20 Missional Communities by 2022

Missional Communities are an essential part of our vision as highlighted during the Arise! presentations. But what exactly is a Missional Community (MC)? Simply put, an MC is a group of 15-40 people forming an extended family on mission together. What do we mean by family? The Greek word for household in the New Testament is oikos, or extended family. But unlike today, an oikos (household) in the early church included grandpas and grandmas, aunts and uncles, but also business associates and neighbors. An intergenerational and non-nuclear extended family! As the early church grew, it capitalized on these network of relationships by planting churches within the oikos...that's right, the very first churches started in peoples homes.

As these house churches engaged in acts of worship (UP), shared meals together (IN), and cared for the poor and vulnerable in their cities (OUT), their oikos (extended family) grew quickly and more small churches were planted across the middle east, Africa, and Europe. As a result, in just 300 years time, the small and scared groups of believers who had met together shortly after Jesus' death (John 20:19), became the dominant religion of the Roman Empire.

More important then the growth of the church however, was the change that came in people's hearts as the result of coming to a saving faith in Christ. The poor were fed, the sick were healed, and individual relationships between husbands and wives, and parents and children were restored. In other words, lives were forever changed as the result of the Gospel.

As we seek to reclaim the oikos of the past, by meeting the spiritual needs of the present, Missional Communities will play an important part in that transformation. We hope MC's will become "many small churches within a large one," with a balanced rhythm of UP-IN-OUT, and where God's people can together meet the spiritual and physical needs of the local communities.

Where are we now?

As of right now, there are two pilot Missional Communities at OFLC. The pilots were designed as a "learning lab" of sorts, where we could learn to live as an extended family on mission. God willing, we will launch two new missional communities in the fall of 2016, one in Highlands Ranch and one in Aurora. In addition, this fall, we will be providing training and resources for congregational members who are excited about the prospect of one day being in a missional community in their local community.
**New Mortgage Payment**

The Finance Committee requested that Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) re-amortized our monthly mortgage payment. After paying down the mortgage principle to $2.3 million, the new monthly mortgage payment was reduced by $2,887 with a new lower interest rate of 3.625%.

$15,492

$12,605

**Prayer of the Month**

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

*Isaiah 60: 1-2*

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**The Vision**

What's Possible?

- **2 Worship Locations**
- **20 Missional Communities**
- **200 Individual Families on Mission**
- **2000 Members Experiencing Growth in the Faith**
- **20,000 Moments where the Love of Christ makes a Difference**

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**Arise! Contribution Update as of March 31, 2017**

Received

Future Donations

$533,616

$1,275,284

Total Committed

$1,808,900