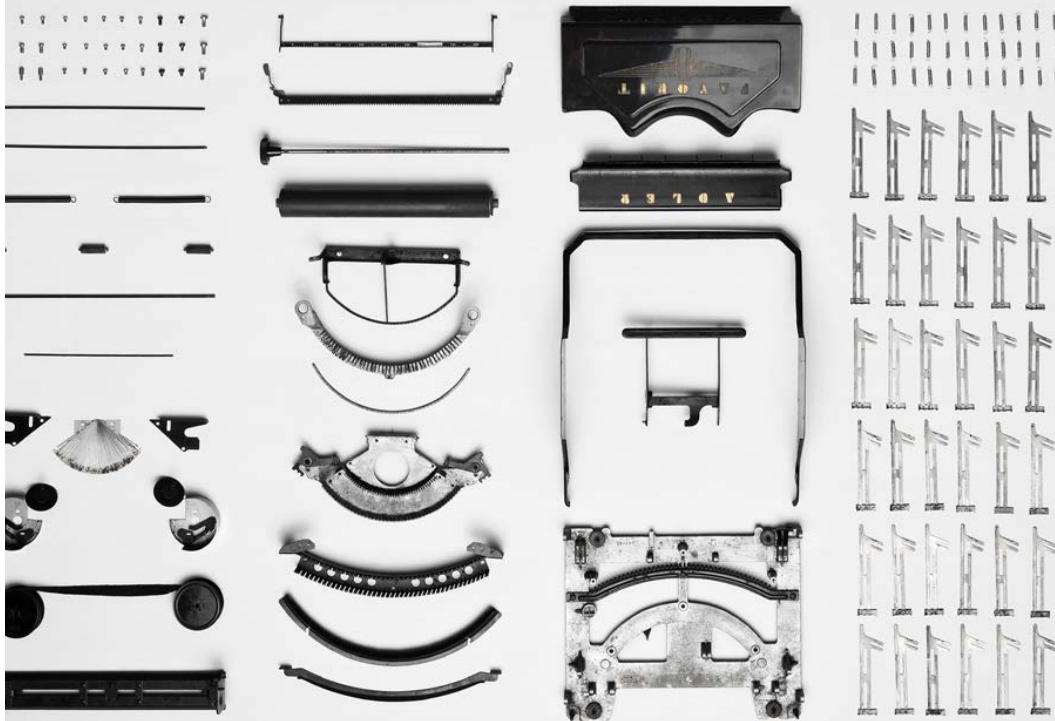


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NORTH CHURCH



FIELD
GUIDE



CHAPTER TWO

every story matters

EVERY NUMBER HAS A NAME

EVERY NAME HAS A STORY

EVERY STORY MATTERS TO GOD



They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

ACTS 2: 42-47



ONE CHAPTER CHANGES EVERYTHING.

In just one chapter, Acts 2 records the story of how a scared and confused band of Jesus followers transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit into an unstoppable Gospel-driven movement. This was a gathering, a body, so devoted to Jesus and to each other that no mountain placed in its path could stop it. This was a season marked by countless awe-inspiring, faith-filled defining moments—the Acts 2 Church was born.

MOVEMENTS, MOUNTAINS, AND MOMENTS – A STORY ISN'T A STORY WITHOUT THEM.

Like the Early Church, we too are bound by a Gospel-driven movement and stand on the edge of the something amazing. We're praying audacious mountain-moving prayers for our future, asking God for what only He can provide. For this next season, I invite you to journey with us in writing the next chapter of North Church—

It's time for our Chapter Two.

Throughout the Chapter Two series, I will be challenging you to listen and respond to God's leading like never before. What steps (or even leaps) of faith is He calling you to take to deepen your trust in Him? Use the Devotional attached. Get in a Group. Join us on Sundays. Make every moment count.

I cannot wait to hear stories of how God has showed up in our midst, transforming lives, marriages, communities and the world around us through the Good News of Jesus Christ!

With God's grace, let's write Chapter Two, together.

Blessings,



Adam Bradshaw
Lead Pastor



OUR PURPOSE IS TO MEET PEOPLE WHEREVER THEY ARE
ON THEIR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, LEADING THEM TOWARD A
GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST.

- Adam Bradshaw, Lead Pastor // North Church

WHY DOES NORTH CHURCH EXIST?

WHAT UNIQUE PURPOSE DOES GOD HAVE PLANNED FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO FULFILL FOR THE SAKE OF HIS KINGDOM?

Lately, we've been answering those defining questions with this simple phrase – Here's what it means to us...

