



Wes Rankin

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Birthdate: December 27, 1959

Married: Paula Lasley Rankin - October 27, 1990

Daughters: Allison Elisabeth, May 1, 1994; Kristin Marie, October 17, 1995

Ordination to Ministry: Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, TN - May 22, 1996

Objective

To lead an association by facilitating cooperation between churches for the purpose of kingdom expansion through church planting, church revitalization, church mobilization, and leadership development with the ecclesiastical understanding that the association serves the local church.

Experience

MISSION STRATEGIST (DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS), NORTHWEST INDIANA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION; CROWN POINT, INDIANA - 2016-PRESENT

- Developed Associational Teams to address our three primary strategic needs - Planting Churches, Revitalizing Churches, and Developing Leaders.
- Worked with our Northwest Indiana Baptist Association (NWIBA) Church Planting Team to develop a long term strategy to plant churches in Northwest Indiana.
- Worked with our NWIBA Revitalization Team to have an association strategy and response to churches in need of revitalization.
- Resourced the pastors/leaders of the NWIBA through monthly pastors roundtables that addressed relevant topics pertinent to their ministry with experts from the greater Chicagoland area.
- Changing the culture of NWIBA by placing emphasis on healthy, gospel centered, biblically contextualized, and missionally engaged churches.
- Equipped in various trainings relevant to the role of AMS - Tract 1 & 2 of NAMB Church Replanting; Send Network Coaching Certification, and Send Network Training to Train Church Planters.

SENIOR PASTOR, WEST COLONIAL HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH; KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE – 2005-2016

- Created a Vision and Strategy Leadership Team (V&SLT) and led them in discovering our values, developing our mission, and determining our church vision.
- Worked with V&SLT in developing strategy to carry out our mission and vision.
- Reformatted the church organization by streamlining the structure to fit our Discipleship Development Strategy.
- Transitioned the worship to better position the church in its community without compromising the theological content.
- Led a core group through a discipleship strategy called Discipleship Transformation Class which resulted in a majority forming discipling relationships with others.
- Began the process of shifting emphasis from a programmatic to a missional philosophy of ministry.
- Led and directed 2-3 ministerial and two administrative staff.

CAREER MISSIONARY, INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION; SAO PAULO, BRAZIL - JANUARY 2000 - JANUARY 2005

- Church Planter/Urban Evangelist to the south sector of the city of Sao Paulo

- Trained and equipped nationals in church planting and evangelism.
- Conducted multiple open-air evangelistic programs.
- Utilized U.S. volunteer teams to do evangelism impacts in urban poor communities in support of new church plants and mission churches.
- Participated in several special event evangelistic projects (e.g. Carnival in Sao Paulo and Salvador) resulting in numerous seeker decisions for Christ.

SENIOR PASTOR, FOREST HILL BAPTIST CHURCH; MARYVILLE, TENNESSEE - FEBRUARY 1997 - FEBRUARY 2000

- Led 2 ministerial and one administrative staff.
- Consistently had baptismal ratios below 20:1 - Recognized by the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth as in top four percent of churches according to baptismal ratio.
- Led church through healing process after difficult experience with previous pastor

PASTOR, LOCUST GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH; KINGS MOUNTAIN, KENTUCKY - NOVEMBER 1995- JANUARY 1997

- Led this small declining church in the first growth it had experienced in several years.
- Honed my skills in preaching, personal evangelism and shepherding.

INTERN, BELLEVUE BAPTIST CHURCH; CORDOVA (MEMPHIS), TENNESSEE - MARCH 1994- SEPTEMBER 1995

- Interned while attending Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in the Married Adult/Young Married Department.

Other Relevant Ministry Experience

MODERATOR, SULLIVAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE - 2009-2011

CHAIRMAN OF SEARCH TEAM FOR DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS, SULLIVAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE - 2014

MEMBER OF THE NOMINATION TEAM, SULLIVAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE - 2012-2016

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION, BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE - 2011-2016

MEMBER OF THE KINGDOM GROWTH COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE BOARD OF TBC, BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE - 2011-2016

MEMBER OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE BOARD OF TBC, BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE -2011-2015

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BCM BOARD MEMBER, JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE - 2012-2016

Education

GORDON-CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, SOUTH HAMILTON, MASSACHUSETTS – DOCTOR OF MINISTRY, JANUARY 2015 (OUTREACH AND DISCIPLESHIP TRACK)

- **Thesis Project:** *Evaluating The Effectiveness Of A Discipleship Emphasis As Catalyst For Revitalization Of West Colonial Hills Baptist Church*

MID-AMERICA BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - MASTER OF DIVINITY, 1995

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE - BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, 1984

Skills

- **Coaching:** Utilizing training received from NAMB Send Chicago Coaching Map Retreat to coach pastors, planters, and perspective leaders.
- **Proclamation of God's Word:** Especially focusing on an expository approach of preaching God's word that has both biblical depth and practical relevancy.

- **Vision and Strategy Development:** Receiving, communicating and integrating vision for the organization and developing a strategy for its fulfillment.
- **Equipping and Shepherding:** Equipping lay people and leaders for ministry and shepherding God's people through administering counseling, comfort, correction, and guidance.
- **Missional Strategic Thinking:** Taking on the missionary mindset as regards to how the church and its ministries relate to its community and world by adopting an incarnational approach to reaching people for Christ.
- **Discipleship Focus:** Teaching discipleship in all its facets through my coaching, consulting, and group training ministry for the purpose of creating an environment for a disciple making movement.
- **Training Pastors and Church Leaders:** Resourcing pastors/leaders in Northwest Indiana churches through relevant training for effective ministry.
- **Building Teams:** Experience in building teams combining staff and lay leaders for strategic purposes.
- **Leading Small Groups:** Experience in leading, facilitating, and teaching small groups of various types.
- **Hosting and Leading Mission Teams:** Hosted, administered, and strategically utilized U.S. volunteer teams in Sao Paulo, Brazil and in Northwest Indiana.

Interests and Activities

Reading - current events, history, and Christian literature; Running - especially marathons; Hiking; Riding my motorcycle; Beach vacations; Coffee Shops, and a variety of sports, but especially SEC football.

Approach to Ministry

My approach to ministry is built around the following concepts:

- **Theological** - The pursuit of the knowledge of God, His character and nature, is the answer to any problem of life. Theological truth, especially as it concerns the Gospel and is informed by Scripture, is paramount to my approach to ministry. (John 17:3)
- **Missional** - Imperative for church ministry in the contemporary context is to adopt a missionary mindset as it relates to engaging lostness. Leading and equipping the church to engage lost people where they are with an incarnational approach is essential to 21st century ministry. ((John 1:1,14)
- **Relational** - Leading in ministry is dependent on relationships. For ministry to survive and thrive in our disconnected culture, authentic community and true biblical relationships are vital. (Acts 2:42-47)
- **Formational** - Training and equipping leaders and laypeople to focus on making disciples that reproduce is core to my ministry approach. (Ephesians 4:12) (Matthew 28:18-20)
- **Strategic** - Discovering ministry vision and developing a contextualized strategy for vision fulfillment. (Proverbs 29:18) (Acts 17:16-34)

References:

Available Upon Request