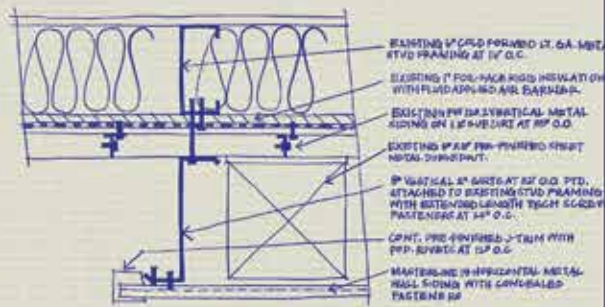
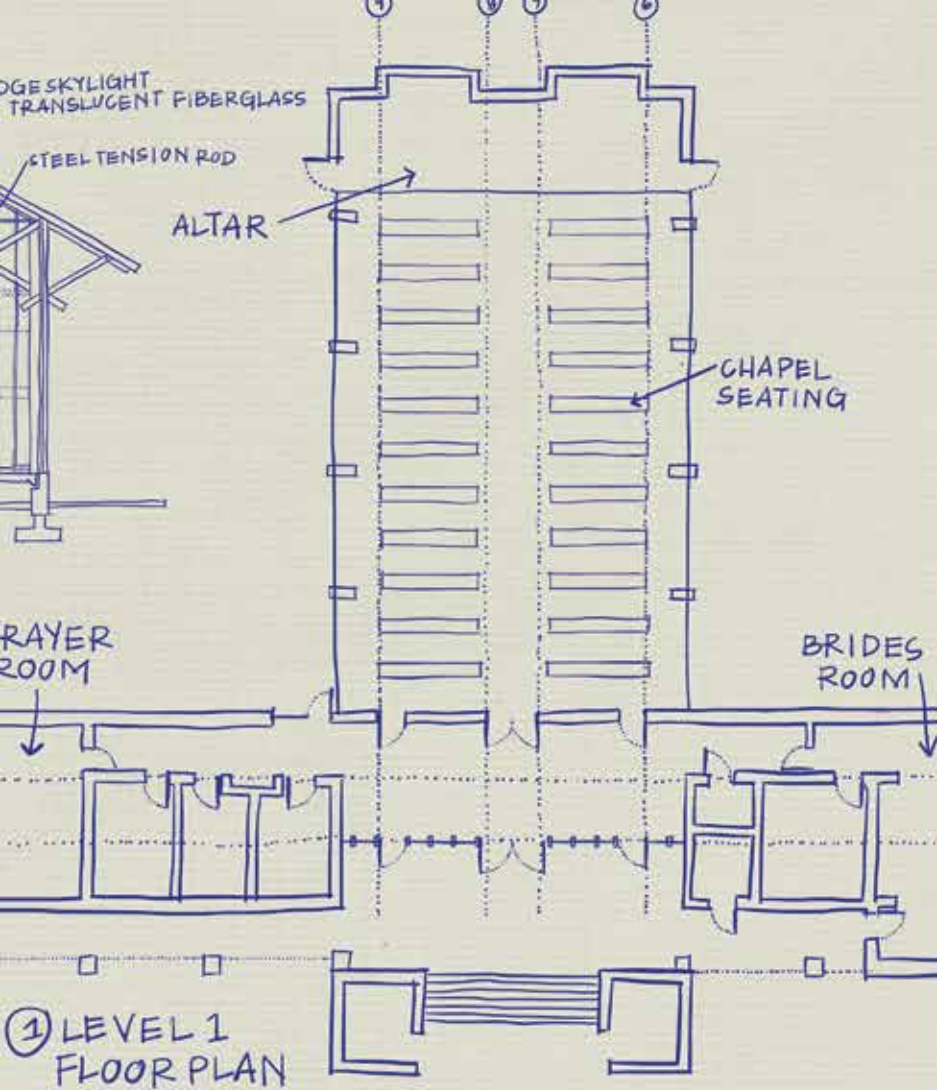
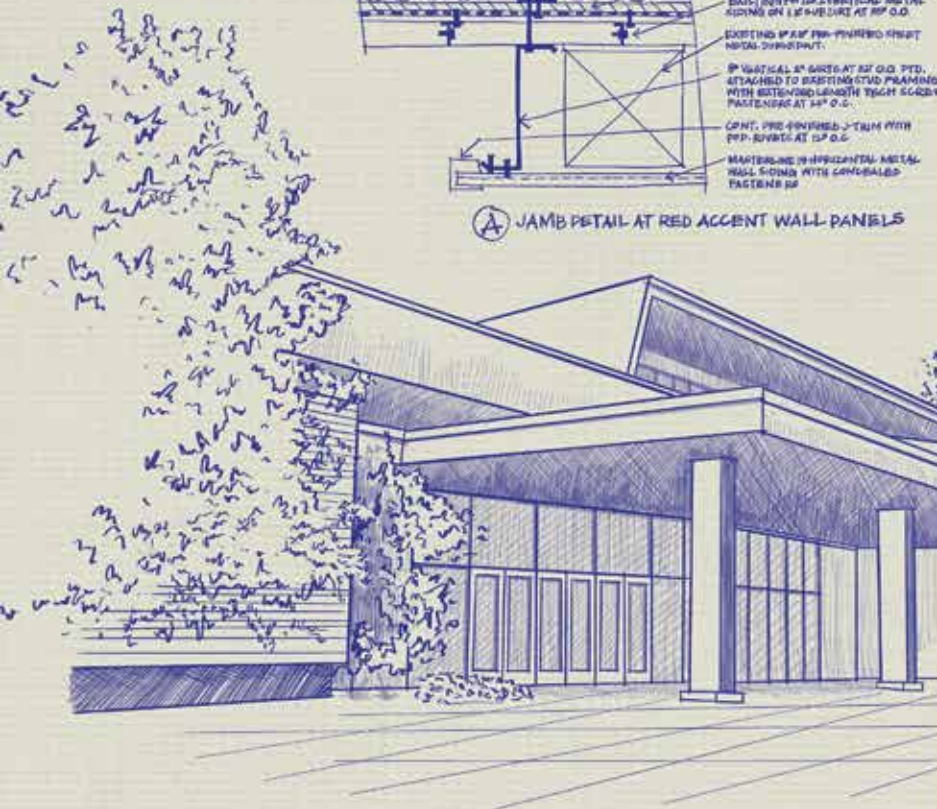


Prepare Initiative Guide



① JAMB DETAIL AT RED ACCENT WALL PANELS



(TOP)
Jeff and Elders at start of campus construction, 2009

(BOTTOM)
Jeff with church members, Christmas 2024



DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

A group of us planted WoodsEdge in the fall of 1993. We held our first services in an elementary school lunchroom that smelled like sour milk. After three years of hard work, I managed to grow the church from 90 people on Sundays...to 60 people. I didn't know whether we would survive.

At our lowest point, we spoke with a church consultant named Don Cousins. It was a pivotal moment. Don challenged us to stop modeling ourselves after another church and find God's unique thumbprint for WoodsEdge. That's what we've been doing ever since.

And what is God's thumbprint for WoodsEdge? It's simple.

We want to see Houston become a city of God.

We are not satisfied with church growth. We are not satisfied to be a successful, suburban church. This is not our goal! We want to see the fire of God!

We want to see revival in our city. We want to see thousands come to Christ. We want to see marriages healed. We want to see prodigals come home to God. We want to see a decline in abortions, suicides, crime, abuse, and more. We want to see miraculous healings. We want to see unity in the church.

We want people to ask, "What's going on in Houston?"