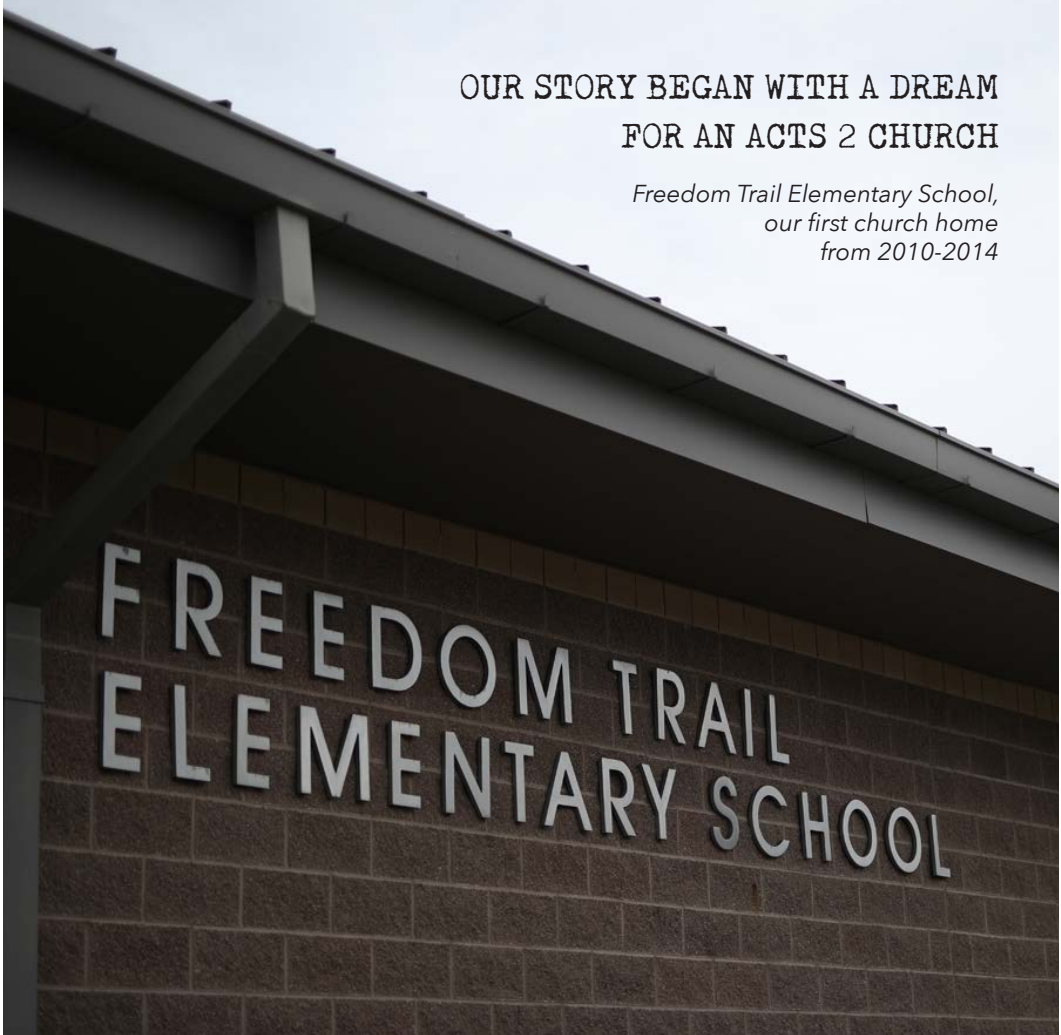
To be a **MEETING** Church means we embrace Jesus' Great Commission in Matthew 28 as a seven day a week challenge not to wait, but to "Go!" It's our missional charge that doesn't end in a sanctuary—it comes alive in neighborhoods, at work, on sidelines, and in bleachers. And from that epicenter to wherever God leads worldwide.

To be a **LEADING** Church means we get what's at stake when messy lives embrace the gifts God has given each of us to build His Kingdom. When we intentionally leverage the truth God has pressed into our heart and the gifts He's placed in our hands, we point everyone we meet toward a life in Jesus Christ.

To be a **GROWING** Church means a life in Christ is a never-ending, soul-stretching, faith-leaping, grace-giving relationship driven not by what God wants from us but what God wants FOR us. As our only source for life, Jesus reminds us in John 15 of this promise—Where there's life, there's growth—in our relationship with God, with others, and in the church.

OUR STORY BEGAN WITH A DREAM
FOR AN ACTS 2 CHURCH

*Freedom Trail Elementary School,
our first church home
from 2010-2014*



*More than 150 people have made
a public profession of faith in Jesus
through baptism since 2010.*

OUR HISTORY

A little more than seven years ago, a God-sized vision was cast to Heritage Christian Church in Westerville to plant a church in the heart of Delaware County and surrounding area to reach kids, students, and adults with the good news of Jesus Christ - North Church was born.

From our first Sunday at Freedom Trail Elementary in January of 2010 it was clear that God had His hand on this community. We knew that our community didn't need "just another church." It needed a bridge-building church.

Here are Four Bridges North Church exists to build-

Between the Church and YOU

From relevant bible teaching and engaging worship to the messy, real-life stories of lives transformed by God's amazing grace, the message was clear for those near or far from faith-

No matter who you are...
No matter where you've been...
You are welcome here.

Between the Church and the Poor, Broken, and Forgotten

Whether it's a local partnership with Open Table Food Pantry serving those in need in Delaware County to our partnership with Iglesia Gran Comisi3n La Libertad in El Salvador to packing 35,000 meals through Stop Hunger Now in 2016, we are committed to carrying the hope of Jesus Christ from this epicenter in central Ohio to the ends of the earth.

Within the Church-Building Authentic Community

We really believe life is better together! As a mobile church without a weekly gathering place, groups became an early necessity for connection, study, and growth together. What a gift this season has been for our church! We currently see over half of those who call North Church home regularly participate in a Group. We really believe life is better in circles rather than rows!

Between the Church and the Next Generation

Our mission to WOW kids and students with the amazing love of Jesus is felt all throughout our kids and student environments. Dozens of volunteers create dynamic mobile environments every Sunday where kids hear God's plan and purpose for their lives through leaders who love them like crazy.

Our partnership with Young Life, a ministry that extends the reach of the church into middle and high schools, also shaped our story from day one. We saw story after story of students beginning a relationship with Jesus through Young Life who then brought their curious parents to church to discover more. How amazing is that!?!

