

# About Reform the Network

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A call to repentance and reform



I was long-time attender at Clear River Church and then South Grove Church. For more than 6 years I served as a small group leader (akin to a deacon) and for several years as an “overseer” or “elder” at South Grove in Athens, GA.

In September 2022 I resigned as an overseer and small group leader from South Grove, and my family stopped attending as of October 2022. While South Grove is not a perfect place and no church is, our departure has little to do with South Grove and more to do with the larger organization of which South Grove is a part – a network of ~26 churches led by Steve Morgan. It has no name for the outside world, but those inside simply call it “The Network.”

The Network suffers from some deeply rooted brokenness. It can be tempting to say that any institution filled with people is going to be broken, and that’s true. Much of this brokenness can be cured and cures are available and apparent. But the leaders of the Network – Steve Morgan and his “Network Leadership Team” composed (last we knew) of Sándor Paull, Luke Williams, Tony Ranvestel, and James Chidester – have thus-far refused to take the steps necessary to address the brokenness.

While other websites are dedicated to encouraging others to leave the network, this is different. I have no expectation that *everyone* will leave the Network, and many of my friends are choosing not to. We’re still friends.

## ... but big changes are necessary...

The Network needs to decide what it is.

The Network needs to be willing to hold its leaders accountable, including investigating whether its leaders have sinned and are disqualified according to the biblical qualifications for an elder / overseer.

The Network needs to repent of its history of domineering and overbearing leadership.

The Network needs to seek reconciliation with the people that have been hurt in it.

The Network Leadership needs to repent of its pride and selfishness, and turn to leading with humility and a Christ-like spirit.

This website is here to encourage the Network to change.