

# Salt Network

In the community, for the community.

*SALT NETWORK IS A FAMILY OF SERVANT  
MISSIONARY COMMUNITIES  
THROUGHOUT THE SPACE COAST THAT  
EXPLORE THE LIFE OF JESUS AND HIS  
KINGDOM COME.*

# Why Salt Network?

In Acts 2 we see how the early church gathered in one place to encourage, equip, and share life with one another. They met in homes, temple courts, and various places throughout their regions. Each of these gathering places became a meeting of believers where the church worshipped together, shared meals and their possessions, all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people (Acts 2:46-47).

Jesus compared his followers to "Salt." As we go into the world, we are to be salty and fill the earth with God's glory. Jesus also said, "Where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:20). A Salt community can meet anywhere God is placing His people to come together in worship, fellowship, and mission (Communion, Community, Commission). This does not need to be limited to a church building or property. Just like the early church, our Salt Communities can meet in various parts of our city and county with the support of one central network. These mini churches (micro churches, missional communities, etc.) are decentralized from one location and are positioned to live amongst those that are far from God in their homes, workspaces, cafes, libraries, parks, and more.

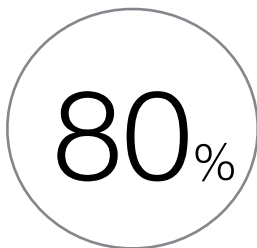
# Why plant more churches?

A Baylor University study revealed that approximately 80% of all churches in North America have reached a plateau or are declining. Another study by Pew Research indicates that the percentage of people who attend church in America on any given Sunday is about 24%. Some local leaders and pastors of the Space Coast believe that the geographical number is closer to 5 - 15%.

So why plant more churches? Because we believe that in order for us to reach every type of person, then we must mobilize every type of person. Because we believe the church is the people living as disciples on mission. We have an incredible opportunity to reach the lost. Researchers suggest conversion from a non-believer to a follower of Jesus is somewhere between 1-3%. The vast majority of the church's growth comes from people who move from one church to another. There is a desperate need for Jesus today!

The Space program and tech industry in Brevard is growing. In addition to Space X, Blue Origin, Lockheed Martin, Boeing even recently announced their headquarters transition to our area from Virginia. These companies open the door of opportunity for us to minister to people coming from all across the world. The nations are coming to us!

People need true community now more than ever. It is a desire ingrained into our very DNA. God calls us to be in community. His church is made up of people who function as a family and who acknowledge that Jesus is the head— where the commitment of its members is greater than the sum of its parts. A community that places no limits on caring and serving one another (Acts 4:32). This type of community and level of commitment is possible because it's how Jesus lived, and how He designed his church to function. (Mark 10:45).



80%

This growing trend of isolation and the fact that more than 80% of Brevard county residents do not regularly attend a church tells us that this kind of community is not experienced by most. We have a growing burden for the people of the Space Coast to experience God's family in a new way.

# The rise of the unchurched and dechurched in Central Florida.

**Top 20 Most Unchurched Cities** Barna

RANK	MARKET	%	RANK	MARKET	%
1.	San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	60%	11.	Burlington-Plattsburgh, VT	51%
2.	Reno, NV	59%	12.	Phoenix-Prescott, AZ	50%
3.	Springfield-Holyoke, MA	57%	13.	W Palm Beach-Fort Pierce, FL	50%
4.	Boston-Manchester, MA	56%	14.	Monterey-Salinas, CA	50%
5.	Las Vegas, NV	55%	15.	Tucson-Sierra Vista, AZ	49%
6.	Portland-Auburn, ME	54%	16.	New York, NY	48%
7.	Chico-Redding, CA	54%	17.	Portland, OR	48%
8.	Seattle-Tacoma, WA	52%	18.	Los Angeles, CA	47%
9.	Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne, FL	51%	19.	Philadelphia, PA	47%
10.	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	51%	20.	Denver, CO	47%

\*Those classified as unchurched have not attended a church service in the past six months, not including a special event such as a wedding or a funeral.