**IN JANUARY 2017,
NORTH CHURCH
CELEBRATED 7 YEARS
OF MINISTRY.**

JAN 7, 2010
First service launched at Freedom Trail Elementary // 396 in attendance

SPRING 2011
Began our strategic partnership with Columbus' Metro Young Life to introduce students to Jesus Christ

FALL 2011
Partnership began with Open Table Food Pantry serving the needs of southern Delaware County

APRIL 2013
Cannonball Initiative challenged families to grow in faith & sacrifice. Over \$2.2 million pledged toward expanding local/global mission & purchasing land

EASTER 2014
Largest Easter attendance in our history // 860 people

FALL 2014
Moved from Freedom Trail to Orange MS, providing more space for kids, students, and adults

2015/2016
Grew from 1 to 3 annual baptism services

SUMMER 2016
Ground Blessing and Baptism service held on the Africa Road Property

WINTER 2016
New website, social experience, and smartphone application launched, taking the message of Jesus Christ beyond our walls 24/7

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

Early 2009
Vision cast to Heritage Church members to plant a "community-focused" church in the Delaware County

JULY 2010
First outdoor Baptism service at Alum Creek // 25 students and adults expressed a public commitment of their faith in Jesus Christ

SUMMER 2011
Sent first team trip to El Salvador to feed the hungry, share the Good News of Jesus, and to support staff and leaders in their church planting efforts

FALL 2012
Purchased the house on Lewis Center Rd. to serve the community by offering easier access to staff as well as space for marriage and family counseling


FALL 2013
God calls the Bradshaw family from Virginia to join His amazing mission for North Church

SUMMER 2014
First mission trip with the Jeremiah Project for middle school students

WINTER 2014
First team sent to South Africa to begin a church planting partnership reaching the Muslim community

SPRING 2016
After 18 months of searching, God provided "the impossible," allowing the cash purchase of our 15-acre property on Africa Road

FEBRUARY 2017
600+ adults, students, & kids now call NC home



SO, HERE WE ARE TODAY.

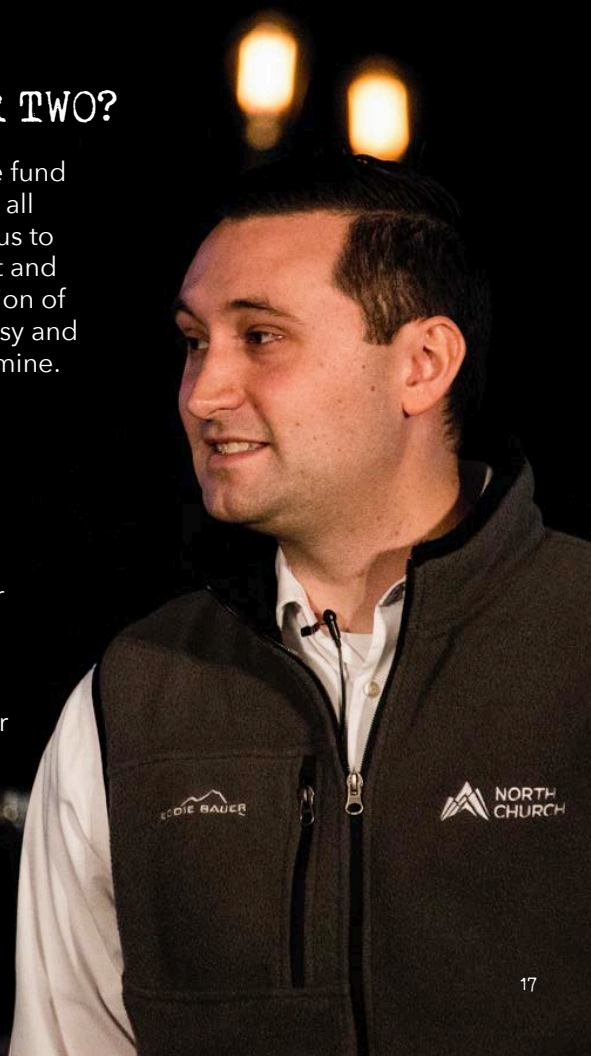
We've seen countless lives impacted since our story began. But there is more work to do. There are more stories to write. For this next season, our elders, staff and I invite you to journey with us in writing the next chapter of our church.

WHAT IS CHAPTER TWO?

Chapter Two is a two-year one fund initiative that will challenge us all to consider what it means for us to grow in personal commitment and generosity toward God's mission of redeeming and restoring messy and broken stories like yours and mine.

I believe history will show this to be the most defining time in our church's young history as we grow in commitment to Christ and His mission to reach the lost and deepen our commitment toward sacrificial living. Let's be a church that shares with a weary world the only truth that promises life for all of eternity.

IT'S TIME FOR OUR CHAPTER TWO.



ONE FUND GIVING PHILOSOPHY

You may have in the past participated in a traditional “two-fund” building campaign where you asked to give both to a “General Fund” as well as a “Building Fund.” Our vision for resourcing Chapter Two applies a different approach.

Chapter Two is a two-year generosity initiative where all giving strategically resources one unified vision and is directed into ONE Fund.

Chapter Two invests resources into three stories we’ll write together-

The Story of Mission & Adventure: our general ministry fund - making our everyday mission and ministry possible.

The Story of Finding Home: transforming our property on Africa Road into our first 7-day a week, brick and mortar campus.

The Story Beyond Our Walls: making Next-level Global Impact possible with our partners in El Salvador, South Africa, and more.

Your generosity enables us to continue and further North Church’s God-sized vision of reaching our neighbors, coworkers, and friends with the love of Jesus, right here in Delaware County and around the world!

WHY ONE FUND?

