

HISTORY OF NEXTGEN CHURCHES

Next Generation Churches is one of eight regions of CBAmerica. The Conservative Baptist Association of America came into being as a result of a group of churches who left the Northern Baptist Convention over core doctrinal and missional issues in the late '40's. Regional meetings were held in areas across the US including California. From that, our association was formed in January 1949. The first president of CBA/NC was Ralph Kraft.

Some of the earliest projects were the establishment of new churches, camp grounds and mission endeavors. In 1965, the CBA/NC association purchased Silver Spur Conference Center (near Sonora) and Camp Hammer (near Santa Cruz). Camp Hammer was eventually handed over to Twin Lakes Church so that the association's finances and time energies could be devoted to developing Silver Spur Camp. The regional offices were located in Hayward until moving to San Jose in 1958.

Dr. Bruce Clatterbuck followed and served as regional director for 26 years (1968-2004). Under Bruce, the association leased land from WestGate Church and built a new regional office to facilitate a growing staff and to provide a location to offer seminars to churches within the association. The hiring of Dr. Mark Platt as Director of Church Planting was an intentional move to develop a total church planting strategy. Member and fellowshiping churches grew from 55 to over 140. Most of the growth was a result of Church Planting. During those years, annual meetings moved from being hosted in churches to the scenic venue of Asilomar.

In 2002, a new office building was purchased in Stockton, which provided not only a larger office space, but also additional units to provide rental revenue to the association. A Blue Ribbon committee was created to assist in transition planning, which resulted in the relocation of the CBA/NC office to Stockton, name change to "Next Generation Churches" and transition planning for a new director and calling of Dr. Paul Null.

With the early retirement of Paul Null at the end of 2009, Dr. Brad Franklin, Senior Pastor of Lakeside Church in Folsom took the reins as Transitional Executive Director. Under Brad's transitional leadership, NextGen saw the implementation of Regional Networks—groups designed to connect pastors and churches in surrounding areas to meet regularly for encouragement, growth and support.

In November 2011, Dr. Brad Franklin and the board passed the baton to Dr. David Whitaker, Lead Pastor of Morgan Hill Bible Church, to serve as our Executive Director. At this time, our offices were moved to Morgan Hill, CA. This decision reflects the model for our association to be a network of churches facilitated by our association of pastors and leaders, working together as a network of missional churches, transforming lives with the grace and truth of Jesus Christ.

Dr. David Whitaker currently serves as our regional Executive Director.