n=76,505 U.S. Adults | 2000-2016 © 2017 | barna.com

**Top 20 Most Dechurched Cities** Barna

RANK	MARKET	%	RANK	MARKET	%
1.	San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	47%	11.	Chico-Redding, CA	41%
2.	Boston-Manchester, MA	46%	12.	Phoenix-Prescott, AZ	41%
3.	Seattle-Tacoma, WA	45%	13.	Portland, OR	40%
4.	Portland-Auburn, ME	45%	14.	Traverse City-Cadillac, MI	40%
5.	Springfield-Holyoke, MA	43%	15.	Burlington-Plattsburgh, VT	39%
6.	Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne, FL	43%	16.	Philadelphia, PA	39%
7.	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	43%	17.	Denver, CO	38%
8.	Reno, NV	43%	18.	Binghamton, NY	38%
9.	Las Vegas, NV	42%	19.	Tucson-Sierra Vista, AZ	38%
10.	Medford-Klamath Falls, OR	42%	20.	Rochester, NY	38%

\*Those classified as dechurched were formerly either very, somewhat or minimally active churchgoers, but have not attended a church service in the past six months, excluding a special event such as a wedding or a funeral.

n=76,505 U.S. Adults | 2000-2016 © 2017 | barna.com

The Barna group ran a study in 2017 that illuminated the top 10 most unchurched and dechurched cities in America. Due to many factors including transient lifestyles, tech industries bringing in many people from around the world, and massive local church failures, Central Florida and the Space Coast made the top 10 in both categories even beating out the likes of Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

We believe new churches must be birthed in order to impact these statistics. But, not just one type of church will work. We must understand our context and culture and plant communities specific to our geography. Disciples must make new disciples and churches must build give birth to new churches.

We believe God is inviting us to start not just one, but many churches. Our aim will be to start many Salt communities or **microchurches** that meet throughout the Space Coast and beyond.

# What are Salt Communities and what will they look like?

Every Christian is a **missionary**. Our Salt Communities are made up of missionaries that are seeking to explore life with Jesus and His mission for the world.

**A Salt Community** (microchurch) is a gathering of people that express the 3 core essential minimums. A Salt Community can meet anywhere and is well positioned to engage in cultural problems. Some meet in homes while others meet in workplaces. Some gather in church buildings while others connect in pubs or libraries. The size of a salt community is typically 12 - 40 people. As these faith communities(churches) grow in size they are equipped to multiply and morph into multiple groups. Our dream is to raise up, equip, and send out Salt Communities all across Brevard County and beyond.

All of the Salt Communities together will make up the **Salt Network**.

There are numerous reasons we believe that meeting in smaller faith communities are essential to the growth of the Kingdom. Below are the top 3 reasons why we believe this model is a powerful method for ministry as we enter 2020.

1. **A cultural approach.** The Christian Church in America today is slowly being pressed to the margins. For the first time in centuries, the institutional Christian Church is no longer the essential "go to solution" for societal needs. Many scholars are even suggesting that we are now in a Post-Christian era. People are still spiritually curious, but the Church as we know it has left a bad impression on the lives of so many, and the "dechurched" category above points specifically to this reality. A microchurch structure helps us reorient our lives to once again live incarnationally in the lives of society and provide a deep sense of familial community.

2. **An all-believer approach.** Ephesians 4 reminds us that the leaders of the church are to equip the saints for ministry work, and that every believer comes with different gifts. The leaders are to help train up them in their gifts for the building up of Christ's church (as opposed to doing the ministry "for" them). Every believer now has an opportunity to live into their God-given gifts and calling with the help of their leaders.

3. **A reproductive approach.** Given their identity make-up, a smaller church community has the ability to focus on a specific and strong missional effort to their geography. As they proclaim God's good news and grow from these efforts, starting new missional communities (microchurches) are now much more accessible due to the nature of their size, leadership development strategy, and are not restricted by financial limitations. Multiplying microchurches can happen much faster and are much more cost effective than many traditional models. The ability to intentionally multiply fast also gives us the opportunity to expand the Kingdom exponentially and is not limited to one centralized location.