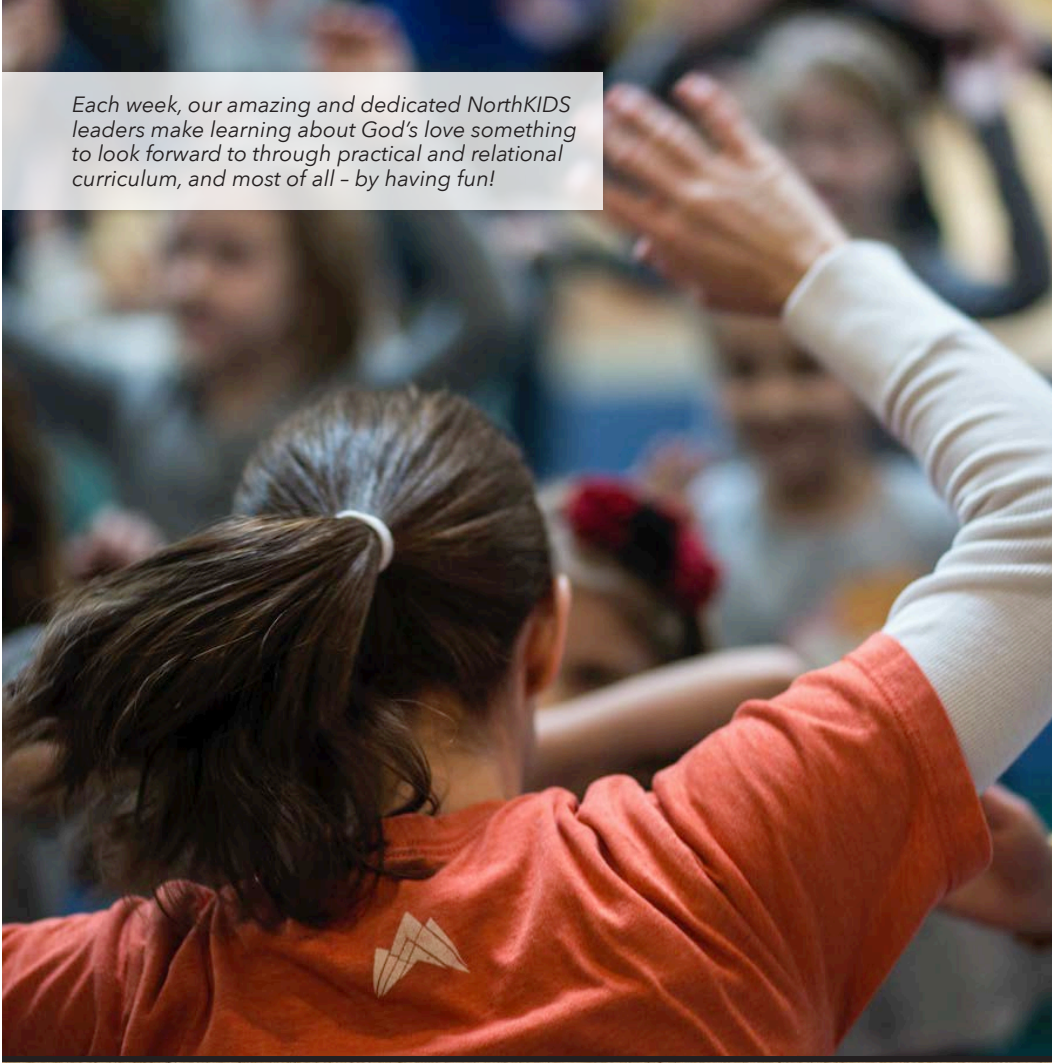
- A One Fund strategy allows everyone from kids, students, and adults to participate in the exciting vision and mission of Chapter Two.
- Someone who is new can contribute towards the building, operations, and missions from day one.
- Allows an individual or family to have a single generosity number to celebrate.
- We believe Chapter Two’s three stories are all part of a single vision God has given us to impact our community and world with the love and hope of Christ.

LOOK AT THE NATIONS
AND WATCH - AND BE
UTTERLY AMAZED.
FOR I AM GOING TO DO
SOMETHING IN YOUR
DAYS THAT YOU WOULD
NOT BELIEVE, EVEN IF
YOU WERE TOLD.

HABAKKUK 1:5



Each week, our amazing and dedicated NorthKIDS leaders make learning about God's love something to look forward to through practical and relational curriculum, and most of all - by having fun!



1

THE STORY OF MISSION & ADVENTURE

\$1,375,000

ON THIS ROCK, I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH... - MATTHEW 16:18

When Jesus first spoke of the Church, He wasn't referring to a place, but a people. Our mission as the Church transcends buildings, programs, and borders. We are a gathering, a Gospel-driven movement saved by grace, bound by love, and expressed through compassion for world around us. We are His Church.

Our everyday mission at North Church is to meet people wherever they are on their spiritual journey, leading them toward a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Through Chapter Two, we will continue to support existing ministry to kids and students while exploring even more ways to offer relevant Bible teaching and worship through added services, future sites, and live-streaming. The heartbeat of our community—Groups and Serving—will also continue to expand.

*"The church does not exist for us.
We are the church, and we exist for the world."*

- ERWIN MCMANUS

Now, drivers on Africa Road see this sign on our property as they pass. Someday, we pray they will see our first permanent campus.



2

THE STORY OF FINDING HOME

\$2,500,000

As a major part of Chapter Two, we envision moving from currently rented space at OOMS to our first permanent campus on Africa Road. The proposed 350-500 seat multi-use sanctuary with dynamic environments for kids and students, staff offices, rooms for Groups, special events, and more will provide a seven day a week place to call home.



Strategically positioned facing Africa Road and extremely visible from Interstate 71, our future home will serve as a central gathering hub for the entire community.

WHY BUILD? WHY NOW?



During the summer of 2016, our church took a massive leap forward in realizing our dream of a seven day a week permanent campus. Land was purchased, a deed was signed, and a celebration ensued!

