

Presbytery of South Alabama 2020 Strategy Map



Mission: Empower and connect our congregations by educating and nurturing our members to live and serve as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.

Under Jesus Christ as the Head of the Church

The Presbytery
of South
Alabama

Builders of
Relationships

Encouragers of
Vital Ministry

Shepherds & Guides for
Pastors & Congregations

We

Connect

- Communicate within the presbytery and with the larger church
- Provide resources for churches to connect within their community & congregation
- Create opportunities for gathering within & across the presbytery

Equip

- Train pastors & church leaders
- Provide the tools to educate church members
- Empower ministry in congregations

Nurture

- Support ministers & commissioned pastors
- Provide care through the many seasons of congregational life
- Build up and support smaller and/or remote churches

Keys to
Success

Well-Trained and
Engaged Church Leaders

Vibrant
Congregations

Committed Staff &
Committee Members

Strong Denominational
Partnerships

Foundation

Scripture &
the Reformed Tradition

Witness of Each Unique
Congregation

Functioning and
Sustainable Structure

Excellent Stewards of
Financial Resources

Objective Statements – Who is the Presbytery of South Alabama to our Community?

| Objectives | Statements |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Builders of Relationships | We connect congregations and the PCUSA to share ideas, resources, and knowledge; ensuring closer bonds among churches and congregants. We nurture through educational opportunities, care for clergy through counseling, small group support, retreats and shared meals and communicate through as many forms of media as possible to keep the presbytery informed. |
| Encouragers of Vital Ministry | We support, encourage, and provide opportunities for faith development and evangelism for our churches and we support the ministry and mission of the congregations. |
| Shepherds and Guides | Congregational Vitality is bolstered because we are the first point of contact for churches in need, celebration, and transition. We empower, equip, and support our churches through education and training to better discern God’s plan for our presbytery’s future. |

Objective Statements – What does the Presbytery of South Alabama do?

| Objectives | Statements |
|------------|--|
| Connect | We support and strengthen communication within and among our 21 congregations; acting as a central resource, sharing church happenings, providing opportunities for congregations to gather, and providing support and tools to promote better interaction. We also act as a conduit for churches to connect with the larger church, ensuring we fulfill the constitutional requirements of PCUSA and pass along their tools and information to our congregations. |
| Equip | We provide education opportunities, resources (mission, evangelism, best practices, church polity, scripture), tools for pastors, church leaders, congregations, children, and youth that will empower and strengthen their connection to Jesus Christ. We empower congregations as they engage in ministry that is reflective of the Kingdom. |
| Nurture | We proactively care for ministers, commissioned pastors, and congregations; We assign mentors to new pastors and stay connected with retired pastors. We are present in times of joy, crisis, transition, and conflict, working to build up and support all churches and paying special attention to smaller and/or remote churches. We take initiative to avert or reduce challenges associated with conflict and transition, doing our best to proactively prevent crisis. We provide mediation in order to help congregations manage conflict in a timely, redemptive manner. |

Objective Statements – What are the keys to successfully achieving our mission?

| Objectives | Statements |
|---|--|
| Well-Trained and Engaged Church Leaders | We recruit, train and engage pastors, ruling elders, deacons, commissioned ruling elders, and other church leaders to share freely their wisdom enabling us to make the best decisions for the presbytery. |
| Vibrant Congregations | Investing in the health and connection of the congregations of the presbytery ensures they are able to develop and sustain the ministry of our presbytery. |
| Committed Staff and Committee Members | We recruit, train, and invest in staff and potential/existing committee members to ensure they can be inclusive, future-focused, and engaged leaders. |
| Strong Denominational Partnerships | Because PCUSA provides both resources & identity for our presbytery. We invest in PCUSA, train presbytery leadership to understand their place in the denomination and engage the larger church. We share the tools developed by our denominational partners to support and nurture the health of our congregations. |

Objective Statements – What is our foundation?

| Objectives | Statements |
|---|---|
| Scripture and the Reformed Tradition | We are built upon the roots of the Reformed tradition. From our worship to our lived-out expressions of faith, we are reformed and always being reformed. Scripture guides and informs us in all that we do. |
| Witness of Each Unique Congregation | Each congregation and the individuals within them have unique expressions of faith that strengthen and enrich the presbytery. |
| Functioning and Sustainable Structure | A structure established, regularly reviewed, and updated to ensure it has both the strength and flexibility to support the mission, vision, and strategy of the presbytery. |
| Excellent Stewards of Financial Resources | Healthy and responsible oversight of our financial resources as well as a recognition of the purpose for which the funds were donated commands us to focus those precious resources exclusively on our mission. |