# *WE ARE...* (Essential values)

## *Communion*

- 1. We are Gospel-centered** / Everything we do is evaluated through a lens of Jesus and the Good News He has for us.
- 2. We are worshipful** / The Gospel leads us to reorient all aspects of our lives toward a posture of worship - 7 days/week, not just Sunday.
- 3. We are transformed** / We've been given new life through the power of the Holy Spirit. Humility, compassion, and love now make up our identities.

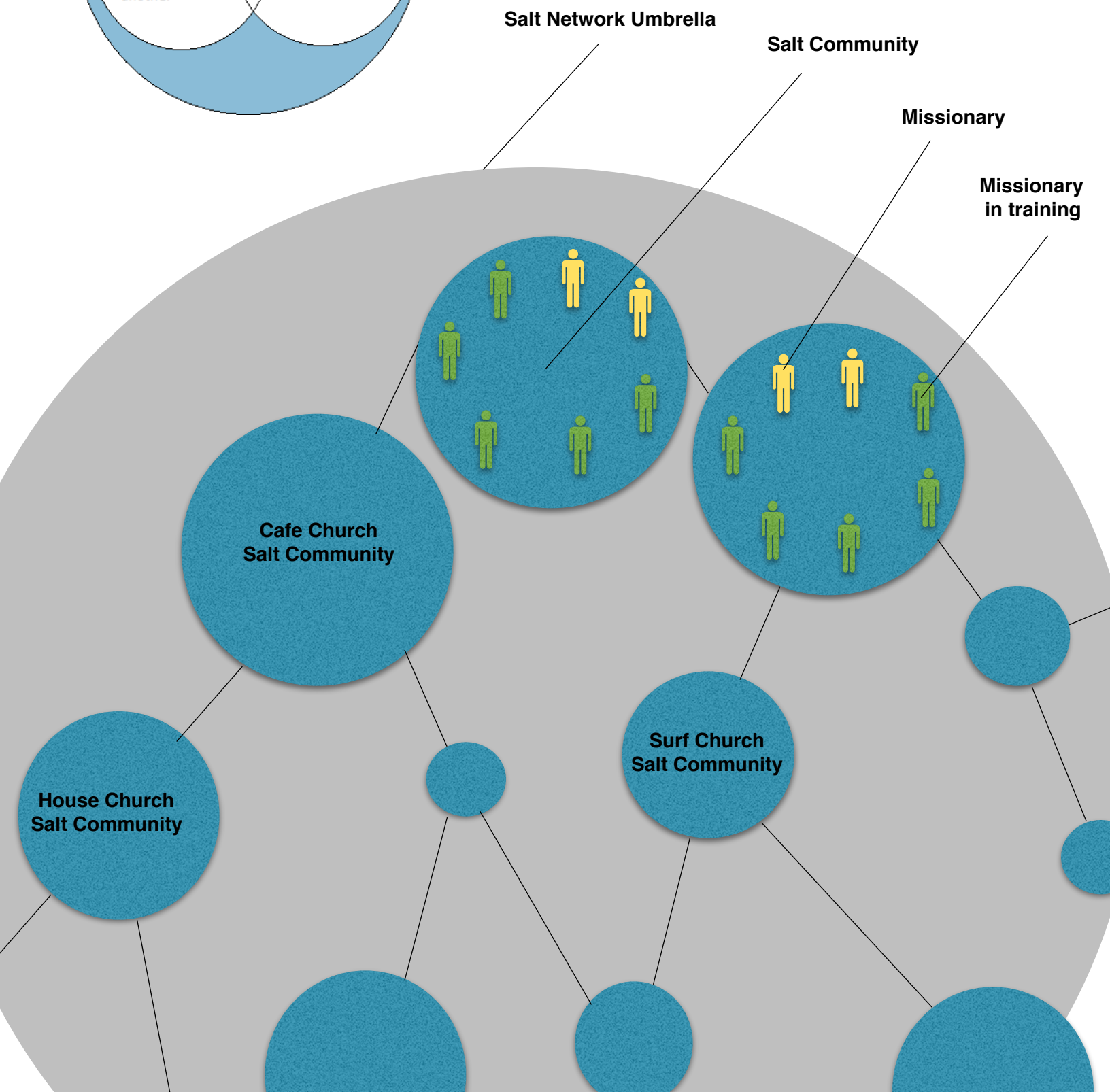
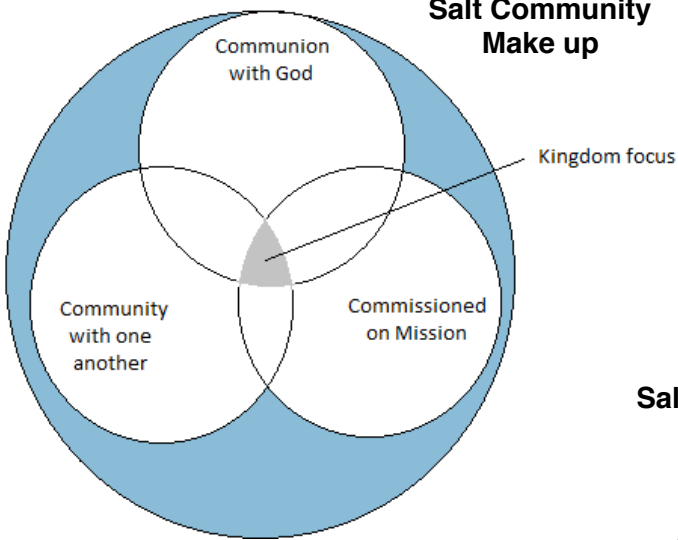
## *Community*