• A 24/7 CITY CENTER

Since the beginning, we've remained committed to serving and bringing hope to our community, not just one day a week but all week long. We dream about an inviting space where kids, students and adults can gather and grow seven days a week. The lack of a permanent home places that dream on hold.

• WEEKLONG GROWTH FOR ALL AGES

Whether it's a fun and interactive experience for kids, a course on The Gospels led by seminary faculty, or a worship experience for all ages, a building provides the flexibility to meet the spiritual needs of our ever-expanding community.

• A HOME FOR HEALING AND RECOVERY

Whether it's hope and healing through addiction, surviving the loss of a loved one, counseling through financial hardship, or other, our Chapter Two vision creates a safe and consistent space for everyone to find hope in community.

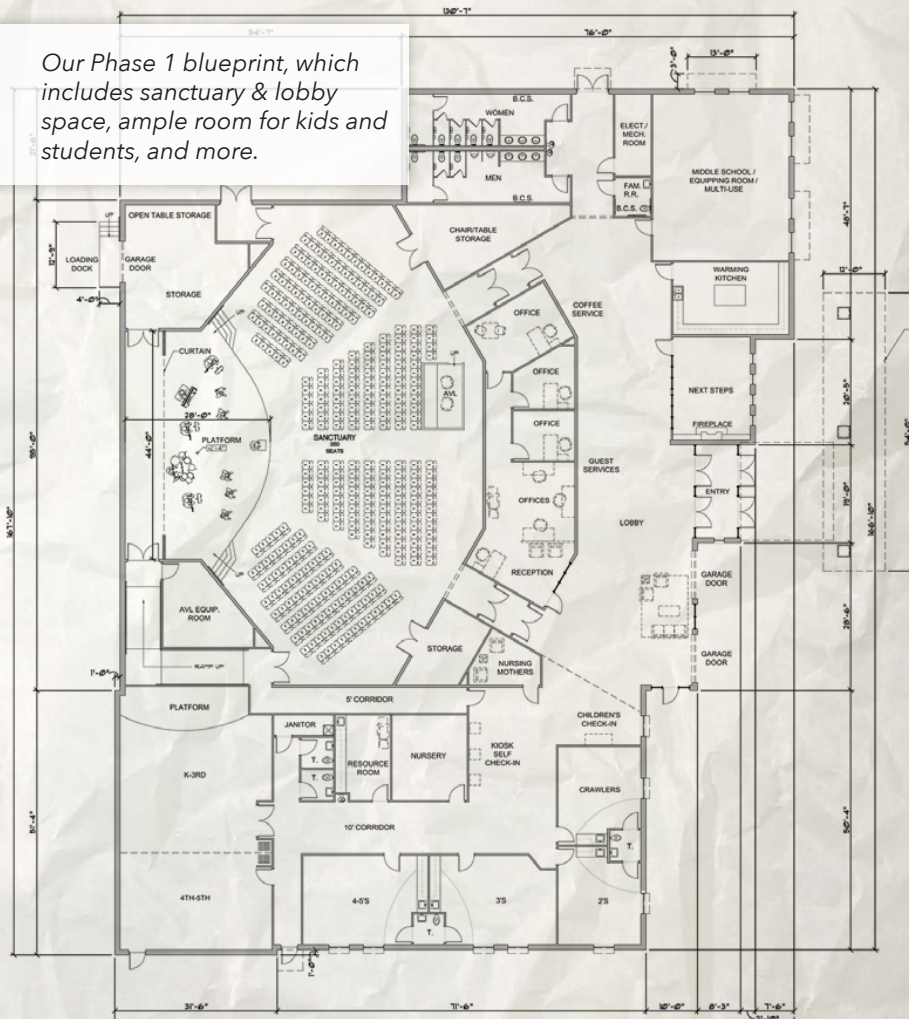
• UNDERSTANDING OUR NEIGHBORS: A BUILDING MATTERS.

While many enjoy the "church in a box" experience, statistics show that those skeptical of faith are less likely to attend church in a mobile environment. For some, mobility communicates new opportunities with flexibility, for others it communicates a lack of permanence or stability.

• LOVING OUR RAPIDLY-GROWING COMMUNITY

Delaware County continues to remain at or near the top of the list of fastest growing counties in the Midwest. With amazing schools and proximity to Columbus, experts only expect growth to continue. As a church with a heartbeat to reach the lost, last and least, establishing our first permanent campus creates visibility and accessibility, two elements those who might not typically come to church desire and are difficult to create in a mobile environment.

Our Phase 1 blueprint, which includes sanctuary & lobby space, ample room for kids and students, and more.



This potential rendering shows our front entrance facing Africa Road, where the use of glass, modern architecture, and spaces to congregate 7 days a week create a beautiful, welcoming environment.



A southwest elevation rendering shows that more than 40% of our proposed building plan will be dedicated toward caring for and investing into the next generation.

Our continued partnership in El Salvador will pave the way for future generations of kids to be directly impacted by nutritional and ministry resources.



3

THE STORY BEYOND OUR WALLS

\$125,000

Through Chapter Two, we will partner with our friends at Iglesia Gran Comisión - La Libertad, El Salvador to build their first permanent Nutrition & Community Center (CDI). The vast majority of kids in La Libertad live in otherwise inaccessible, gang-controlled neighborhoods. The projects of our partner church focus on building "bridges" into these neighborhoods. Through the use of the CDI, the church builds a legitimate relationship with a network of families, and can then serve them more broadly - not only at the CDI, but in each family's home as well.

Further, we will continue to stretch our investment with international church planting partners Africa for Christ, national and local partners Young Life, Jeremiah Project, Open Table, Stop Hunger Now, and more.

