



VALLEY BRISTOL REPORT

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This past ministry year was one of great change and transition for Valley Bristol.

In June, 2017, we received word that the Lord had called Pastor Chris and the DeArman family to a new ministry opportunity in the Houston area. We thank God for the contribution that Chris provided to the creation and growth of Valley's first multisite location in Bristol during his time with us.



While Pastor Chris' departure brought a variety of mixed emotions, God graciously provided Valley Bristol with a new season of reflection, renewal, edification, and unity, all of which have sustained us throughout the year.

In early September, under the guidance of Pastor Jay, Pastor Tim, the elders, and the leaders from the Bristol Campus, several groups were formed to seek God's will for the future of Valley Bristol:

- Future Direction Team
- Campus Pastor Search Committee
- Vision Team

In addition, four town hall-style feedback forums were held, where members of the Valley Bristol community shared with Valley leaders their hopes, dreams, and concerns regarding the future of our ministry in Bristol.

As a result of the work of these groups and feedback collected during the forums, the following vision statement was developed for Valley Bristol:

We are passionate about ...

- *Actively loving God*
- *Building meaningful relationships*
- *Serving Bristol for Christ*

A short-term strategic plan was developed for calendar year 2018 with these high-level objectives:

1. Establish a Worship Service Working Group, with an emphasis on developing a "live" preaching schedule
2. Formalize and expand a Bristol Campus Prayer Team
3. Establish a Discipleship Working Group, with a focus on developing opportunities for individuals to join small, single-gender discipleship groups
4. Establish a Connect Working Group, with a focus on developing a formal plan for connecting the unconnected

Plans have been implemented to achieve these objectives, and we have made significant progress in all areas.

Other highlights to celebrate from this past year:

- Valley Bristol's Leadership Team, consisting mostly of lay leaders, successfully guided the congregation through 10 months between pastors
- Delivered 85 turkey dinner baskets to needy families in the Bristol area during the Thanksgiving holiday
- Hosted "One Week Till Christmas" and "Pre-Easter Party" outreach events, with hundreds of people from the community in attendance
- Launched weekly prayer times focused on seeking God's will for worship locations and ministry
- The Bristol FAST Team spent an estimated 1,200 hours this past year setting up and tearing down at Greene-Hills School so we could worship together each week

Finally, we are thrilled that Andrew Southwick joined Valley Bristol in May as our Campus Pastor. We look forward to the ministry and blessings that Pastor Andrew, his wife Rebecca, and their five children will bring to Valley Bristol and the greater Bristol community.