- 3. We are family** / God has adopted us as His sons and daughters into His Kingdom family. As brothers and sisters, we share life as such.
- 4. We are radically generous and radically hospitable** / We sacrifice time, talent, and treasure for the good of others inside and outside of our family.

## *Commission*

- 5. We are evangelistic disciple-makers** / We desire to see those far from God know Him and become like Him.
- 6. We are servant missionaries** / We incarnate ourselves as servants into the places we live, work, and play to display the Kingdom of God and proclaim His Good News
- 7. We are multipliers** / We are diligent about raising leaders to start new faith communities across the road and across the globe.

# **We are Salt Network.**



FIRST

Communion - We were created to worship. The Gospel of Jesus reminds us of our need for a Savior and Lord. In light of this, our response is a fully-surrendered life to Christ as King.

SECOND

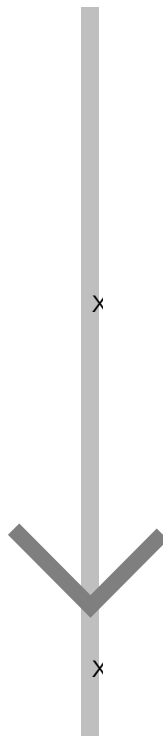
Community - We live as a family that serve and sacrifice for one another. God, in of Himself, is the perfect community Father, Son, and Spirit. He's created us in His image and is inviting us to live into this perfect community while on earth.

THIRD

Commission - Christ has commanded us to "Go and make disciples." The Great Commission is the call for **every** Christian. As fishers of people, our sites are set on displaying the Kingdom of God in ways that draws outsiders to Jesus. We are strategic in our efforts to reach people with the Gospel.

FINALLY

Multiplication - As disciples are made and more people are connected to our community, we must continue to multiply. Disciples make disciples and disciples start new microchurches. Without continued multiplication, communities can become self-absorbed and lose it's missional pulse.



# Proposed

July 2019 - Microchurch begins meeting at Svajda House

October 2019 - Training up of missionaries and begin missional endeavors together

January 2020 - Launch Salt Network 501(c)3 and begin fundraising goal of \$50,000

March - June 2020 - Launch 5 Salt Communities under Salt Network Umbrella

March 2020- Join Palau city collaboration effort

October 2020 - Launch monthly "Reunion" gatherings

December 2020 - Fundraiser Year 2

Begin 2021 with launch of 5 Salt Communities and 5 Missional Communities

2021 - Business as Mission endeavors

2022 - Fully Sustainable Network

# Doctrinal Statement

Doctrine is important and helpful. Ultimately, it is what one knows to be true about God's character and God's revelation that motivates a believer to live for Christ. The Salt Network believes this:

## *Scripture*

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of God's will for the salvation of men and the divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.

