

July 2020

# The Lighthouse

## The Mid-South Church Planting Network

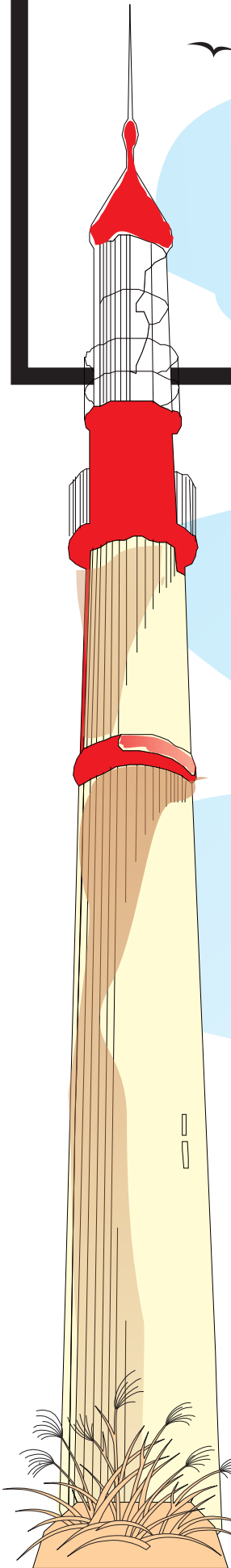
The Mid-South Church Planting Network is a group of PCA churches in West Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Central/Southern Louisiana, that have come together to see new churches started for the glory of the God. The desire is to see churches planted that are enamored with King Jesus in all they say and do. The Network believes that church planting is the most effective way to reach those who do not know the hope and promise of the Gospel.

Currently, there are eight churches being planted in the Mid-South. In Arkansas, there are church plants in Little Rock (Dan Anderson) and Jonesboro (Jeff Wreyford). In Tennessee, there are plants in Memphis (Sam Husband) and Collierville (Hunter Brewer). In Louisiana there are plants in Lafayette (Josh Kines), Monroe (Harris Bond), and Saint Francisville (Ben Shaw). And of course, there is the church plant in Ocean Springs.

Clint Wilcke is the Coordinator for the Network. Many of you will remember Clint when he was the RUF Director at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Network is a tool that presbyteries can use to help with recruiting church planters, raising funds for church planting, providing coaching and encouragement to church planters, and generally promote the cause of church planting throughout the Mid-South. I currently serve on the executive board for the Network by virtue of being the chairman of our presbytery's Missions Committee.

Please be in prayer for Clint as he provides this vital ministry for our area. I and the other members of the Ocean Springs church plant's session have been working closely with him to find a replacement for Phillip Sealy and to build on the good work the Sealy's began. Hopefully our search will be concluded soon. It is our hope that this is just the first of several church plants along the Gulf Coast and throughout our presbytery.

Grace & Peace,





## WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL SAVIOR

words and music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse



“You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way.” Have words ever been more helpful, hopeful, and healing, than these considering the present conditions of humanity today? Covid-19 virus, shut down, open up, shut down again, wear a mask, don’t wear a mask, civil unrest, riots, furtoughs, bankruptcies, stock market plunges and rebounds, dust clouds, earthquakes, wildfires, storms, poor health, no health, etc., etc., etc.! But here we sing “You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way.” These words and others from this beautiful contemporary song remind us who”gives the healing grace our hearts hunger for”.

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior; precious Redeemer and Friend; Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?*

*Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace; You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way.*

*Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own; Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne!*



Eric Wyse is best known as a songwriter for this modern hymn. “Wonderful, Merciful Savior,” written in 1989 with his wife, Dawn Rodgers. They reside in Brentwood, Tennessee and they have two children, John and Anna. This song has been recorded by numerous Christian artists including Selah. It appears in many new hymnals, including Rejoice Hymns (Majesty Music, 2011), Songs of Worship and Praise (2010, Taylor Publications). The Baptist Hymnal (2008, LifeWay Worship), Hymns for a Pilgrim People (GIA/NAACC < 2007), and Christian Life Hymnal (Hendrickson, 2006). The song received a 2002 Gospel Music Association Dove Award nomination for “Inspirational Song of the Year.” An award-winning producer and consultant in recording and video production, Eric has worked with a variety of artists, including Keith & Kristyn Getty.



Eric Wyse is a accomplished keyboardist, songwriter, church musician, and record producer. Since 1993, Eric has served Director of Music at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church in Nashville, Tennessee. As a pianist, Eric has recorded the best-selling “Reflections” Episcopal Church in Nashville, Tennessee. As a pianist, worship project “City on a Hill - Sing Alleluia”. Other songs written by Eric include “Lamb of God (Angus Dei)” recorded by BeBo Norman and his setting of the Lord’s Prayer, “Our Father in Heaven”, which is gaining acceptance in churches across the country. He is currently pursuing graduate work in Church Music at Lee University(Cleveland, TN).

May we always remember that our “counselor, comforter, and Keeper” is Jesus Christ alone. And may we embrace and long for the Spirit” which gives us hope when we lose our way.

Keep a song in your heart, Melba Sipriano



# Happy Birthday for July

Sarah Horn 5th

Steve VanderKooy 9th

David Allen 12th

Nancy Mavar 25th

Andy Bagby 31st



Join us on the  
4th of July at  
6:00pm on the  
front lawn of the  
Church.

## Dates to Remember for July

July 6

church office will be closed for the  
4th of July Holiday

