



# American Baptist Churches USA

## Church Renewal & Organizational Development

### Suggestions for New Church Starts

Below you will find ten suggestions for enhancing start-ups of any kind, including new church starts. The ideas below were adapted from the July, 2006 issue of Entrepreneur. What else would you add to the list?

1. Identify your top three goals and make progress on each one everyday.
2. Listen to those whom you are trying to reach (constantly) and make changes based upon what you hear.
3. Start with enough seed money to take you well into your next source of income.
4. Recruit administrative help immediately. Even if it is minimal or volunteer – don't try to do all of this yourself even on day one.
5. Make sure that your family is squarely behind/beside you.
6. Have a web presence and strategy sooner rather than later.
7. Plan and prepare for anything that could go wrong. Expect Murphy to show up on a regular basis.
8. The first help you hire should be in your area of greatest personal need. The complementary skills will set an excellent pattern and you will not be tempted to micromanage if they know more than you do!
9. Never stop thinking like an entrepreneur. You will not plateau until you stop doing what got you to your current level, so don't stop.
10. Focus on everyday results. Deliver one cup at a time.
11. Develop strategic partnerships.
12. Feed your passion and it will grow. Never lose sight of your first love.