



ORCHARD KNOB MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

VISION & MINISTRY PLAN 2025

A close-up, profile view of a person's head and shoulders. The person has dark skin and short, curly hair. Their eyes are closed, and they are resting their chin on their hand, with their fingers partially hidden in the shadow. The lighting is dramatic, coming from the side to highlight the contours of their face and the texture of their hair. The background is a solid, dark color.

EXPAND ME

WELCOME

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is with great joy and humble hearts that we share the 2025 Vision & Ministry Plan for Orchard Knob Missionary Baptist Church (OKMBC).

God is the source of our love, and serving Him is the heartbeat of our ministry. It is with that same love and passion that we present this plan. Surrounded by a growing and dynamic community, we believe that our ministries must center on fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), reaching out to both our local community and beyond, all while thriving together in faith as one body in Christ.

As we reflect on Philippians 3:12-14, we are reminded that we press on, not as those who have already attained perfection, but with a deep and abiding desire to know Christ more fully and to pursue the high calling He has placed on our lives. We press forward together, determined to reach the goal He has set before us — to serve His mission with passion, commitment, excellence, and an unwavering sense of purpose.

In this journey, we are not alone; we walk side by side, thriving together in faith, supporting one another, and growing in His grace.

Our purpose in sharing this plan is to communicate clearly our mission, vision, and ministry goals. It is a plan that is rooted in love, built on the foundation of our shared faith, and designed to preserve the heart of our calling. Through it, we aim to stay focused on the work that God has entrusted to us, pursuing His mission with diligence and a heart full of joy, as we seek to transform lives and make an eternal impact for His Kingdom. May we, together, move forward with renewed hope and a deep sense of purpose as we strive to fulfill His will with passion, commitment, and excellence.

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

—Jeremiah 29:11



ABOUT OUR PASTOR

RODNEY T. MORTON, M.Div., D.Min., BCC, BCPC

Pastor Rodney Todd Morton is a passionate servant leader and the Senior Pastor of Orchard Knob Missionary Baptist Church, affectionately known as "The Knob." He believes in the power of prayer and follows the Holy Spirit's guidance to share God's Word, embracing a holistic approach to ministry with real-life applications.

A visionary leader, Pastor Morton is dedicated to winning souls for Christ, building strong disciples, healing families, and empowering the next generation. His heart is devoted to serving Chattanooga, its surrounding communities, and beyond, helping others experience God's blessings and transformation that extend far beyond their current circumstances.

Pastor Morton's commitment to social justice has earned him recognition as a recipient of the MLK Jr. Courage Award and the In the Spirit Award for his work advancing equality and justice. He has served as First Vice President of the United Baptist Missionary Convention & Auxiliaries of the State of Maryland, Inc., Vice President of the NAACP Baltimore Branch, and on several advisory boards, including the Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Commission and Bon Secours Community Development Corporation. He founded Nehemiah Central CDC, a nonprofit focused on health, education, and community development.

Pastor Morton holds a Master of Divinity with a Specialization in Christian Education from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as an additional master's degree from New Orleans.



He also holds a Master's degree from Selma University and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Anderson University, Anderson South Carolina. Pastor Morton is married to Lady Rhonda K. Morton, and together, they are the proud parents of their son, Rylan A. Morton.



The
First Family's
Commitment
to
Ministry
Engagement

THE VISION

Every generation connected through the power and promises of God's Word for the worldwide transformation of devoted followers of Jesus Christ.



OUR MISSION

To exalt the Savior,
empower the saints,
evangelize the sinner,
strengthen families,
and endow
worldwide missions.



OUR CORE VALUES



O - Obedience

We surrender to God's authority.

R - Respectful

We treat everyone with dignity and worth.

C - Christ-like

We strive to be compassionate, understanding, and sympathetic.

H - Humble

We act out of humility, putting the needs of others before our own.

A - Accountable

We hold ourselves answerable and responsible for everything we do.

R - Relevant

We seek to be the light of the world, a loving and welcoming community.

