

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 17TH-18TH, 2026 // VISION

WORSHIP

SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE CORPORATE WORSHIP

Worship, verse-by-verse teaching from the Bible, and time to respond regardless of what stage of faith one is in via a pastor available to answer questions, prayer team for anyone who needs prayer, and communion.

- Baptized 729 people in 2025.
- Worship Night: April 24th Murphy Center.

NEXT

AN EASY NEXT STEP IN THE PROCESS

On the second Monday of every month, we invite anyone who is interested in learning more about The Experience to come and take a tour, hear my story, hear the church's story, and take their next step in the process.

- We averaged about 180 people a month.

DEVELOPMENT

- Following Jesus: An overview of Christianity.
- Authentic Discipleship: How to be an effective disciple-maker.
- Experience Finance: A free one-day study on the biblical approach to debt and money.
- Preparing for Marriage: An eight-week premarital class/group for engaged couples.
- ER: A gathering centered on recovery.

COMMUNITY

INTENTIONALLY BUILDING COMMUNITY

We encourage people to be in or lead groups that are intentional about reaching people, discipling, and multiplying. We create community via large group/small group format in ECCO Kids, Students, Evident, and with our Life Groups.

- 38% of adults are in a Life Group.

SERVE

IN AND OUT OF THE CHURCH

We have many serving opportunities in the church like Nursery, Emerge, ECCO, Students, Hospitality, Parking, etc., in the community with 5000, Reclaimed, Bar Ministry, and with nonprofits we support.

- Roughly 35% serve. This is good, but we still need help! Volunteer Fair is Monday!

MISSIONS

- Our city and state: our 5 campuses
- Our nation: Garden City and NewLife Church (MA), City Church (NY), Hope Church (DE)
- Our world: El Salvador, Egypt, Guatemala, EEM, and 13 other partnerships
- Working Mission Farm: Local immigrants
- Experience International: Dave working with foreign MTSU students

BIG WINS

- Spanish Ministry
 - Daniel Muñoz starting to work with all campuses to increase Spanish outreach.
- More mission trips and church partnerships
- 30% (\$5.2m) given back
- Debt free
 - We are purchasing Tully over 2 years from the owner. All 5 campuses are 100% debt free.
- Roof is completed!
- Pastoral Ministry Team
 - Pastoral counselors logged 2,200+ hours.
- Boro North Campus
 - Good stewardship allowed for cash purchase. We hope to get 10% of this campus over there.
- McMinnville Campus: October soft launch
 - Fred Mindach and Adam Pitts will lead.

FINANCES

WHY DO WE SHOW OUR FINANCIALS?

We are transparent about finances because we want to live above reproach (1 Timothy 3:2), be good stewards (1 Peter 4:10; Matthew 25:29), and honor your sacrifice (1 Corinthians 4:2). We're not doing this to brag, guilt, or manipulate.

- We're frugal, benevolent, and conscientious of how we use your giving!

2026 FINANCIALS FOR ALL CAMPUSES AND NETWORK EXPENSES

- 2025 Income: \$18.5m
- Budget for 2026: \$17.6m
 - Lower budget to compensate for North Boro, McMinnville, and savings account.
- Full- and part-time salaries for all campuses: \$5,219,486 (29.6% of budget)
 - The national average is 50-55%.
 - Health benefits: \$2,305,020

- Police and Sheriff's Dept.: \$177,600 (We now do all 4 campuses.)
- Outside CPA: \$12,000. This holds us accountable and keeps us above reproach.
- Ministry Expenses: \$1,521,761
 - All expenses to serve nursery through adult ministries (supplies, gear, printing, other materials, subscriptions, etc.)
- Operating costs: \$1,462,028
 - Utilities, office supplies, etc.
- Construction costs: \$873,325
 - Boro North, McMinnville, misc. repairs
- Outreach/Benevolence: \$5,284,808
 - 30% of budget.
 - Individuals needing help, schools, missionary needs, nonprofits, church plants, etc.
 - The national average is 10% for churches.
- Debt: \$0!
 - We have never had loans or debt, and we intend to keep it that way.

COMMITMENT TO THE VISION

I don't know who gives at this church. Whether one believes tithing is mandatory or not, it's impossible to argue that we shouldn't financially contribute to the mission of the church.

- If we're going to advance the gospel, it will take not only time and effort but also a financial commitment.

ALL OF US SHARING THE WEIGHT

This church has never done, nor will ever do, a building campaign or pledge cards. We will not ask for any financial commitment from you other than biblical tithing.

- If we will just be faithful to what the Bible asks, we will have more than enough to do everything God wants us to do!

CHALLENGES

PARKING/LAND

We are doing our best to purchase land around us as it becomes available. We are also doing our best to manage parking, and we appreciate your patience!

- If we can get 800 people or so to go to Boro North, that will help. We may try to do another Boro campus in the future.

PLANTING AND OPERATING NEW CHURCHES

This campus incurs millions of dollars a year in expenses to keep the other campuses going. We thank you for your giving! It is doing a lot!

SERVING

Our churches are growing, and we need people to go through the discipleship process, serve, and be consistent!

CONTINUING THE MISSION

THANK YOU!

With all sincerity, we want to thank everyone for being patient with parking, seating, and us learning how to wisely manage what God is doing here. Also, thank you for your serving, giving, and consistent church attendance!

- We have seen tremendous spiritual growth and maturity in our church!

PLANTING AND SERVING

Our goal is to continue to plant churches in areas that actually need it, to create more ways to serve and love our city, and to simply present Jesus to people in a way that honors Him.

- Our goal above all things is for people to know Jesus and live in relationship with Him.

THE HANDOFF

We also want to prepare for the time when the next generation steps up and takes this church. This means we must organizationally, financially, and (most important) spiritually raise up and train young leaders.

- I don't want this to be about any one person but our church making an impact.

NOT LOSING SIGHT OF OUR (HIS) MISSION

As we grow and prepare for long-term ministry in this city, state, nation, and world, we cannot lose sight of what God is blessing at this church: teaching the Bible, loving and welcoming all people in to hear the truth, and serving the city!

WHAT NOW?

- Be patient with us as we do our best to serve you and steward this church!
- Be at church. If you can't do anything else, regardless of where your heart is, just make it a point to be here.
- Get into the Discipleship Process. This is how we find community and grow.
- Love the people in your "world"! We're called to be ambassadors for Christ and servants to the people around us. We cannot forget that the local church is the light of the city.
- Don't grow weary, apathetic, distracted, or confused. Pray, read, listen, and obey.