To help accomplish this mission, we are launching a giving initiative this fall called Prepare. But make no mistake: raising money and building buildings is *not* the work. It is just the preparation for the work.

When God wants to do something powerful, he often asks his people to enter a season of preparation. This is the season of preparation for our church.

In Joshua 3:5 we read: "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you." We believe God has amazing things in store for WoodsEdge! Let's get ready. Let's consecrate ourselves. Let's prepare!

A handwritten signature of Jeff Wells in black ink.

JEFF WELLS
SENIOR PASTOR

HISTORY OF WOODSEDGE	10
WOODSEDGE TODAY	12
PREPARE INITIATIVE	22
PREPARE FOR MINISTRY	26
PREPARE FOR MOVEMENT	32
PREPARE FOR MISSION	54
WHAT IS MY PART?	74
HOW TO GIVE	78
FAQ	84
WEEKLY DEVOTIONS	86

TABLE OF CONTENTS



CONSECRATE
YOURSELVES,
FOR TOMORROW
THE LORD WILL
DO AMAZING
THINGS AMONG
YOU.

JOSHUA 3:5

HISTORY OF WOODSEdge

1993

First service in Ride Elementary School.



1996

We begin seeking God's thumbprint for WoodsEdge.

AUG 2002

Weekly prayer services begin.

NOV 2002

Increased engagement in missions.



2003

WoodsEdge moves to its own property.



2009

Our current beautiful campus opens.



2013

Miraculous elimination of our debt.

2015

WoodsEdge begins planting churches.

2021

Community group renewal begins.



2024

We re-launch WoodsEdge en Español. We are one church in many languages.



2043

What will our 50th birthday celebration be like?



WOODSEGE

TODAY

\$4,080,000

GIVING TOWARD MISSIONS
AND MINISTRY PARTNERS



7425

EASTER WORSHIPERS

AMAR A
JESÚS.
CAMINAR
JUNTOS.
LLEVAR
ESPERANZA
AL MUNDO.

229

AVERAGE
ESPANOL
ATTENDANCE

67

MISSIONARIES AND
MINISTRY PARTNERS

125

COMMUNITY
GROUPS

1400+

ADULTS IN GROUPS



3349

AVERAGE
SUNDAY
ATTENDANCE

805

AVERAGE KIDS
(BIRTH-GRADE 6)

556

PRAYER SERVICE
ATTENDANCE

116

AVERAGE WEEKLY
PRAYER REQUESTS



LOVE JESUS.
JOURNEY
TOGETHER.
BRING HOPE TO
THE WORLD.

165

BAPTISMS

\$13,800,000

BUDGET



OUR MISSION:

LOVE JESUS.
JOURNEY TOGETHER.
BRING HOPE TO THE WORLD.

A photograph of a person in silhouette with their arms raised in a church setting. In the background, a large screen displays the text "IF YOU'VE BEEN FORGIVEN AND IF YOU'VE BEEN REDEEMED".

**IF YOU'VE BEEN FORGIVEN
AND IF YOU'VE BEEN REDEEMED**

OUR VISION:

**WE WANT TO SEE HOUSTON
BECOME A CITY OF GOD.**

OUR GOAL IS
NOT TO BE A
SUCCESSFUL
SUBURBAN
CHURCH.
WE WANT
TO SEE
THE FIRE
OF GOD.



PREPARE

INITIATIVE



The Prepare Initiative is a two-year giving initiative to support ongoing ministry, needed campus expansion, new community outreach, and new international ministry projects. But the heart of the Prepare Initiative is not giving, it's vision.

Our vision is to see Houston become a city of God. Accomplishing that vision will require all of us. Many will be called to give, but all will be called to grow. We want to grow, each one of us, in our faith and love, as we seek to be all that God wants us to be.

Raising money and building buildings is not the work—it is the preparation for the work. Only the Spirit of God can bring revival to our city. But it is our privilege to prepare the way.

TOTAL GOAL:
\$47 MILLION



PREPARE FOR

Ministry

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD.

- SUPPORT ONGOING MINISTRY BY FULLY FUNDING TWO YEARS OF OUR MINISTRY BUDGET
- INCLUDES BUDGETED SUPPORT FOR MISSIONS, MINISTRY PARTNERS, AND CHURCH PLANTING

\$29M



PREPARE FOR

Movement

WE INVEST IN A GENERATIONAL MOVEMENT OF GOD.

- NEW VENUES FOR GRADES 3-4 AND GRADES 5-6, INCREASED CAPACITY FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN
- NEW PRAYER CHAPEL, INCLUDING 24/7 PRAYER ROOM
- NEEDED CAMPUS RENOVATIONS

\$14M



PREPARE FOR

Mission

WE FOCUS ON THE WORLDWIDE MISSION OF GOD.

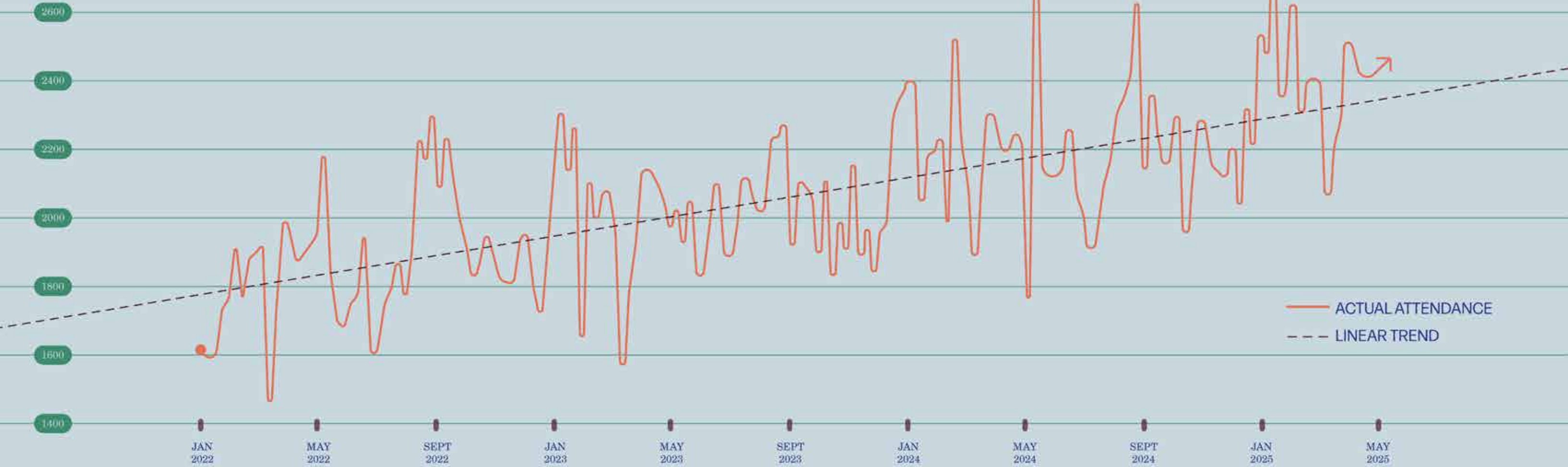
- ADDITIONAL CHURCH PLANTING EFFORTS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH
- NEW COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS
- NEW INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECTS

\$4M

PREPARE FOR MINISTRY

WORSHIP VENUE ATTENDANCE

(WORSHIP CENTER AND PAVILION)



OUR CHURCH IS GROWING!

If it feels like it's harder to find a parking spot or a seat in the worship center, it is! Over the last three years, our worship services have grown by an average of 8.5% per year.

More people in our church requires growing generosity.