"We believe the building of our first permanent Nutrition Center for children and families will build the most strategic bridge yet toward meeting the most basic needs of the poor in our community."

- PASTOR IVO CLAROS, IGLESIA GRAN COMISION, EL SALVADOR

TWO-YEAR GOAL: \$4 MILLION

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND?

Our primary goal with Chapter Two is that 100% of people at North Church would engage in this initiative to experience a life-changing encounter with God. We are asking you to go on a spiritual journey with God and your family—to take the biggest steps of generosity you've ever taken.

1. PRAY FERVENTLY.

Pray that God would multiply our efforts to make disciples and make much of Christ. Pray that He would do abundantly more than we ask or imagine for His great name.

My prayer for Chapter Two is: _____

2. COMMIT FULLY.

Help us reach our goal of 100% engagement in Chapter Two. Stand side by side with your North Church family. Commit to do what God asks. Put your "Yes!" on the table.

My commitment for Chapter Two is: _____

3. GROW INTENTIONALLY.

Attend each Sunday from February 12 through March 12. Engage in the Chapter Two study with your small group. Learn all you can about God's heart and will for you and your resources.

A growth area for me through Chapter Two is: _____

4. GIVE GENEROUSLY.

Ask God to show you what it looks like to give in a way that changes you. Take whatever steps are required to see it through.

I can grow in generosity though Chapter Two by: _____

ALWAYS GIVE YOURSELVES FULLY TO THE WORK OF THE LORD,
BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT YOUR LABOR IN THE LORD IS NOT IN VAIN.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:5



YOU CAN HELP WRITE OUR CHAPTER TWO.

We are all at different places, and we value each person taking the next step in his or her spiritual journey of generosity as a disciple of Jesus. Where are you now, and where is God calling you to be?

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| FIRST TIME GIVER | I am deciding to give for the first time, trusting God with my gift. |
| CONSISTENT GIVER | I am making giving a regular practice, giving at least once a month. |
| INTENTIONAL GIVER | I have decided to give a percentage of my income and have signed up online to give a recurring gift. |
| SACRIFICIAL GIVER | I am continually making choices about my lifestyle that enable me to give more generously to my church. |
| LIFETIME GIVER | I am setting a lifetime giving goal that requires me to ask God not "how much should I give?" but rather "how much should I keep?". |

WHAT STEP WILL YOU TAKE?

A GUIDE TO YOUR COMMITMENT CARD

my commitment

Please calculate within the worksheet below.

\$ _____ WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
(general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)

+ \$ _____ MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY
FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE

= \$ _____ X 2 YEARS = \$ _____

+
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES
(stocks, real estate, savings, etc.) \$ _____

**MY/OUR CHAPTER
TWO COMMITMENT** \$ _____
(MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)

A SAMPLE COMMITMENT CARD

Use this sample as a worksheet as you consider your commitment to Chapter Two.

V GIFT CHART

This chart represents the generosity needed to reach our two-year Chapter Two goal.

TWO-YEAR GOAL: \$4M

NUMBER OF GIFTS	2-YEAR GIFT OF	ANNUAL GIFT OF	MONTHLY GIFT OF	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$750,000	\$375,000	\$31,250	\$750,000
1	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$500,000
1	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$250,000
4	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$400,000
6	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$450,000
12	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$600,000
20	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$500,000
20	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$200,000
25	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$187,500
15	\$4,800	\$2,400	\$200	\$72,000
15	\$3,600	\$1,800	\$150	\$54,000
10	\$2,400	\$1,200	\$100	\$24,000
7	\$1,200	\$600	\$50	\$8,400
MANY	\$104	\$52	\$4	\$4,100
TOTAL GOAL				\$4,000,000

GIVING SCENARIOS

Below are five hypothetical situations that may be similar to the one in which you find yourself.

Each example below illustrates how an individual or family can take the next step on the generosity journey shown on the previous page, and how the Chapter Two commitment card would be completed accordingly.

Which of the following giving scenarios fits you best?

\$0	WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR (general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)	
+	\$1,300	MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE
=	\$1,300	X 2 YEARS = \$2,600
		+
	MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, real estate, savings, etc.)	\$500
MY/OUR CHAPTER TWO COMMITMENT (MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)		\$ 3,100

FIRST TIME GIVER

Michael is new to the faith and has never given before. He is now starting several spiritual disciplines, including generosity. It's a huge step of faith for him, but Michael has decided to give \$25 per week. Combined with \$500 from his savings, Michael plans to give a total two-year contribution of \$3,100 to the Chapter Two initiative.

\$500	WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR (general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)	
+	\$1,250	MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE
=	\$1,750	X 2 YEARS = \$3,500
		+
	MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, real estate, savings, etc.)	\$500
MY/OUR CHAPTER TWO COMMITMENT (MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)		\$ 4,000

CONSISTENT GIVER

Jennifer has witnessed changes in her life through the ministry of the church. So far, she has been giving casually, if she has extra cash on hand during offering time. However, she now feels led to become more consistent in her giving by setting up a recurring gift online. Her plan is to increase her usual annual giving of \$500 by \$1,250, bringing her to \$1,750 a year. With the

addition of \$500 from a vacation savings fund, in two years she will have given \$4,000 to the Chapter Two initiative.

