process of transformation into the image and likeness of Jesus through joyful obedience to all of Christ's commands which results in the regular and repeated production of the fruits of the Spirit. This process of sanctification, which all saints seek to obtain, is progressive in one's life

through the supply of divine strength. While this process remains imperfect and incomplete in this life, it is evidence of the reality of conversion and will result in a continual war with sin in order to realize the full stature of maturity in Christ to the glory of God (Ps. 1:1-3, 119:11; Matt. 6:11-12, 7:19-27; Mk. 13:22; Jn. 10:27-30, 14:13, 17:17-19; Rom. 12:1-2, 15:16; 1 Cor. 1:30, 6:11; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 5:22-23, 6:7-10; Eph. 1:4, 1:18-19, 5:3-6; Phil. 1:9-11, 2:12-13, 3:12-16; Col. 1:9-10, 3:17; 1 Thes. 4:3, 5:23; 2 Thes. 1:11, 2:13; 1 Tim. 6:6-10; Heb. 2:11, 6:1, 7:1, 10:10, 12:1-2, 10, 13:5; 1 Pet. 2:12; 2 Pet. 1:3-11; 1 Jn. 2:3-6, 2:29, 3:16-18; Rev. 21:8).

### SECURITY

Those truly redeemed by Jesus, are eternally secure and thus cannot lose their salvation. Though they may fall, through neglect or temptation, into sin, and in so doing, impair their graces and comforts, interrupt the joy of their fellowship with God, bring reproach on the church, and incur temporal judgment and discipline from God the Father, they shall be renewed again unto repentance and can never finally fall away from the state of grace by the power of God (Jer. 32:40; Matt. 13:20-21; Jn. 6:66-69, 8:31; Rom. 8:28-39; Phil. 1:6; Heb. 13:5; 1 Jn. 2:27-28, 3:9, 5:12, 18).

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## CHURCH

The Church is one universal body comprised of all those who place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ alone. The universal Church finds its expression in autonomous, local congregations who covenant together for the purpose of worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, promotion of love and unity, service to the body, and outreach to the world. Whenever God's people meet regularly in obedience to these commands, there is the local expression of the church, which serves as a city set on a hill intent on glorifying the Lord by being a pillar of truth in a truth-denying world. The church serves as the living, spiritual body of which the Lord Jesus is the all-supplying, all-sustaining, all-supreme, and all-authoritative head and to which he appointed elders to lead, deacons to serve, and all regenerated persons to minister. The church exists for the glory of God by magnifying Him in the world (Ps. 67; Matt. 5:14-16, 28:19; Lk. 22:19; Jn. 4:7, 10:16; Acts 1:8, 2:42-47, 6:1-6, 20:17-28; Rom. 3:22; Gal. 6:10; Eph. 1:22, 2:19-22, 3:6-10, 4:11-16, 5:19-23; Col. 1:18, 3:16; 1 Tim. 3:1-12; Titus 1:5-9; Heb. 3:13, 10:24-25; 1 Pet. 5:1-3).

## ORDINANCES

The Lord instituted two specific ordinances to the church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. The act of baptism is obligatory on every believer and is an act by which those who have repented to display their union with Christ in his death and resurrection and their forgiveness of sins by being immersed in water in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This symbol of fellowship with Christ and with his church is a prerequisite for membership in this church. In a similar fashion, the Lord's Supper is a

symbol instituted by the Lord Jesus to commemorate his death and to serve as a pledge and renewal of our communion with Him and with each other. Through remembrance of Christ, one is reminded to wait in hopeful expectation for His return, proclaim His death until he comes, and feed on Christ rather than the world in the meantime. This Supper is to be observed regularly by the church until Jesus returns (Matt. 26:26-29, 28:18-20; Lk. 22:19-20; Jn. 3:23, 6:53-57; Acts 2:38, 8:36-39; Rom. 2:28-29, 4:16, 6:2-5; 1 Cor. 10:16-17, 11:23-31, 12:13; Gal. 3:7, 3:26-27; Col. 2:11-12; Heb. 10:22; 1 Pet. 3:21; 1 Jn. 2:15-17).

