

Multi-Site Announcement

Dear Living Hope Family,

Ever since the founding of Living Hope, we've sought to lead our surrounding communities to Christ. As we have grown as a church, our leadership team has been actively looking for ways to continue accomplishing this. With God's help, we believe we have found the next step in our mission and we'd like you to be a part of it.

The DNA of Living Hope is leading others to Him through building relationships, cultivating community and inspiring hope. We intentionally make disciples in relational environments with a missional mindset - a process we call "Relational Discipleship" which drives all our ministries. Undergirding this is a prayerful and biblical foundation. Relational Discipleship doesn't just add more disciples; it multiplies them. We want to leverage disciple making in the context of additional church campuses, making even more disciples of Christ.

If you recall our sermon series 'A Ripple of Hope,' we said we are not just intended to be a part of that ripple, rather, we must also ensure the ripple continues onward into the future. We've said before:

- Our vision is to bring the Living Hope of Jesus to our community, our region, and the world. To lead those in the areas around us to

Jesus Christ by building relationships, cultivating community, inspiring hope, and then helping them grow into mature disciples of Christ.

- It is because of this vision, and the growth of our church, that a strategic planning team was assembled to determine our future steps.
- This team has presented Living Hope with 4 key planning initiatives: organizational restructuring, development of a ministry center on our farm property, beginning phase II of our building plan, and the implementation of a multi-site model.

This brings us to what we are announcing today - an update to the implementation of a multi-site model. As we've previously announced, we've been speaking to different churches in the area regarding the potential to partner in a multi-site model, and how we might best accomplish our shared missions. It has been a long road of asking who, where, and when. Today, we'd like to announce that Living Hope has been speaking with our friends at First Baptist Church of Doylestown (FBC-D) about joining together and rebirthing their church as the second location of Living Hope Community Church; one church...in two locations.

Over the years we have had great relationships with the pastors and leaders at FBC-D and have shared a common desire for a greater gospel

impact in Doylestown. Internally, Living Hope had been thinking of replicating ourselves in Doylestown through a traditional church planting initiative, but the Lord has revealed a greater opportunity to join together with FBC-D in their existing location. The people of First Baptist Church of Doylestown have a heart for the gospel and desire to have a greater impact for the gospel in their community.

After a few informal joint elder meetings between the two churches, and as a steadfast commitment to prayer, the elders commissioned the Living Hope Multi-Site team and the Pastoral Search Team(PST) at FBC-D to work through a Feasibility Assessment. Many long nights and discussions resulted in both teams recommending to their respective elder boards that they proceed to the next steps of informing their congregations of the intent and seeking further dialogue. This is why we are writing to you today.

No decision to join into a single church has yet been made by either church. This announcement is the first step in many as we continue this process. Both of our churches want to bring our congregations into this prayer-filled process and FBC-D is making a similar announcement to their congregation at this time. We plan to hold a variety of meetings with both Living Hope and FBC-D; including in-home small group discussions, town hall meetings with Q&A, and social gatherings for our congregations to get to know one another. We understand you are eager to learn as much about this as possible, so we will also be sending out regular updates.

The important takeaway is that we want to approach the process cautiously but intentionally; wisely and with excitement; always seeking to follow the Lord's leading. We are venturing into new territory— so we want to hear your questions, your concerns, and also your excitement, but most of all, we want you to be praying! Pray for wisdom and discernment, pray for love and community, and pray for God to reveal the path forward.

We're so excited for this opportunity to work together and better reach our surrounding communities for Christ.

Prayerfully,
Living Hope Community Church
Elders and Multi-site Team

Elders

*Nick Campagna, Phil Heacock, Rich Hollahan, Mike Hoppes, Brett King,
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Multi-Site Team

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