\$13.4 MILLION

BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

\$13.8 MILLION

BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2025-26

\$15.0 MILLION (PROJECTED)

BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2026-27



YOUR GIVING TO WOODSEDGE MAKES POSSIBLE EVERYTHING WE DO, EVEN MORE THAN YOU MAY REALIZE.

MY GIVING SUPPORTS...

- 14 missionaries around the world
- 53 ministry partners in our community and around the world
- Crew, our kids ministry worship team
- 400+ new international house churches every year
- A new Spanish-language church in Greenspoint
- Vanguard, our student leadership team
- Mission trips to countries like Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Germany, Spain, and Sri Lanka
- 125 community groups with more than 1400 members
- 250+ people involved in re:generation recovery ministry
- Marriage ministries like re|engage, Merge, and Foundation
- Powerful Wednesday night prayer services
- Food for 300+ families each week through our food pantry
- 1,000+ volunteers who serve in kids and student ministries
- ESL classes, employment resources, and legal immigration assistance through the Hope Center
- 52 domestic and international church plants
- Men on Mission, our men's service team
- Weekly women's Bible study
- Thrive and Rooted, our equipping ministries for motherhood and fatherhood
- Retreats, camps, and special events
- 1900+ kids and volunteers who participated in Craze VBS
- **AND SO MUCH MORE!**

PREPARE FOR MOVEMENT

CHILDREN'S BUILDING

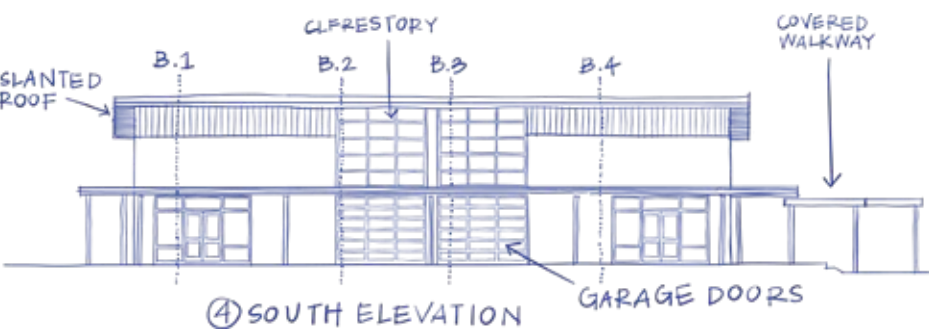
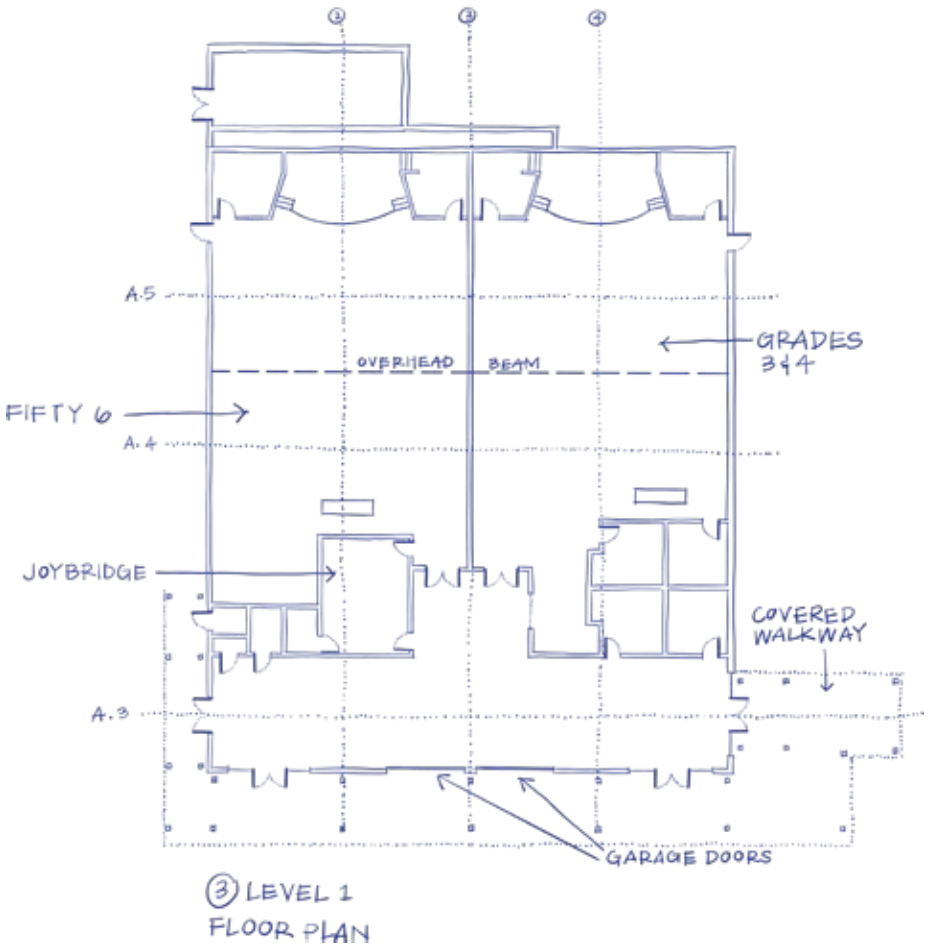
As our church grows, we are running out of children's space. Classrooms in the children's building are more crowded than ever. In addition, for seven years our fifth and sixth graders have been in a temporary, rented building.

It's time to replace this rented building with a permanent space for kids in grades 3-6. The new building will be located adjacent to the ministry teams building, near the outdoor volleyball court.

By moving our third and fourth graders to this new building, we'll free up space on the second floor of our current children's building for younger kids.

Our heart is for the next generation. If we want to see Houston become a city of God, it will begin with a generational movement of his Spirit.

ESTIMATED COST:
\$6 MILLION







CHANDEL'S STORY

For Chandel Block, serving in children's ministry isn't a task. It's a joy. A calling. A response to the people who shaped her life when she was a child. "The biggest thing is the people who poured into my life when I was little," she says. "I was eight years old when I prayed to receive Jesus because there were people at my church who told me about Him."

Decades later, Chandel is doing the same for others. She's spent more than 35 years investing in kids – on soccer fields, at church camps, and in Sunday classrooms – and it's all about seeing the wonder of the gospel take root in a child's heart.

Chandel remembers one moment clearly. A four-year-old boy, wide-eyed and bold, prayed aloud after another child had received Christ. "Hearing him pray for our class was incredible. I don't know how else to describe it," she says. "It was such a beautiful picture of what he's seen modeled here in the church."

These are the moments that matter. The small, sacred ones. The ones that whisper, *This is holy ground.*

For Chandel, the joy of serving comes from the kids themselves. "They bring a different joy," she

says. "Their innocence and their happiness – it inspires me. Listening to them pray and hearing their hearts almost brings tears to your eyes."

She loves seeing kids step into leadership, like a child boldly opening the class in prayer. "Their hearts are just so big," she reflects. "Their childlike faith, the simplicity of it. Talking to Jesus is really simple. It's like talking to me."

It's that kind of faith that fuels her. "You might be having a really hard day," she says, "but you're hearing something from somebody else and you realize – I can believe that too. I can walk in that as well. It encourages you to keep trusting God."

She knows not everyone feels equipped for children's ministry. She's heard the doubts: I don't know how to talk to kids. I don't know how to teach them. What if I mess it up? But Chandel pushes back on those fears with a warm confidence: "If you can laugh, if you can smile, if you have words – you can be here. God can fill you. The Holy Spirit can fill you and lead you."