## LAST THINGS

The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God – the righteous to rest with Him; the wicked, to be reserved for the final judgment. The bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised. The Lord Jesus will one day return personally and visibly to the earth to establish His kingdom and judge the living and the dead: the wicked shall go into everlasting and conscious punishment, the righteous, into everlasting life. In so doing, those redeemed by the death of Jesus will forever bring glory to Him and enjoy His presence (Ps. 16:11; Dan. 12:2; Matt. 3:12, 25:23, 16:27, 25:31-46; Mk. 9:43-48, 13:26-27, 14:61-62; Lk. 23:23; Jn. 5:28-29, 14:3; Acts 1:9-11, 17:31; Rom. 2:6-11; 1 Cor. 4:5, 13:12, 15:12-28, 51-57; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Phil. 3:20; 1 Thes. 4:15, 5:2-3; 2 Thes. 1:7-10; 2 Tim. 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13; Jude 24-25; Rev. 5:11-14, 14:11, 20:4-6, 11-15, 21:1-8).



# What's The Plan?



## THE LOCATION: BLUE RIDGE

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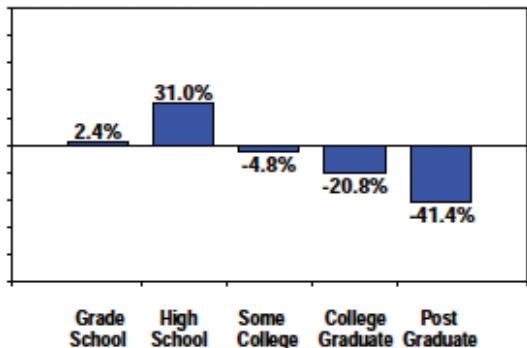
Located in the northern part of Greenville County, Blue Ridge is a rural suburb of the greater city of Greenville. From 2000 to 2010 the population of Blue Ridge has increased 45% as a result of Greenville's growing industry. As a result of this rapid population growth, the subsequent need for an increased Gospel witness in the area and an over all decline in the area's present Gospel ministry, we believe the need exists for a healthy Gospel centered church in Blue Ridge.

# THE PEOPLE

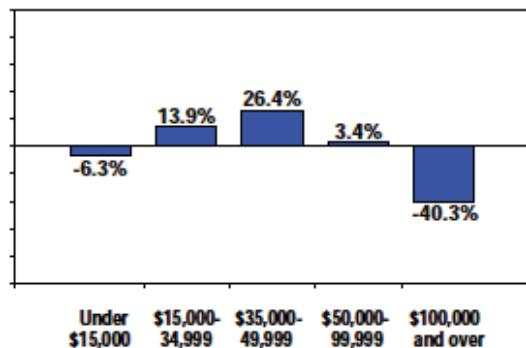
## Population

Blue Ridge Middle School 2423 East Tyger Bridge Rd. Greer, SC 29651	3 Mile Radius	5 Mile Radius
1990	3,414	10,772
2000	4,676	14,625
2012	6,500	21,251
Population Increase Since 1990	90%	97%
Average Income	\$55,467.00	\$57,696.00
Average Age	37	36

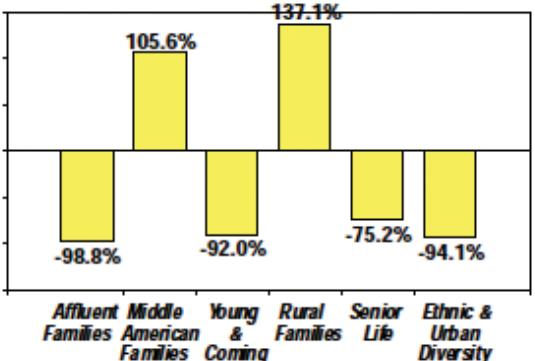
## Education Completed by Adults



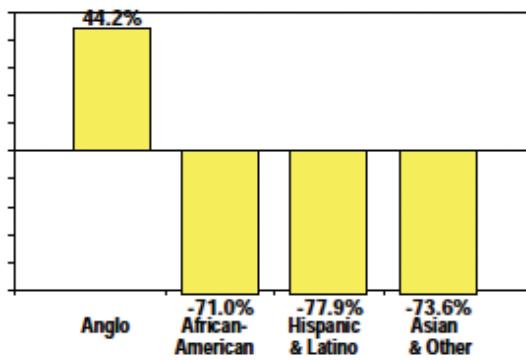
## Household Income



## U.S. Lifestyles Group



## Race/Ethnicity





## THE CORPORATIONS

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Blue Ridge has quickly become a suburb of the greater Greenville metro and thus home to many who work at corporations like BMW and GE. One can only assume that as these businesses continue to grow, so will the population of Blue Ridge. Concerning attractiveness of business to the region, the Greenville Area Development Corporation writes:

*Greenville County is the centerpiece of the region considered to be the “economic engine of South Carolina” and the most populous county in the state. Since its beginning as a small farming community in 1786, Greenville County has grown into a large and diverse metropolitan area and one of the Southeast region’s premier areas for business. Over the past thirty years, Greenville has transformed itself from the textile capital of the world to a destination for a diverse industry base that includes corporate office, manufacturing, and warehousing/distribution operations. Greenville is now home to world-class companies such as Lockheed, General Electric, and IBM.\**

\* <http://www.greenvilleanconomicdevelopment.com/existing-business-industry.php>

## THE SCHOOLS

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The School District of Greenville County operates two public elementary schools in addition to a middle and high school in the Blue Ridge area. Together they represent the single most important gateway to the community. Indeed much of life in Blue Ridge revolves around the public school system. If a church is to be successful in effectively reaching Blue Ridge with the Gospel, it will have to successfully navigate and establish meaningful long term relationships with school administrators, teachers, parents and students.

Both North Greenville University and The Benson Campus of Greenville Technical college are located in Blue Ridge. North Greenville just welcomed its largest freshman class and continues to expand its campus and degree program offerings, Greenville Technical College continues to grow as more business requiring highly skilled employees move into Greenville. These campuses will provide a unique opportunity for The Church at Blue Ridge to minister to students from all over the world.

# THE CHURCH AT BLUE RIDGE (TCBR) TIMELINE

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<b>PREPARATION STAGE</b>	(Nov 2014 - Feb 2015)	<b>SOFT LAUNCH STAGE</b>	(Sept 2015-Dec 2015)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Pray for and grow in understanding of the people living in the targeted area.</li><li>2. Establish support partnerships for church plant.</li><li>3. Reach out and develop relationships with existing congregations in the target area.</li><li>4. Complete church branding (website).</li><li>5. Develop church planting budget for Year 1 and plan for reaching.</li><li>6. Seek relationships with church planting organizations and missional churches.</li><li>7. Regular meeting with elders of The Church at Cherrydale (sending congregation).</li><li>8. Establish strong prayer team.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Commission service by The Church at Cherrydale.</li><li>2. Begin regular worship gatherings (“Soft Launch”) for TCBR.</li><li>3. Launch regular Small Group gatherings and leadership development for TCBR.</li><li>4. Have consistent church missionary participation in local schools and community organizations.</li><li>5. Prepare for TCBR “Hard Launch” - Public Worship.</li><li>6. Establish Discipling Clusters in the community (one-on-one, one-on-two).</li><li>7. Increase announcement of presence in the community (billboards, church signage, direct mail, etc.).</li><li>8. Work to finalize prayer and support partnerships.</li></ol>		
<b>TRANSITION STAGE</b>	(Feb 2015 - Aug 2015)	<b>HARD LAUNCH STAGE</b>	(Jan 2016-Jan 2018)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Establish a Core Planting Team.</li><li>2. Hold Vision Casting and Information Gatherings (February, March).</li><li>3. Regular weekly gathering of Core Team (Beginning April).</li><li>4. Encourage Core Team to participate in worship with The Church at Cherrydale.</li><li>5. Engage in Core Team missionary service events in Blue Ridge (June, July, August).</li><li>6. Connect with local community leaders (school principals, organizations, business professionals, etc.).</li><li>7. Continue in establishing prayer and support partnerships.</li></ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Regular public worship gatherings.</li><li>2. Actively saturate community through bold witness and consistent servant missionary activities.</li><li>3. Continue strategic investment in community organizations for relationship building and witness presence.</li><li>4. Conduct first membership connection gatherings.</li><li>5. Identify and develop ministry leaders and increase small group involvement.</li><li>6. Identify and develop potential elder candidates.</li><li>7. Celebrate with first membership gathering.</li><li>8. Prayerfully seek future church planting target area.</li><li>9. Prayerfully seek future international mission partnerships</li></ol>	