D - Dependable

Trustworthiness and reliability are our hallmarks, always demonstrating integrity.



OUR CHURCH THEME

“Thriving Forward Together”

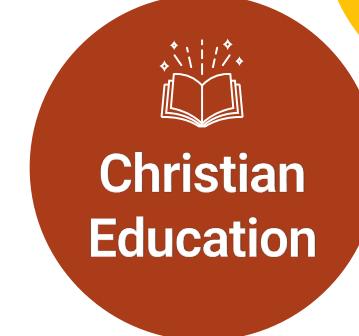
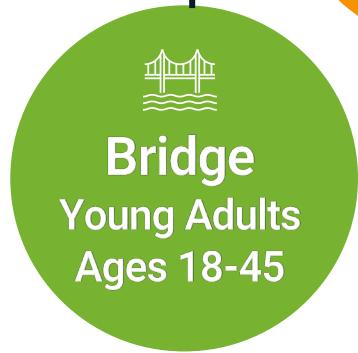
—Philippians 3:12-16

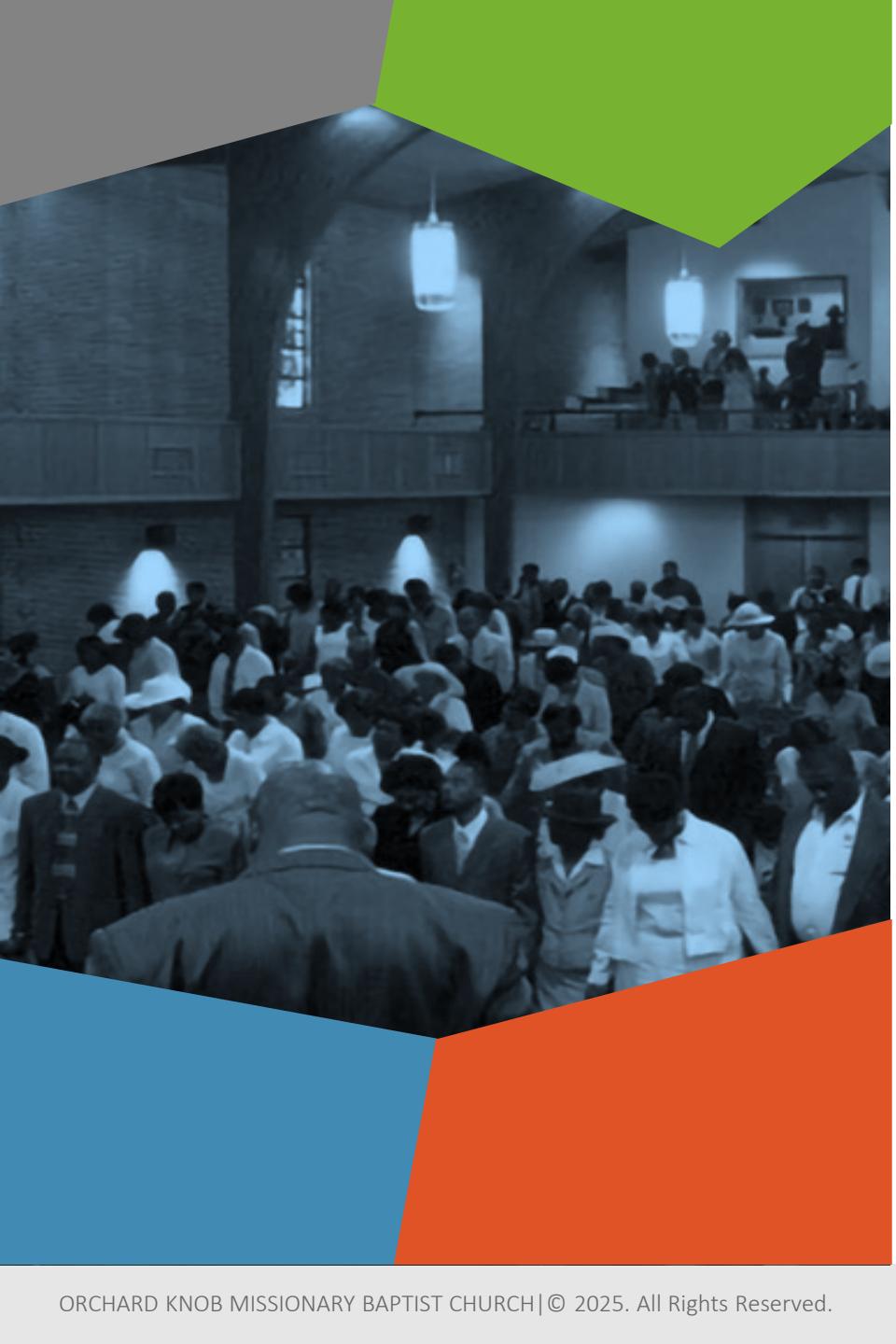
We thrive by mentoring each other with the promise of growing personally, self-developing, and becoming resilient.