\$6,000	WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR (general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)	
+	\$6,000	MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE
=	\$12,000	X 2 YEARS = \$24,000
		+
	MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, real estate, savings, etc.)	\$2,000
MY/OUR CHAPTER TWO COMMITMENT (MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)		\$ 26,000

INTENTIONAL GIVER

Paul and Rebecca have given consistently to the church at a steady 5%. With a combined income of \$120,000, they contribute \$6,000 each year. Chapter Two, however, has prompted them to tithe a full 10%. It will require some adjustments to give \$12,000 a year, but they know it's what God is calling them to do. Also, they've been saving for a boat but have

decided to give the \$2,000 in that account as well. They are now planning to give \$26,000 to the church over the next two years.

\$ 7,000	WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR (general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)
+	
\$ 1,400	MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE
=	
\$ 8,400	X 2 YEARS = \$ 16,800
	+
	MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, real estate, savings, etc.) \$ 2,000
MY/OUR CHAPTER TWO COMMITMENT	
(MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)	
	\$ 18,800

\$18,800 to the Chapter Two initiative. (Contact Finance Team Leader Ron Allender at ron@northchurch.life to discuss tax-efficient ways to give gifts of stocks and other securities.)

SACRIFICIAL GIVER

Anthony developed the discipline of tithing years ago, and he has experienced God's provision again and again. Anthony will increase his giving percentage from 10% to 12% of his annual income of \$70,000, or \$8,400 a year. Over two years, with the addition of \$2,000 from the transfer of stocks that are no longer of interest to him, Anthony looks forward to giving

\$ 13,500	WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR (general fund, benevolence, special gifts, etc.)
+	
\$ 1,500	MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY FOR THE CHAPTER TWO INITIATIVE
=	
\$ 15,000	X 2 YEARS = \$ 30,000
	+
	MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, real estate, savings, etc.) \$ 60,000
MY/OUR CHAPTER TWO COMMITMENT	
(MAR 2017 - FEB 2019)	
	\$ 90,000

inhibit her ability to reach her giving goal. So Judy has decided not to move, and to give her down payment toward the Chapter Two initiative instead.

LIFETIME GIVER

Judy loves to give of her time, talents, and resources. She has set a lifetime giving goal for herself, and is excited to reach it. She has been giving 15% of her \$90,000 income (\$13,500) to the church in recent years, but is inspired to increase the annual amount to \$15,000. She has been considering the purchase of a new home recently, but she realizes that purchase may

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1:
ADVANCE COMMITMENT EVENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 12:
COMMITMENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 2:
FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY



CREATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

Generosity initiatives rely on church members making gifts that expand and accelerate their current level of giving. The best path to increased giving is the spiritual path where you set your heart on things above. Financial priorities then take shape from the spiritual priorities.

One way of defining this is "Lifestyle Generosity" - a term used to describe a level of giving that affects one's living. The challenge of this lifestyle of stewardship is to find ways, boldly and prayerfully, to let your giving touch your living!

When teaching God's people about what to bring when coming to worship on the Passover, Moses commanded them: "Never come before the Lord empty-handed" (Exodus 23:15). From the very beginning, God has been trying to cultivate a culture of generosity among His people.

King David declared, "I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24). David understood the gift that would touch the heart of God must first touch the heart of the giver! This is the spirit of lifestyle generosity: if it is for my God, my gift must have value and meaning to me.

Often, lifestyle generosity means giving up something in one area so that you can give more of yourself in another. The three keys to effectiveness in this lifestyle are:

REASSESS LIFESTYLE
REARRANGE PRIORITIES
REALLOCATE RESOURCES

Many believers are amazed at their ability to give more generously to their church. The following seven steps are offered to help you in this regard:

1. PRACTICE PRIORITY BUDGETING

Many families will choose to rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget in order to give more to a generosity initiative. Priority budgeting may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, home remodeling, or other major purchase. Many Christians giving to generosity initiatives find a way to give through sacrificial commitments made in faith and coupled with priority budgeting.

2. REDIRECT PRESENT EXPENDITURES

Often, families have significant short-term expenditures for special needs. One example is the large expenditure a family incurs for a child to attend college. One family realized that their daughters would be graduating from college during the two years of the generosity initiative and, as a result, they were able to increase their commitment to the second year of the initiative by thousands of dollars through giving what they had been spending on their daughters' tuition. Another example would be the cash flow that is freed up when a loan is paid off.

3. INCREASED GIVING WITH INCREASED INCOME

Some people receive periodic increases in salary or bonuses from their employers. The temptation for many of us is to simply increase our lifestyle to fit the higher income. However, in many instances families have decided that they will commit the full amount of salary increases to generosity initiatives.

4. GIVE FROM YOUR EXCESS

A young man decided that two collectors' baseball cards worth over \$5,000 he had been holding for a number of years would be the most appropriate sacrifice for his family.

Some families save money over a period of years for a special project. A couple had saved \$80,000 to build a lake cabin. When their church entered a generosity initiative, they decided the needs of the church were greater than their need for a second home.

5. COMMIT UNEXPECTED CASH

Often, people pray for God to show them a way they can give beyond what they can presently see or afford. Sometimes, the answers come unexpectedly. One couple had been praying for weeks about their commitment to the church's generosity initiative. Much to their surprise, they received an inheritance of several thousand dollars. They chose to give the entire amount to their church as part of their two-year commitment, in addition to a commitment from their regular income.

6. SACRIFICE YOUR EXTRA TIME

Some family members have extra time they would be willing to use in a part-time job to be able to give more to the church. This is particularly true for families whose children are grown and away from home and for semi-retired or retired couples. A man was in the process of retiring when his church entered a generosity initiative. He and his wife secured new jobs and gave the first two years of their retirement income to the church.

7. DONATE APPRECIATED ASSETS

Many people own stocks that are worth significantly more than the original purchase price. That is good news. The bad news is that if these stocks are sold, a significant portion of the gain would be lost to taxation.