She doesn't call herself a teacher or an expert. She calls herself a connector – someone who invites others into something bigger than themselves. "I would invite them to try this once," she says. "You'll be totally blessed."

Chandel's prayer is that more people would simply show up – to sit in the classroom, to see the way kids respond to Jesus, to watch the Holy Spirit at work. "There's no greater joy than seeing a heart turn to Jesus Christ," she says.

She's seen firsthand how the seeds planted in a Sunday classroom can bear fruit outside the walls of the church. "That's always my prayer – that they will go out and be the voice of Jesus to their friends and others."

For Chandel Block, children's ministry isn't a volunteer shift. It's a front-row seat to the kingdom of God breaking through – week by week, story by story, prayer by simple prayer.

"God is doing incredible things," she says, "and He's choosing to use us."



I AM A *CHILD* OF *GOD*

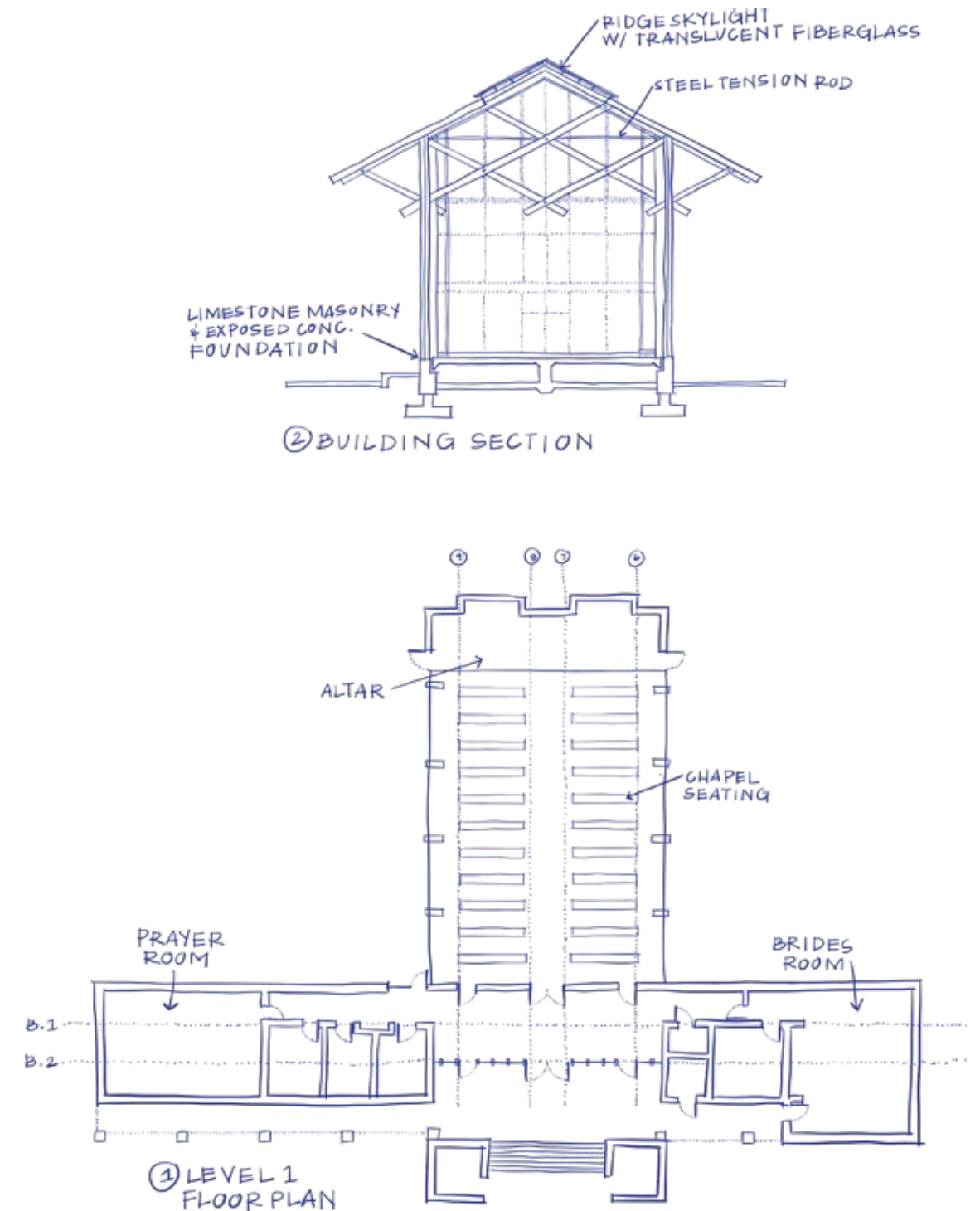
PRAYER CHAPEL

Our church has never had a suitable setting for weddings, funerals, and smaller events. A new wood and stone prayer chapel will provide a beautiful setting for these services, and perhaps an additional Sunday morning service.

In addition, this chapel will include a dedicated space for 24/7, round-the-clock prayer – for our families, for our church, for our city, for our country, and for the nations.

Prayer is not a preliminary to the real work. Prayer *is* the real work! We want to lead the way as a movement of prayer covers our city.

ESTIMATED COST:
\$5 MILLION





MARI AND JACOB'S STORY

On March 10, 2016, David and I received news that every parent dreads. Our son Jacob was diagnosed with leukemia.

That night, I dropped to my knees and cried out, “God, what does this mean? What are You trying to teach me?”

Initially, the prognosis was good. Doctors gave Jacob a 96% chance of recovery. But by Day 19, Jacob’s odds dropped to 4%. By Day 25, he had been rushed to the ICU four times.

On Day 30, during surgery, he coded on the table. Now on life support, he was given less than a 1% chance of surviving. We tried to celebrate his birthday three days later, but that day, the other child in our shared hospital room passed away.

It was the darkest day of our lives.

Doctors and chaplains tried to comfort us, but our thoughts were heavy. I remember the cries of the mother next door mourning her son. I felt her agony and anger. Is this a glimpse of what’s next for us? Will we be next to bury our child?

I was consumed—completely fixated on Jacob’s healing. Our prayers were desperate and filled with fear, as though we believed God had turned away.

On April 28, I met a woman named Lisa in the ICU waiting room. Her grandson was fighting for his life just like Jacob. Lisa looked at me and said, “I know the answer to the prayer you prayed on your first night here. The Lord wants you to remember He is still God. He is in control. And there is purpose in your pain.”

That night, I surrendered again—my fear, my son, my obedience. That was the day our family learned the

truth that became our motto: The circumstances of life will not dictate our obedience to God. God will dictate our circumstances.

From that day on, we obeyed. We began praying for others. We had access to hurting people that no one else did, so we took every opportunity to speak life, pray, and minister. David and I prayed for so many patients that people began to think we were visiting pastors.

Eventually, the hospital moved Jacob to what they call “death row,” the rooms closest to the nurses’ station, reserved for the sickest patients. No parent wants to be there.

On May 4, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., after 54 days in the hospital, Jacob took a sudden turn for the worse. He was losing blood, and the hospital room was filled with chaos. The doctors said Jacob had two hours left. One of our doctors, Dr. Thomas, explained that Jacob had lost three inches of intestinal tissue, but I was barely listening to her. I was just staring at my son’s lifeless body.

Frustrated that I wasn’t paying attention, Dr. Thomas shouted, “Your son is dying. And not only will he die, but he will suffer. He’s maxed out on sedation. There’s nothing more we can do.”

But suddenly, a peace washed over me. I knew Jacob wasn’t alone.

I spoke boldly. “How dare you say that! I serve the Alpha and the Omega. Where you are limited, my Father in heaven is not. He alone has the final word.”

