

**Mississippi Valley Presbytery  
MNA Committee  
Site Report**



**Rankin County (The Target Area):**

Rankin County is one of the fastest growing counties in Mississippi but has only one PCA church per 47,000 people. According to statistics, less than forty percent of the population attends church. Located east of Jackson (the capital), the half rural, half urban county has seven incorporated cities. The county has an area of 795 square miles and has been described as a 'bedroom' community environment to Jackson.” According to the U.S. Census Bureau estimates as of 2007, the population of Rankin County is at 138,362, an increase of 17% from the 2000 census. Some advantages of living in Rankin County include serving in an area where religion is valued, having a moderate to warm climate, reasonable living expenses, a wonderful selection of restaurants and commerce, good school selection, excellent medical options,

being close to the Ross Barnett Reservoir, and having an Atlanta Braves AA team nearby, and all this in addition to having a strong surrounding network of PCA churches as well as being near to Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson). For more, see <http://www.rankincounty.org/default.asp>.

### **Timing of the Church Plant:**

The MVP MNA Committee is prepared to initiate this church plant as soon as the church planter is identified and approved by the presbytery.

### **The Launch Team**

By design, there is no organized core group. The committee will encourage churches to send members to be a part of the launch team. However, the church planter must be committed to doing personal outreach.

### **Funding the Plant**

Funding for the Rankin County Church Plant will come from several sources including MVP and our member churches as well as support raised by the church planter (from churches across the denomination, church planter supporters, etc.).

### **Mississippi Valley Presbytery (MVP)**

Mississippi Valley Presbytery formed in 1973 as one of the sixteen founding presbyteries of the PCA. The presbytery which is located in the heartland of Mississippi consists of approximately fifty churches and includes the following counties: Issaquena, Sharkey, Humphreys, Holms, Attala, Winston, Noxubee, Yazoo, Madison, Leake, Neshoba, Kemper, Warren, Hinds, Rankin, Scott, Newton and Lauderdale.

Mississippi Valley Presbytery has renewed a commitment from being a presbytery that plants churches to becoming a church planting presbytery. The last church established in Hinds County was Redeemer Presbyterian Church in 2005. The last church started in Madison County was Madison Heights in 2006. The last church started in Rankin County was Lakeland in 1988. We believe it is time to start a new church in a prime area of growth in Rankin County. The exact location will be determined by the church planter in cooperation with the MNA committee. We also envision starting churches in other underserved areas in our presbytery. This could include additional locations in Madison County and/or Rankin County, an ethnic church plant, and other cities outside the Jackson metro area.

### **MVP Mission to North America Committee**

The MVP MNA Committee is composed of twelve active members who are divided into sub-committees. A church planting sub-committee (consisting of present and former church planters, ruling elders with church planting experience and former MNA chairmen) has been formed to pray for church planting within the presbytery, to provide vision and planning input to the MNA Committee, and to oversee daily church planting efforts within MVP by directly supporting and coordinating with the church planters and church plants.

### **Church Planter Selection**

One of the primary keys to planting a healthy church is a gifted church planter. As the saying goes, men are God's method. We believe that God will supply a gifted leader for this church plant. The criteria that the MNA committee is looking for in a candidate is one who is faith-oriented, possesses visionary leadership, is a gifted communicator of God's truth, is prayer minded, evangelistic, willing to engage the community, and is committed to the multiplication of churches. The MVP MNA Committee is

interested in considering men that have a church planting history and/or comes highly recommended by the Assessment Center.

### **Interested Candidates**

Candidates interested in applying for this ministry position should send a resume to: [rankinchurchplant@gmail.com](mailto:rankinchurchplant@gmail.com). For additional information or to discuss this church plant, please feel free to contact Rev. Tim Muse (601-825-5259) or Rev. Hunter Brewer (601-605-9929).