Gifts of appreciated assets - typically investment securities or real estate - can be donated with significant advantage to both the donor and to the church. By transferring ownership of the asset to the church, the donor avoids capital gains taxes on the sale of the asset. In addition, the donor receives an income tax charitable deduction for the full market value of the asset. That, in effect, makes these gifts less costly to make.

DISCLAIMER:


Though it is important to invest your giving to further the mission of the ministry God has laid on your heart, it is also important to consider the tax implications of making a gift to the church. Before making a commitment of this type, please consult your CPA, tax attorney or other financial advisor.

A FINAL WORD ON CREATIVE GIVING

Giving does not have to be in equal increments over the two-year period of Chapter Two. You might be able to give more in the second year than in the first. As you think about your financial commitment to the initiative, consider not only your potential to give right now, but also your potential to give in the future. You might be able to make a two-year commitment in which 35-40 percent is given in the first year, and 60-65 percent is given in the second year.

Finally, as you consider your financial commitment to the Lord's work, you might want to consider estate planning. Many sincere, committed Christian people have not made provision for God in their wills and estate planning. Now might be a good time to do that.

It might be as simple as including a provision in your will that 10 percent of the value of your estate will be donated to the church holding your letter of membership at the time of your passing. Or, it could involve a planned gift such as a charitable remainder trust. While such gifts may not provide immediate financial benefit to Chapter Two, they are marvelous gifts of a faith commitment to carry on the work of the church for future generations.



FAQ

FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME TO DO?

First and foremost, we are asking that you pray and seek God's direction on what He is asking of you. Prepare your heart to hear Him and then listen to what He says. Take your next step. Engage in personal reflection with God in this Field Guide. Talk with your spouse, your family, or others about what this commitment will mean for this next exciting season of your life.

We are asking that you make a sacrificial commitment to gospel-centered generosity—whatever it is that God leads you to do. Follow His leading.

Finally, we ask that you prepare to be amazed. We serve an awesome God and He is going to move in huge ways. We anticipate an unprecedented impact from our collective Chapter Two commitments—something only God can do. Please mark your calendar for Commitment Sunday, March 12, and prepare to experience a life-changing worship service that will forever be remembered as a defining moment for our church and our own faith.

WHY DID WE CHOOSE A ONE-FUND INITIATIVE?

One Fund is a type of generosity initiative that, instead of giving being allocated specifically to a special building fund, it will go into the general budget and be used to expand the impact of our church. This approach is so much bigger than a building, but also includes the expansion of our local and global ministries. The One Fund also creates an opportunity for individuals and families new to North Church to join in the amazing work God is doing at any time, even past the end of the initiative. We saw God use the One Fund in a big way through the Cannonball Initiative in 2013.

WILL GROUPS CONTINUE TO MEET IN HOMES?

While the vast majority of groups will still meet in homes around the city, there will be space available for groups to meet seven days a week. Even still, our commitment to being a church beyond our walls remains a priority.

WILL CHAPTER TWO IMPACT OUR CURRENT MINISTRY COMMITMENTS OR GIVING TO LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSIONS?

No. If anything, our commitment to local and global generosity will only increase! Each year, we give 10% of our operating budget directly to ministry partners such as Young Life, GCLA El Salvador, Africa for Christ, Open Table Food Pantry, Rebuilding Together, Stop Hunger Now, and more. Additionally, resources dedicated to creating growth environments for kids, students, and adults will only increase as the need demands.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T MEET OUR \$4 MILLION GOAL?

We're believing in God to move in a miraculous way, just as he has over the past 7 years. If we don't reach our goal, we will consider any adjustments that can be made which still allow for the building to continue. If necessary, planning construction in smaller phases is a possibility. No matter what, we're still going to trust Him with our Chapter Two.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE EXCEED OUR \$4 MILLION GOAL?

What a wonderful challenge to consider! Our plans for ministry will not change—we will only borrow less.

IF WE ARE COMMITTING TO CHAPTER TWO, HOW WILL THIS AFFECT OUR NORMAL GIVING AND OFFERINGS?

We are more focused on everyone at North Church seeing their giving as an integral part of the discipleship process and then being challenged by God to take a next step. The bulk of this notebook is focused on helping us dig into some key Biblical principles that guide us in this area as we follow Jesus. This is our first priority—100% participation in the process. Even if someone wrote us a check today for our goal of \$4 million, we would still do this initiative. Whether we're just starting in our giving journey or we're very committed givers, we all have a next step to take and room to grow in this area.

WHY \$4 MILLION?

After prayer, process, and seeking counsel, we're responding to the direction believe God is leading. Then we came to a number that merges are existing reality with our future reality. \$4 million reflects everything North Church will do over the next 24 months.

HOW QUICKLY DO WE NEED TO RAISE THE \$4 MILLION?

Our goal is to raise \$4 million over a two-year period.

IF THE PROJECTED BUILDING COSTS ARE AROUND \$5 MILLION, HOW DO WE PLAN TO PAY FOR THE DIFFERENCE?

Chapter Two is a combination of pledges, one-time gifts, non-cash gifts and bank financing. Our finance team and consultants have given us conservative goals keeping debt to a minimum.

CAN I GIVE NON-CASH GIFTS?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give toward Chapter Two. You might have some stocks, property, or other items of that nature. Or you may have stored resources that God has blessed you with in the past that He just might be calling you to give during this time. Please let us know if you need assistance with facilitating gifts of property or stock, and we would be happy to help you. Please contact Ron Allender, Finance Team Leader, at ron@northchurch.life for assistance with all such gifts. Our team would be glad to help you.

MAYBE YOU WERE MADE... FOR JUST SUCH A TIME AS THIS.

ESTHER 4:14