I walked away in tears, heartbroken and terrified that I may have spoken too boldly. What if they stopped trying to save my son because of my words?





(OVERLEAF)
Mari holds Jacob's
hand on his birthday,
April 18, 2016.

(TOP LEFT)
Jacob with Pastor Jeff
in September 2016,
shortly after Jacob's
release from the
hospital.

(TOP RIGHT)
Because of his cancer,
doctors predicted
Jacob would never
walk.

(BOTTOM LEFT)
In 2023, Jacob
graduated in the top 30
of his senior class.

David and I went to the chapel and surrendered Jacob to the Lord. We told God, "If You are going to take him, please don't let him suffer. Take him now, into Your arms, whole and healed."

After what felt like just a few minutes, a nurse named Kelli tapped me on the shoulder.

"I've been looking for you for two hours," she said.

We got up to leave the chapel and realized the room was packed. When we arrived, it had been empty. But now, dozens of people were praying for Jacob—staff, janitors, other parents, people we had prayed with. As we walked out, I heard, "Lord, heal Jacob. Father, save him."

I turned to Kelli and asked, "Where is Jacob?"

"Exactly where you left him," she said.

Confused, I asked again, "At what time did our son pass?"

She stopped and turned to me. "Jacob isn't dead. He's alive. The bleeding stopped the moment you left. He's improving with every breath. He's even trying to breathe over the ventilator."

David and I ran. We didn't check in or sanitize; we just sprinted to Jacob's room.

There he was—stable, breathing, alive. The nurses even had to turn down the ventilator pressure because his body was trying to breathe on its own for the first time. Soon, Jacob had made it past the critical 24-hour mark.

Later, Dr. Thomas returned with a book in her hand. "There is no medical reason Jacob is still alive," she said. "I've been waiting for him to pass. I never would've placed my faith in my God over medicine, but because of your faith in the Alpha and Omega, I need to know Him." Then she held up the book. It was a Bible. "Did I buy the right one?" she asked.

That day, the Healer walked into our story. But Jacob's healing was only a part of it. Dr. Thomas received salvation, and she was just the first. In total, 27 people came to know Jesus as Lord and Savior through Jacob's journey.

Because of his cancer, doctors said Jacob would never walk, that his bones and hair wouldn't grow, and that he'd never live independently.

But God had the final word.

In 2021, Jacob grew 17 inches, started running, tried out for football, earned a 3.92 GPA, and became a licensed driver. In 2023, he graduated in the top 30 of his senior class.

Jacob didn't just survive. He's thriving.

Not every story is like Jacob's. But the God we serve is still moving, still speaking, still working miracles. There is purpose in your pain, power in your prayers, and victory in your surrender.

Don't be afraid. Pray bold and extraordinary prayers.

THE ALPHA AND OMEGA STILL HAS THE FINAL WORD.

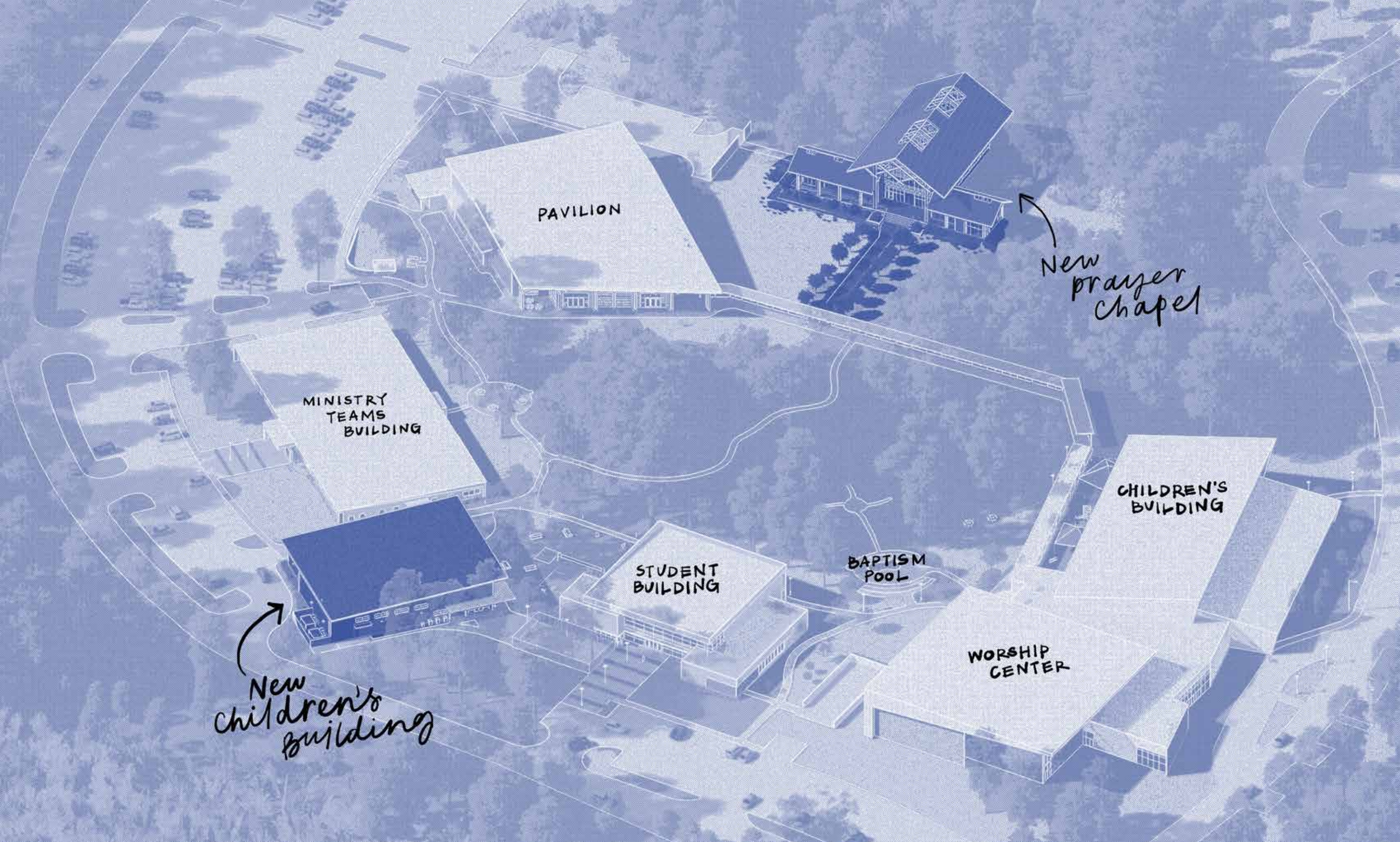
NEEDED RENOVATIONS

We've been on our current campus now for 17 years. Capital improvements are needed all over our campus:

- Additional parking
- Improvements to the Worship Center audio-visual system
- Renovation of the student building exterior
- Renovation of the ministry teams building exterior
- A covered walkway around the entire campus

ESTIMATED COST:
\$3 MILLION





PREPARE FOR MISSION

Church planting is a core part of our mission. WoodsEdge began as a church plant. And church planting is how the kingdom of God has expanded around the world since the book of Acts. Research tells us that the best way to advance the kingdom is through church planting.