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Thriving forward together means flourishing, prospering, successful, and triumphant as one body in Christ.

CORE MINISTRY AREAS





CORE MINISTRIES DEFINED



412 (1 Timothy 4:12)

Focuses on age-appropriate spiritual education, character development, leadership opportunities, and mentorship, and addresses the unique needs and challenges faced by children and youth ages 2-17.



Bridges

Aims to provide spiritual growth, community building, and personal development for a diverse group of young adults ages 18-45.



Christian Education

Focuses on providing opportunities for spiritual growth and learning for all ages and stages of faith.



Congregational Care

Provides pastoral care and support for the members and friends of the church community. Includes counseling, visitation, benevolence, health, grief support, and other services to help people cope with life changes.



CORE MINISTRIES DEFINED

Family Life

Through its comprehensive programs and activities, the ministry provides valuable resources, support, and opportunities for families to grow in their faith, strengthen their relationships, and engage with their community.

Music & Fine Arts

The Music and Fine Arts Ministry is a cornerstone of the church's efforts to integrate creativity with worship. By offering diverse programs and activities in music, visual arts, drama, and dance, the ministry nurtures the artistic talents of its members and enriches the spiritual experience of the congregation.

Outreach & Evangelism

Through a combination of evangelism strategies, community service, and relationship-building, the ministry seeks to share the message of hope and salvation, meet practical needs, and create a supportive and welcoming environment for spiritual growth.

CORE MINISTRIES & SUBMINISTRIES

Elder Tony McMutuary
Elder Wilbert Wheeler

412
1 Timothy 4:12

**Children and Youth
Ages 2-17**

Pastor Rodney T. Morton

Bridge

**Young Adults
Ages 18-45**

Elder Willie Brown
Elder Mark Creech

**Christian
Education**

**Curriculum Resources
New Member Orientation
Scholarship Ministry
Sunday School
Teacher Certification
Vacation Bible School**

Elder Larry Gibson
Elder Bob Hubert

**Congregational
Care**

**Beautifying Guild
Grief Support Ministry
Greeters
Health & Wellness
Nursery
Prayer Warriors
Usher Ministry**

CORE MINISTRIES & SUBMINISTRIES

Elder Larry Bowie
Elder Wilbert Wheeler

Family Life

Athletic Ministry
(Startup Pending)
Brotherhood
Drama Ministry
Girl Scouts
Married Couples
Men's Ministry
Minister Wives & Widows
Singles' Ministry
Sisterhood

Elder Tony McMutuary
Elder Wilbert Wheeler

Music & Fine Arts

Adult Mass Choir
(Age 18+)
Children's Choir
Dance Ministry
Male Chorus
Praise Team

Elder Tony McMutuary
Elder Robert Rice

Outreach & Evangelism

Adopt-A-School
Missions
(At Home & Abroad)
Prime Age Seniors
Prison Ministry



BUILDING A CHURCH FOR IMPACT, NOT JUST ACTIVITY

The Goal

Purposeful ministry is our commitment. Making a meaningful impact means fostering authentic relationships and empowering the next generation. Our Vision & Ministry Plan 2025 emphasizes:

- Intentional discipleship.
- Mentorship.
- Revitalized ministries for the elderly and homebound.