## *The Holy Trinity*

We believe in one God creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## *The Father*

God the Father is the Sovereign Creator of heaven and earth. He freely choose to create all things by His Word and for His glory. He reigns over all and sustains all by His Word, accomplishing all of His plans perfectly. He is faithful to every promise and works all things out to His glory and for our good to those who love Him. God was pleased to show humanity immeasurable grace by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, in order to redeem us from our sin.

## *Jesus Christ*

We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. Having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of majesty on high, He now is our high priest and advocate. We believe in the centrality of Jesus Christ in the life of the believer.

## *The Holy Spirit*

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and during this age, to convict, regenerate, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer to Truth for Godly living and service.

## *God's Glory, Man's Fall*

We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is, as a result, lost and cut off from God. Only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.

## *Salvation*

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe. Only those that receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God. We believe that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone for the glory of God alone.

## *Baptism & the Lord's Supper*

We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the church in the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as a means of salvation.

## *The Universal Church*

We believe the true Church is composed of all such people who, through saving faith in Jesus Christ, have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the Body of Christ, of which He is the head.

## *The Return of Christ*

We believe in the personal and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and this "blessed hope" has a crucial bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.

## *Eternal States*

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord, of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.

# Rethinking Church Budgets

Statistics confirm that the North American church has created more consumers than disciples. Consumerism is a detriment to spiritual growth and conflicts with the idea of living on mission. In his book *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit*, Francis Chan explains, **"the benchmark of success in church services has become more about attendance than the movement of the Holy Spirit. The 'entertainment' model of church was largely adopted in the 1980s and '90s, and while it alleviated some of our boredom for a couple of hours a week, it filled our churches with self-focused consumers rather than self-sacrificing servants attuned to the Holy Spirit."**

*Because of this, many times church funds are dedicated toward attracting and entertaining guests and can lose sight of equipping and sending it's members.*

At Salt, we want to be intentional about counting and measuring our sent missionaries that are making disciples in the places we live, work, and play.

This is the reason we're adjusting our finances to create a sustainable, financial church growth model where tithes and offerings are discipleship and missionally-driven. Here's an initial projections snapshot into what we believe God is calling us into.



50%

We will encourage each Salt Community to collect tithes and offerings as a Biblical practice of sacrifice and spiritual discipline. Salt Network can host 501(c) 3 support for these donations, however, instead of all monies staying with the centralized entity, 50% of this funding will remain in the individual community for missional outreach and to help meet the needs of their community as they see fit. Leaders will be coached and encouraged how to allocate the funds for Kingdom growth.



50%

The other 50% of tithes taken to be given to Salt Network Umbrella for ongoing training/support of Salt Communities, new community development, administrative efforts, and general non-profit support costs.

# Proposed Budget

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## MONTHLY EXPENSES- Year 1

\$2000

1 network leadership role, 1 part-time admin  
(Begin in March or when funding goals met.)

\$1000

Equipping and administrative operations

\$1000

Compassion / Missional Outreach / Neighborhoods

\$3000  
total

Salt Network "Reunion" gatherings  
(beginning in the Fall).

- 
- Total Start up costs needed for Year 1:  
\$51,000
  - Estimated ongoing tithes to Salt Network  
at end of year 1: \$2500/month

# Partner & Give

Here are some ways you can support The Salt Network:

*Pray with us.*

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Pray that God's will would be done in and through our Salt Community missionaries.  
Pray that God will use the church to make new disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Connect with us.*

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Questions? Email us: [Matt@fiduciaCommunity.com](mailto:Matt@fiduciaCommunity.com)

Check us out on the web [SaltNetwork.org](http://SaltNetwork.org)

Like us on Facebook:

Follow us on twitter:

*Join the Family.*

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Help us get the word out and invite others to join a Salt community or start one.  
Become a member of the Salt Network and serve, using your talents and gifts to build up the body.

*Be a financial partner.*

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Consider giving your resources consistently to help ensure that the vision of Salt becomes a reality. Will you partner with us?

You can give online at:

[FiduciaCommunity.com/donate](http://FiduciaCommunity.com/donate) (use church plant drop down box)

Please  
make checks out to:

**Fiducia**

429 Coach Rd.

Satellite Beach, FL 32937