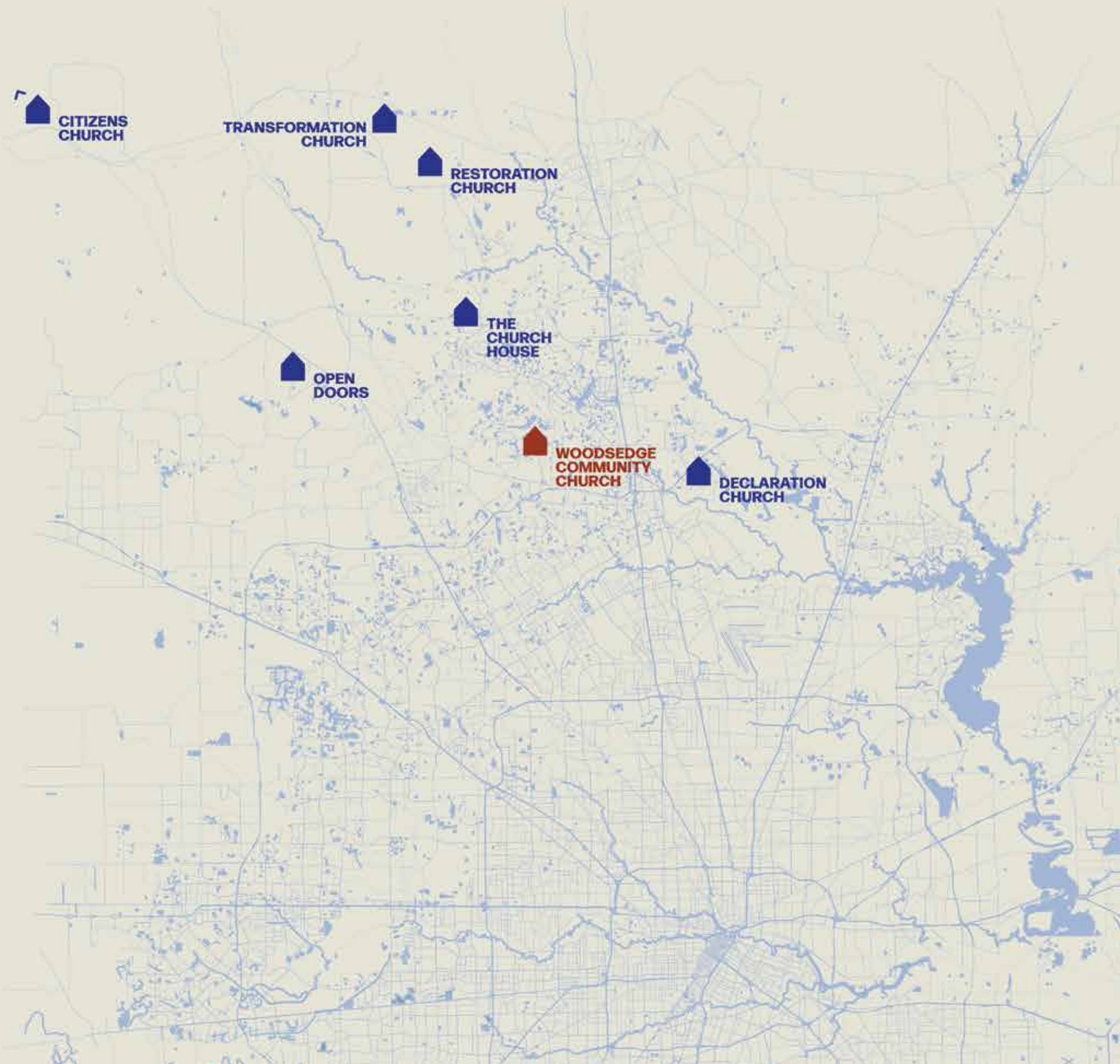
Over the years, WoodsEdge has planted many churches in the Houston area:

- Restoration Church, Montgomery
- Declaration Church, Spring
- Citizens Church, Bryan/College Station
- Transformation Church, Montgomery
- The Church House, Magnolia
- Open Doors, Tomball

We support dozens of other church plants financially.

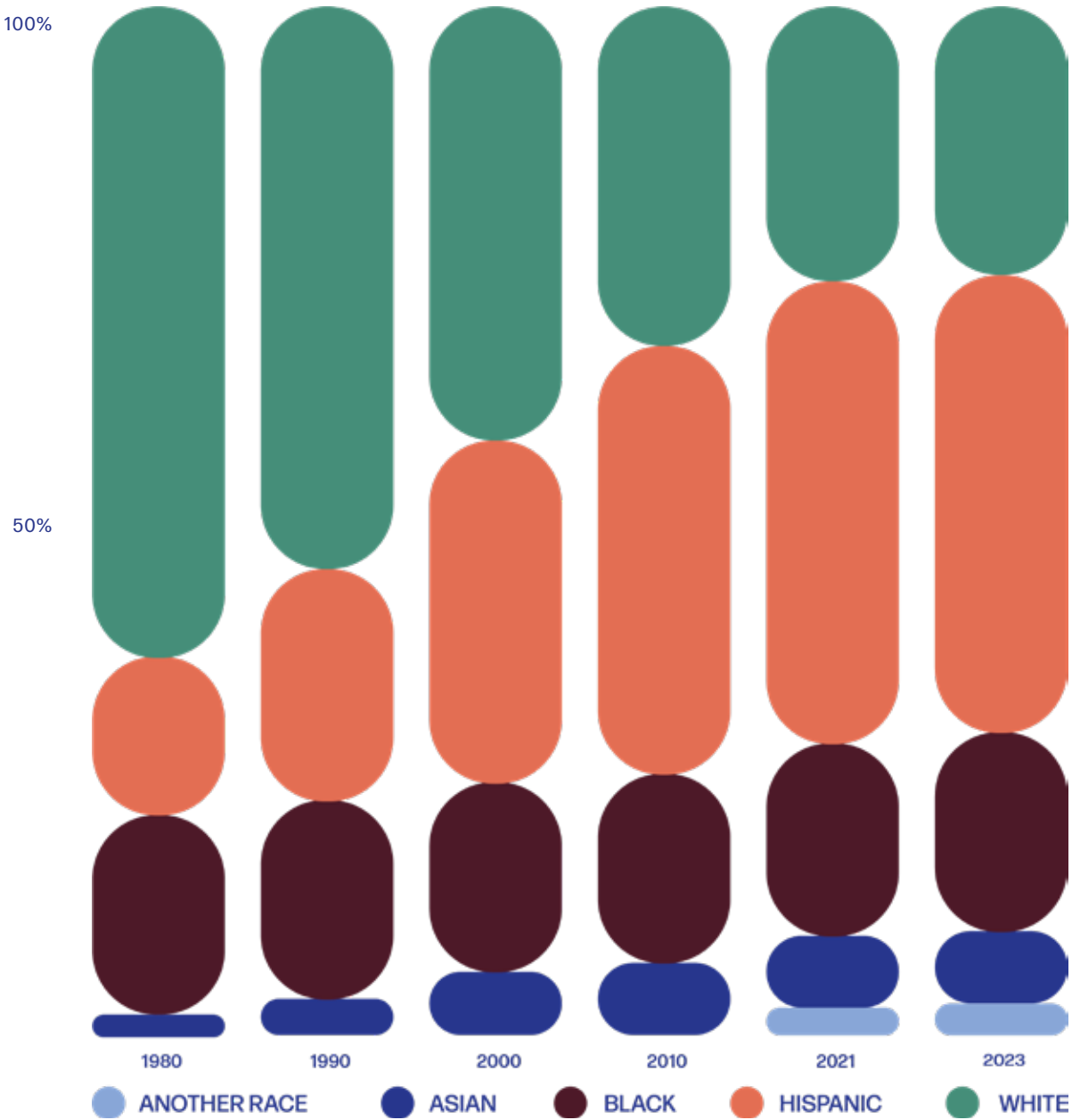
We want to mobilize more resources and accelerate our church planting mission, raising up church planters from within our congregation.