The Challenge

Addiction, poverty, depression, and broken families plague our community. Busyness is not enough to bring true transformation.

We must shift our focus to intentional, life-changing actions, particularly for the next generation.

The Solution

With a renewed faith in God and a purpose-driven approach to ministry, we can rebuild relationships, empower young leaders, and assist the elderly and homebound. Specifically, we can:

1. Provide discipleship, mentorship, and leadership opportunities to the next generation.
2. Revitalize our ministry to seniors and the homebound, ensuring they feel valued and receive spiritual nourishment and regular visits.
3. Focus on relationships and our walk together with Christ.
4. Embrace the gospel mission of reaching, teaching, and transforming lives.
5. Ensure that every member is equipped and encouraged to serve in the ministry.



OUR MINISTRY **FOCUS AREAS**

DISCIPLESHIP

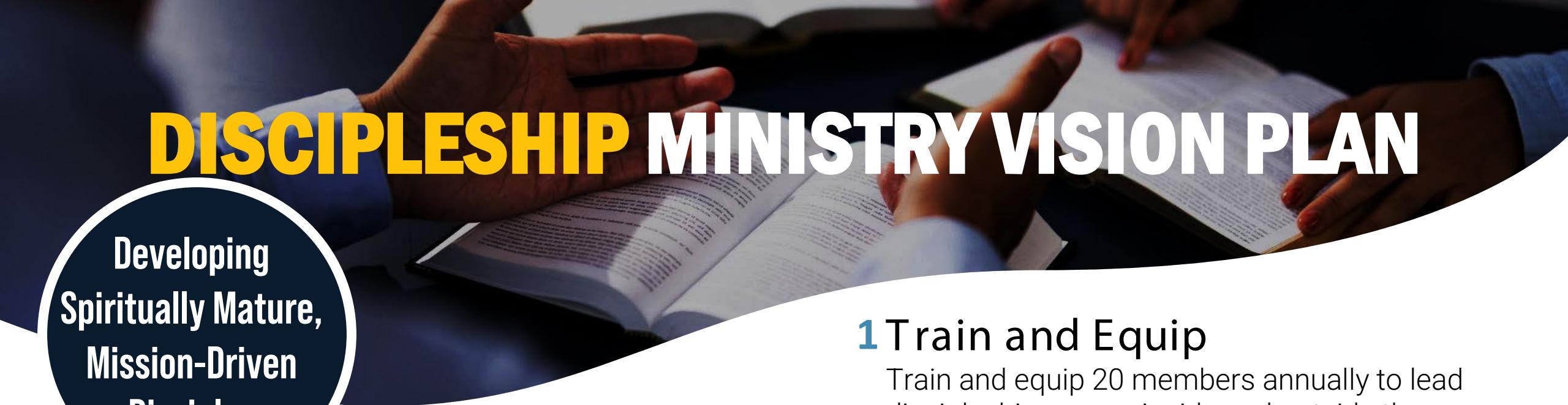
Developing spiritually mature, mission-driven disciples.

Vision Focus:

Equip believers to grow in faith, live out the Gospel, and disciple others.

Key Strategies:

1. Develop a clear discipleship pathway for spiritual growth at all levels.
2. Strengthen Christian education and biblical training for all ages.
3. Empower believers to share their faith and serve in missions effectively.



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY VISION PLAN

Developing
Spiritually Mature,
Mission-Driven
Disciples

2 Evangelism and Outreach

Launch evangelism and outreach initiatives engaging at least 700 community members annually through street ministry, digital evangelism, and community service.

3 Partnerships

Expand strategic partnerships with local shelters, schools, and prisons to provide spiritual guidance and discipleship to those in need.

