

STATE CONVENTION

GREAT COMMISSION PRAYER STRATEGY

Vision Statement: *That every church and association in Arkansas will be touched by the renewal of a fervent love of God, and a passion for prayer, and for the lost.*

Needs:

- ◆ **Many churches are gravely in need of revival. Pastors and church members alike need a renewal of their passion for God, for prayer and for the lost.**
 - ✧ Pastors often allow the press of activities to substitute for God and God's work and to take precedence over prayer.
 - ✧ People have allowed world things and ways to supplant God and His direction in their lives and in the Church.
 - ✧ The joy of salvation apparently is missing in many persons.
- ◆ **People need to understand prayer, the process, biblical ingredients and the need for a vital prayer life.**
 - ✧ Many people don't understand the essential nature of prayer or its imperative place in their relationship with God.
 - ✧ Many pastors and church members seldom see or experience God responding to prayer.
 - ✧ Many people need to see prayer modeled.
 - ✧ Many pastors and church members need to expand the limits of prayer beyond grief, health and physical concerns.

Strategic Objectives:

1. **Renew a personal passion for God and for prayer.**
2. **Reclaim the church as a house of prayer with a passion for the lost.**
3. **Link congregations in focused prayer for evangelization and awakening.**

Prayer Training:

- ◆ **Provide and encourage training by use of LifeWay, NAMB, IMB, WMU and other important resources on prayer.**
- ◆ **Maintain an awareness and inform prayer leaders of new and helpful training resources.**
- ◆ **Conduct solemn assembly training, the *Prayer for Revival and Spiritual Awakening Seminar, Taking Prayer to the Streets, or A Prayer Guide for Associations and Churches* on request.**
- ◆ **Provide training for pastors or other prayer leaders on how to conduct mid-week prayer services.**
- ◆ **Encourage and lead in the modeling of prayer at state and association meetings.**
- ◆ **Provide information to every church about existing prayer networks and sources of prayer concerns that cover statewide, national and international concerns.**

Prayer Initiatives:

- ◆ **Study the possibility of establishing an ABSC staff position in the area of prayer, revival, and spiritual awakening.**
- ◆ **Hold an annual prayer summit for pastors (an extended period of time for pastors to pray and worship together).**
- ◆ **Call all churches to prayer for revival and spiritual awakening up to four times annually.**
- ◆ **Display current, specific worldwide prayer concerns and answers during times of prayer at statewide and association-wide meetings.**
- ◆ **Set aside specific extended times at state meetings where prayer becomes the primary focus.**

Prayer Events:

- ◆ **Conduct district-wide solemn assemblies.**
- ◆ **Encourage association-wide meetings of prayer for the lost.**
- ◆ **Conduct association- or district-wide prayer convocations in which the primary focus is prayer for kingdom concerns that start at home but expand through the state, nation and world.**

Prayer Resources:

- ◆ **Maintain a current file and stock of prayer resources from LifeWay, NAMB, the IMB, WMU and other important sources. Inform and lend, when possible, these resources to associations.**
- ◆ **When cost allows distribute to every pastor and encourage use of specific resources such as, *Biblical Patterns for Powerful Church Prayer Meetings*, and *Returning to Holiness* by Greg Frizzell.**

Prayer Evangelism Approaches:

- ◆ **Promote “Lighthouses of Prayer” and “Praying Your Friends to Christ.”**
- ◆ **Provide specific prayer requests related to missions, specific people groups and persecuted Christians and their persecutors through E-prayer, the Web page and Newsletters or other means.**

Prayer Networking:

- ◆ **Identify prayer warriors, provide them with specific prayer concerns and call them together on an association-wide basis to begin to share and interact.**
- ◆ **Improve E-prayer and its outreach.**
- ◆ **Develop the Web page system further.**

Prayer Mobilization:

- ◆ **Provide awareness of need and inspiration/motivation.**
- ◆ **Aim toward a statewide convocation of prayer or prayer summit.**