ENGLISH CHURCH PLANTS



RACIAL/ETHNIC COMPOSITION

PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY,
BY DECADE, 1980-2023 | HARRIS COUNTY



Our Spanish-language church plants include our most recent plant in Greenspoint and La Iglesia, a family of five churches in the Mexican cities of Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta, Ajijic, and Colima. We are currently launching an additional church plant in Guadalajara. We also support church plants in Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Italy.

The largest ethnic group in Houston is Hispanic, comprising 44% of the population, and that percentage is growing. If we want to see Houston become a city of God, we must reach the people of our city. Houston still has far too few Spanish-speaking churches. Our church planting mission must include Spanish-language churches. Recently we planted a new church in Greenspoint, and we are currently planning two more Spanish-language plants in partnership with Restoration Church and Collective Church, but we need more!

SPANISH CHURCH PLANTS

IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, SO THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

— MATTHEW 5:16

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS





THE HOPE CENTER

- The Hope Center, located on our campus, includes a food pantry that provides for more than 270 families every week.
- The Hope Center also offers English classes, job resources, and legal immigration assistance.
- We need facility improvements to handle increased volume and expand our programs.



MINISTRY PARTNERS

WOODSEGE PARTNERS WITH MORE THAN 50 LOCAL MINISTRIES. THESE ARE JUST A FEW. YOUR GENEROSITY WILL HELP US EXPAND OUR MINISTRY WITH ALL OUR PARTNERS.

GOD’S GARAGE

We partner with God’s Garage to provide free vehicles and free car repairs for single moms, widows, and wives of deployed members of the military.

PRESTIGE LEARNING INSTITUTE

We partner with PLI to educate, equip, and minister to immigrant and refugee families.

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We partner with Lighthouse Community Outreach to reach the Five Oaks neighborhood, providing education and social support and sharing the gospel. We recently replaced the neighborhood playground.

RESTORATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

We partner with RCDC, led by Pastor David Hill, to revitalize urban communities, focusing on health and wellness and skills development.

LOVE FOSTERS HOPE

We partner with Love Fosters Hope to put on summer camps for kids in the foster system.

7MORE

We partner with 7More to help released convicts reclaim their lives and find hope.

THE CHAMPION PROJECT

We partner with The Champion Project to serve a home of boys aged 7 to 17 in the foster care system. They come twice a month to church and share a meal and activity with mentors.

HOPE’S PATH

We partner with Hope’s Path, a residential program for young men ages 18-28 who have aged out of foster care or are homeless.

ROCK BOTTOM HOPE

We partner with Rock Bottom Hope to offer connection, community, and freedom to individuals and families who feel hopeless, addicted, and broken.

EYES ON ME

We partner with Eyes On Me, using the arts to reach kids in underserved neighborhoods, share the gospel, and transform communities.

HOUSTON WELCOMES REFUGEES

We partner with Houston Welcomes Refugees to provide welcome kits for refugees, establish relationships, and help with assimilation.

PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE CENTER NORTH

We partner with PACN to support women with unplanned pregnancies and provide assistance for new moms.

YOUTH WITH A MISSION HOUSTON

We partner with YWAM Houston to serve the homeless by sharing the gospel and a meal at Street Church on Thursday nights.



GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

— MATTHEW 28:19

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY PROJECTS

**TOTAL COST FOR
CHURCH PLANTING,
COMMUNITY OUTREACH,
AND INTERNATIONAL
MINISTRY PROJECTS:**

\$4 MILLION

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY PROJECTS

WE WANT TO EXPAND CURRENT INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY PROJECTS AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES AS GOD PROVIDES.

NEW MINISTRY CENTER
THE KURADA FAMILY, TURKEY

A new ministry center will serve locals, train missionaries, and facilitate mission trips.

CHURCH PLANTING
COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL, BOLIVIA

We have already funded one thriving church plant in Bolivia, and plan to add two more.

EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP
EURASIA

Expanded support for leaders, pastors, and evangelists in Russian-speaking countries. The potential for new evangelism and discipleship projects is virtually unlimited.

FIGHTING CHILD POVERTY
BARRIGUITAS LLENAS (“FULL LITTLE BELLIES”), MEXICO

We partner with this local organization to fight child poverty in Guadalajara.

BIBLES FOR NEW BELIEVERS
MALAWI

Recent efforts reached 4,000 new chiefs with the gospel. We want to provide a Bible for each chief in their indigenous language.

ORPHAN MINISTRY
GUATEMALA, KENYA, MEXICO

We support Casa Aleluya (Guatemala), Abba’s Blessings (Kenya), and Emmanuel House (Mexico) as they care for some of the most vulnerable people on the planet. We want to fund additional projects for these precious children.

REACHING LABOR CAMPS
MIDDLE EAST

A new ministry is sharing the gospel and empowering indigenous missionaries in Middle Eastern labor camps. This ministry has a great opportunity to expand.

HOUSE CHURCH PLANTING

India, Togo (West Africa), Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras

We plant more than 450 house churches each year through our partners For All Mankind Movement (FAMM), The Timothy Initiative (TTI), Sports Catalyst, and missionaries Bob and Mary Burton.



WHAT IS MY PART?

01. PREPARE YOUR HEART

What does a consecrated heart look like? During the Prepare Initiative we'll focus on five marks of a consecrated heart.

Extraordinary Prayer

WE GO TO BATTLE FOR THE SAKE OF OUR FAMILY, OUR CHURCH, OUR CITY, AND OUR WORLD.

Deep-hearted Worship

WE ARE NOT SPECTATORS. WE GO HARD AFTER GOD!

Abundant generosity

OUT OF GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS, WE BLESS OTHERS ABUNDANTLY.

Lifestyle of Repentance

WE LIVE IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, UNHINDERED BY SIN.

Bold Love

IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS, WE ARE VULNERABLE, AUTHENTIC, AND SELFLESS.

02. EMBRACE THE VISION

Embrace the vision of Houston becoming a city of God, of transforming revival in Houston. Pray for it fervently. We need you! This is God's vision for WoodsEdge and you are WoodsEdge.

03. ASK GOD, WHAT IS MY PART?

Don't just think hard and run the budget—pray! Ask God to lead you. God may have blessed you financially for this time and this vision. Seek the Lord and do whatever he wants you to do.

PREPARE SCHEDULE

THE PREPARE INITIATIVE IS A SIX-WEEK CAMPAIGN CULMINATING IN TWO COMMITMENT SUNDAYS. THE GIVING PERIOD FOR PREPARE BEGINS NOVEMBER 2, 2025.

AUGUST 24
PREPARE INITIATIVE LAUNCH

OCTOBER 5
COMMITMENT SUNDAY #1

OCTOBER 12
COMMITMENT SUNDAY #2

NOVEMBER 2
GIVING SUNDAY, PREPARE
INITIATIVE GIVING BEGINS



HOW TO GIVE

PREPARE FOR MINISTRY

8-12

WILLIAMS

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD.

- Support existing ministries to fully function (see goals of our mission budget)

PREPARE FOR MOVEMENT

13-18

WILLIAMS

WE INVEST IN A GENERATIONAL MOVEMENT OF GOD.

- Have prayer requests including (M/F) prayer money
- Have resources for grades 3-4 and grades 5-6, increased capacity for younger children
- Need more resources

PREPARE FOR MISSION

19-24

WILLIAMS

WE FOCUS ON THE WORLDWIDE MISSION OF GOD.