## RODNEY & KATHY BRADFORD

	Personal	Education	Ministry Experience
Rodney	Born: November 23, 1968 in Marietta, Georgia Raised: Greenville, South Carolina Married: July 23, 1994 to Kathy Jean Pasour Children: Emma, Elijah, Evan, Kate	Associate of Arts in Christian Related Vocations in 1990 from North Greenville University Bachelor of Arts in History in 1993 from Gardner-Webb University Master of Divinity in Pastoral Ministry in 2004 from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary	Church Planting Resident – The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC since 2013 Pastor – Arabi Baptist Church, Arabi, GA from 2006–11 Pastor – Smyrna Baptist Church, Vienna, GA from 2005–06 Youth Pastor – Friendship Baptist Church, Franklin, IN from 2000–01 Youth Pastor – Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Greer, SC from 1994–96 Minister of Youth and Children – First Baptist Church, Cherryville, NC from 1990–93
Kathy	Born: May 4, 1970 in Dallas, North Carolina Raised: Dallas, North Carolina Married: July 23 to Rodney Allen Bradford	Bachelor of Arts in English in 1992 from Gardner-Webb University Master of English Education in 1994 from Converse College	Over the past twenty years, Kathy has served local congregations in a variety of capacities. Her primary area of leadership has been in music ministries as both a worship leader and worship team member. Kathy has also taught at many women's conferences. She has a heart for discipling women and passionately pursues one-on-one discipleship relationships with younger women. Currently, one of her most important ministries is in homeschooling her four children.



## ROBERT & JULIE MCKINNEY

	Personal	Education	Ministry Experience
Robert	Born: May 27, 1987, in Darlington, South Carolina Raised: Pickens, SC Married: April 16, 2011 to Julie Marie Black Children: Expecting their first child in February 2015, a boy	Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies in 2009 from North Greenville University Master of Arts in Christian Ministry in 2012 from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary	Church Planting Resident- The Church at Cherrydale from 2013-Present Asistant Director of Adult Discipleship- Richland Creek Community Church from 2012-13 Facilities Team Leader- Providence Baptist Church from 2012-13 Youth Ministry Intern- Hampton Heights Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina from 2008-09
Julie	Born: May 4, 1987 in Greenville, South Carolina Raised: Blue Ridge, South Carolina Married: April 16, 2011 to Robert McKinney Children: Expecting their first child in Feburary 2015, a boy	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 2010 from North Greenville University Master of Arts in Teaching in 2013 from Liberty University	Youth Ministry Intern- Hampton Heights Baptist Church, Greenville, SC from 2006-10 College Small Group Assistant- Richland Creek Community Church from 2012-13

## OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS

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As we consider the financial needs of planting in Blue Ridge, we are confident that God will provide for all of our needs we seek to participate in His mission of bringing the Gospel to bear upon a sinful and broken world. We believe in the words of the Psalmist that, God owns the cattle on a thousand hills (Ps. 50:10) and provides for His people. While our financial needs are certainly very real, by God's grace we are committed to always valuing Him more than things which He gives us.

We estimate that in order to start a new church in Blue Ridge, we will need \$100,000.00 dollars every year for the next 3 years, at total of \$300,000.00. We trust that in His kindness, God will provide this financial support over the next three years so that The Church at Blue Ridge will become reality.

Year 1 = \$100,000

Year 2 = \$100,000

Year 3 = \$100,000

Total Funding Goal = \$300,000

This money will provide salaries for both planters and will also provide the church with an operating budget with which to: rent a facility, begin advertising, and purchase necessary capital expenses, such as, pre-school equipment, musical equipment, printers, computers, copiers, etc.

We have faith that God is going to do great things in Blue Ridge and the Upstate as we seek to plant The Church at Blue Ridge. We are asking that you would prayerfully consider how you could partner with us through prayer, financial supporter, and/or through joining our core team to help establish The Church at Blue Ridge for the glory of God.



THE  
CHURCH  
AT **BLUE RIDGE**

The logo features a large, stylized white triangle centered against a dark brown background. Behind the white triangle, there are dark gray and black mountain-like shapes. The text "THE CHURCH AT BLUE RIDGE" is positioned within the white triangle. "THE CHURCH" is in a dark serif font, and "AT BLUE RIDGE" is in a teal sans-serif font. A small teal mountain icon is placed above the word "CHURCH".

@tcblueridge

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