



## Praying for A New Work Among Us

*Adapted from Pastors James Banks and Kevin Cauley*

Our congregation is part of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) and its Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic. The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic is a regional body comprised of approximately 120 EPC churches in the South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. Due to its growth, the Presbytery has voted to begin the process to move from being one Presbytery to three Presbyteries.

The purpose is to multiply into three smaller missional regions with an intentional focus to—

- reach the lost
- make disciples by planting new churches
- equip existing churches to revitalize by seeking to reach the lost and needy in their own community.

The process to multiply into three presbyteries is a large undertaking that will take three to five years. It will be a major effort that requires the support of every church and its members. They are requesting that we join them in prayer with these three prayer requests—

- 1. Pray Big!** Ask the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into each of three missional regions who will shape the three future presbyteries.
- 2. Pray Home!** Ask God to help the people in the local church to be motivated and equipped to reach those in their community to know the Good News of Jesus Christ that they may become His disciples in the life of our churches.
- 3. Pray Hard!** Let each one of us pray for our own individual efforts to reach with the Gospel a family member or a neighbor or a co-worker or a friend or even the stranger who crosses our path.

Please join us in praying regularly for this important time in our Presbytery and for what it can do to reach people with the love of God in Christ Jesus. Also, we hope to see a pattern of praying and working to reach those who live around us. The pattern for growing and revitalizing our church (or any church) is a vital congregation willing to work hard (Pray big for laborers!); seek God's help to transform our church into a mission house that reaches the lost, the hurting, the broken (Pray home!); and an emphasis on each one of us reaching out to those around us with the love of Jesus Christ (Pray Hard!).

So, the threefold pattern is: cover our congregation with prayer as we each work hard for the growth of God's work in our community, see our church more as God's mission house, and individually commit to share our faith in Jesus with those in our own immediate circle.

The future of every church depends on understanding our role as Jesus' disciples, to carry out our part in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). What does this look like? What if every member of our church would pray, share their relationship with Christ, invite, encourage, and walk with just one person until they become part of our own church family. Commit to bring one person.

How would our community be revitalized and strengthened if every member committed to seek Christ's help to bring one person or one family to faith and into the life of our church? What would it do to worship, to our youth group and Sunday School, to our college ministry, to ministry with every age group, and to mission projects? Wouldn't we like to see the wonder of God's amazing work as we take seriously His Great Commission?

This is what our Presbytery is asking us to do, and it's a worthy objective for every member to pursue! Let us join in prayer and in the work of reaching people with Jesus' love!

## Pray Big!

## Pray Home!

## Pray Hard!