- Domestic church planting efforts in both English and Spanish
- International church planting efforts in Latin America and Europe
- New community outreach projects
- New international mission projects

WHAT DOES 'ONE FUND' MEAN?

Gifts to the Prepare Initiative will not be separated into individual projects but will be combined into a single fund. We are one church with one mission, and this fund will support the entire ministry of the church as well as new projects.

NAME

PHONE

EMAIL

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Normal Yearly Giving

Expanded Yearly Generosity for Prepare

New Total Yearly Giving

2 Year Total

Gifts from Stated Resources

Total Commitment

Handwritten note: "I'm going to give \$1,000 a month for the next 12 months. That's \$12,000. I'll give it all at once." (signed: [illegible])

1)

PRAY

Pray for God to lead you. Then move forward in faith.

2)

COMMIT

Fill out your commitment card and bring it to one of our commitment services: October 5 and 12.

Commitment cards are available at the Info Desk.

3)

GIVE

The giving period for Prepare will begin with a special Giving Sunday on November 2.

GIVING PROFILE

Every Gift Matters.

To reach our \$47 million goal, it will take all of us, each giving generously according to what God has given us. This Giving Profile shows how gifts of all sizes can support a single vision—to see Houston become a city of God.

NUMBER OF GIFTS	AMOUNT OF EACH GIFT	ANNUAL GIFT AMOUNT	MONTHLY GIFT AMOUNT	TOTAL AT THIS LEVEL
1	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$83,333	\$2,000,000
1	\$1,500,000	\$750,000	\$62,500	\$1,500,000
2	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$41,667	\$2,000,000
2	\$750,000	\$375,000	\$31,250	\$1,500,000
4	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$2,000,000
12	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$3,000,000
50	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$5,000,000
100	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$7,500,000
200	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$10,000,000
300	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$7,500,000
300	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$3,000,000
300	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$1,500,000
300	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$750,000
300	\$1,000	\$500	\$42	\$300,000

78

WHAT IS MY PART?

THE PREPARE INITIATIVE

79

JUAN'S STORY



Juan Melendez didn't hesitate. When he saw the young man still waiting after all the others had gone home, something stirred in him—a memory, perhaps, of his own difficult arrival in the U.S., or the countless moments when strangers had shown him mercy.

"My wife and I were already packing everything up to head home," he recalled. "Everyone who arrived on the bus was being picked up by friends or family, but this young man had no one to come for him."

They had met José through a Thanksgiving outreach at a local ministry serving immigrants and the homeless. Juan had volunteered to help distribute food, clothing, and supplies, but he never expected the day would end with a house guest.

"The first thing I did was try to call different shelters," Juan said. "But none of the places answered. I said, Well, this is an opportunity to do God's work."

Despite her hesitation, Juan's wife agreed. "She said, We don't know who he is." Juan remembered, "But I thought about the difficulties this person had gone through since leaving his country. I thought, How can I leave this person here after they have gone through such a difficult journey?"

Juan's voice grew quiet as he reflected on the decision. "Sometimes we have to react to the voice of God. We have to be ready to do the work that God wants us to do."

So Juan and his wife brought José home. They fed him. They offered him rest. Over the course of those days, Juan began to learn José's story. He was a family man, soft-spoken and patient. He had left loved ones behind in Colombia in search of work, hope, and stability.

When Thanksgiving came, they made a space for José at the table. That day, José shared that he hoped to travel to Chicago to be with relatives but couldn't afford a plane ticket. Juan brought the need to his family and friends who had gathered for the Thanksgiving meal. Without hesitation, they took up a collection—more than \$300—and bought the ticket.

But the most meaningful moment came not at the Thanksgiving table, but in a prayer. Juan invited José to pray with the group. "We asked him if he wanted to reconcile with Jesus and let Jesus guide his steps," Juan recounted. José accepted. With quiet courage, he committed his life to Christ and made the decision to follow Him.

That moment stays with Juan, the moment when a lonely stranger found a new family. Generosity isn't just about money. It's about opening your heart. Your home. Your life. It's about being ready to act when God gives you the chance.

For Juan, all the motivation he needed came from the words of Jesus. "Jesus says in Matthew 24:35, 'I was a stranger, and you took me in. You brought me home. I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty, and you gave me drink.' As Christians, we need to combine both things: doing good deeds and having faith in Jesus Christ."

Juan still calls José from time to time. "He's a man of very few words," Juan smiled. "But he tells me his family is doing very well." Recently, José bought some land and hopes to build a home.

When asked what this experience taught him, Juan is quick to respond. "We need to do what Jesus said, what needs to be done."

Juan's story is a reminder that abundant generosity doesn't always look dramatic. Sometimes it looks like a borrowed coat. A

warm meal. A guest room made ready. A plane ticket. A prayer.

José came to Juan's house as a stranger, but left as a brother in Christ, all because someone was willing to go beyond good intentions and simply say yes to God.

*ABUNDANT GENEROSITY IS ABOUT BEING READY TO ACT
WHEN GOD GIVES YOU THE CHANCE.*



(TOP)
José playing a round of dominoes with Juan's family after Thanksgiving dinner.



(BOTTOM)
Juan and José celebrating Christmas together.

WHAT IS THE PREPARE INITIATIVE?

IS THE PREPARE INITIATIVE ABOVE AND BEYOND MY REGULAR GIVING?

HOW DO I MAKE MY COMMITMENT?

WILL WE GO INTO DEBT?

WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION BEGIN?

WHY IS OUR REGULAR MINISTRY BUDGET INCLUDED IN THE CAMPAIGN?

IS THE PREPARE FOR MISSION AMOUNT IN ADDITION TO OUR REGULAR MISSIONS SPENDING?

The Prepare Initiative is a two-year giving campaign to support the next steps in our vision to see Houston become a city of God. Gifts to the Prepare Initiative will comprise a single fund that supports the next two years of our usual ministry budget, building and capital projects, and missions initiatives.

In addition to our regular ministry giving, the Prepare Initiative seeks to raise another \$18 million for needed building and capital projects as well as new missions efforts. These new projects won’t be covered by our regular ministry budget alone. So yes, for many, giving to Prepare will entail giving beyond their current level.

We hope to see everyone at WoodsEdge take steps forward in generosity. For some that may mean simply getting out of debt to set themselves up for a better financial future. For others it may mean giving for the first time. If you’re a regular giver to WoodsEdge, please pray about continuing and expanding your current giving as God leads.

Fill out a commitment card and bring it to WoodsEdge during one of our Commitment Sundays, October 5 and 12. If you have not received a commitment card, ask for one at the info desk.

No. Our policy as a church is not to go into debt. We will not take on any projects that are beyond our financial means.

We will only begin new projects when we have received sufficient funds and our elders give their approval. We are preparing diligently so we can begin work as soon as funds become available.

The Prepare Initiative is meant to support a single vision—to see Houston become a city of God. The primary way we support that vision is through our regular ministry budget.

Yes. Each year, our ministry budget includes more than \$4 million dedicated to missions. That means that over the two years of the campaign, our regular budget alone will include almost \$9 million for missions. But we want to expand what we’re able to do through additional community outreach and international ministry projects. We’re seeking to raise an additional \$4 million for these efforts, bringing our total missions giving to \$13 million over the next two years.

WHAT IS MY PART?

MORE RESOURCES

WEBSITE

Find out more about the Prepare Initiative, view video stories, download devotionals and more at *woodsedge.org/prepare*.

PODCAST

Join us for a six-week season of the WoodsEdge Podcast beginning Monday, August 25. With Pastor Jeff and other staff members, we’ll explore how to live The Consecrated Life. Listen at *woodsedge.org/podcast*.