1 Train and Equip

Train and equip 20 members annually to lead discipleship groups inside and outside the church.

FELLOWSHIP

Cultivating a thriving and united church family.

Vision Focus:

Build a strong, intergenerational church community where love, unity, and spiritual growth flourish.

Key Strategies:

1. Implement teaching and training for small groups and ministry connections for deeper relationships.
2. Organize intentional fellowship opportunities to nurture church unity.
3. Establish a care and support network for spiritual and personal needs.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY VISION PLAN



**Cultivating a
Thriving, United
Church Family**

2 Events

Continue community fellowship events that welcome and engage non-members (e.g., family fun days, open forums, and outreach gatherings).

3 Strengthen Relationships

Pair youth with seniors in a mentorship initiative to strengthen intergenerational relationships.

1 Small Groups

Launch five (5) new small groups within 12 months to foster deeper relationships and accountability.

LEADERSHIP

Developing Kingdom-minded servant leaders.

Vision Focus:

Raise up spiritually mature, servant-hearted leaders who lead with wisdom, integrity, and a passion for advancing God's kingdom.

Key Strategies:

1. Establish a leadership pipeline for spiritual, ministry, and community leadership.
2. Provide biblical training and mentorship for emerging and seasoned leaders.
3. Foster a culture of accountability, integrity, and excellence.

LEADERSHIP MINISTRY VISION PLAN



Developing
Kingdom-Minded
Servant Leaders

3 Strengthen Partnerships

Strengthen partnerships with local schools, organizations, and churches to improve faith-based leadership initiatives.

2 Equip Emerging Leaders

Identify and equip emerging leaders annually for ministry and community leadership.

1 Establish an LDP

Establish an LDP (Leadership Development Plan) with structured training and mentorship by year-end (Jethro Plan).

4 Annual Training

Create transparent processes for evaluating outcomes and refining strategies.

STEWARDSHIP

Honoring God through faithfulness and generosity.

Vision Focus:

Develop a lifestyle of faithful giving, wise resource management, and service to God.

Key Strategies:

1. Teach biblical stewardship principles for finances, time, and talents.
2. Encourage consistent tithing and generous giving for kingdom impact.
3. Ensure responsible management of church resources for sustainable ministry.

STEWARSHIP MINISTRY VISION PLAN



Honoring God
through Generous
and Faithful
Stewardship.

3 Talents

Launch a volunteer ministry to encourage at least half of the congregation to participate in church and community projects.

2 Tithing

Increase consistent tithing participation by 20% within two years.

1 Training

Conduct financial workshops annually to promote biblical financial literacy.

THE BROTHERHOOD

THE SISTERHOOD

A MODERNIZED APPROACH



THE BROTHERHOOD & SISTERHOOD

The **Brotherhood/Sisterhood** ministries aim to foster spiritual growth, build strong relationships, and promote the overall well-being within the church community.

Both ministries are equally dedicated to equipping adults with the tools and support they need to lead fulfilling and spiritually enriched lives.

A Modernized Approach

1. Create an Annual Events Calendar for the year.
2. Develop an **“every member engaged”** strategy.
3. Utilize church announcements, social media, and personal invitations to communicate events and activities effectively.
4. Solicit feedback for evaluating impact and making improvements.

THE BROTHERHOOD & SISTERHOOD OBJECTIVES

Spiritual Growth & Discipleship

- Bible Study & Prayer Groups.
- Annual Retreats.
- Quarterly Seminars/Workshops.
- Accountability Groups.



Family & Marriage Enrichment

- Spouse and Parent Workshops.
- Couple Date Nights.
- Single Parent Support Group.



Leadership Development

- Leadership Academy.
- Quarterly Seminars.
- Mentorship for Young Men & Women.



Outreach & Service

- Maintenance and service projects.
- Community Service Initiatives.
- Health Awareness.



Fellowship

- Monthly Breakfasts/Gatherings.
- Recreational Events.
- Mentorship Program.

