



TUCKER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



←
*ESTABLISHED IN FAITH
FORWARD BY FAITH*
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Campaign Case Statement

A Letter From Pastor Erik

Dear Tucker Presbyterian Church Family,

As I look back on these last several years, I am overwhelmed at God's goodness to us as he has built his church and established us by faith in Christ. You are each not only part of this body of faith in Tucker, but you are my family!

When a few of us met in homes in 2019 to pray and prepare for a new church in Tucker, we dreamed of a church that would flourish by faith, become a loving church family, be a Gospel witness to our neighbors and community in and around Tucker, and be committed to the work of missions around the world. God has seen fit, through the gifts and work of His Spirit in each of you, to fulfill—and to continue to fulfill—that dream.



As we have grown, by God's grace we have continued to be a church that loves one another, that welcomes all who come in the name of Christ, and that has maintained our vision to be a congregation "living and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship and prayer, in word and deed." I am excited to see where the Lord takes us in this next chapter of our life together as a congregation.

Over the last year and a half, we have taken thoughtful steps forward to evaluate and pray about a more permanent home for our church family—a place (1) we could call home; (2) that would be a visible light of the Gospel in Tucker; and (3) where we could worship, grow together in our faith, celebrate weddings, grieve at funerals, and serve the community. As you know, this past fall we invited the Canaan Group to help us be careful and prayerful in this process. They engaged each of you to assess the health of our congregation, trust in our leadership, and our unity around pursuing a church home. The process and the results were very encouraging, and I am grateful for everyone who participated and for the unity and love of our church family.

With that background, I am excited to share that we are moving forward by faith to raise funds for a church home! Our campaign theme is *Established in Faith. Forward by Faith.* - reflecting our desire to move ahead with the same trust in the Lord and dependence on prayer that God used to establish us as a congregation. Moving forward by faith means not only trusting the Lord to provide the resources needed to purchase a building, but also continuing to trust Him to lead us to the right location—one that will allow us to carry out the mission He has given us. As we move forward, we will both seek to raise funds and continue our search.

As I reflect on the journey that has brought us here and consider what lies ahead, I am reminded of the words included in our petition to become an organized church: "For decades to come, we hope to declare the salvation found in Christ alone (Acts 4:12), worship Him in Spirit and truth (John 4:23), grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18), be a light of the Gospel to our city where God has planted us (Matthew 5:14–15), and declare His glory among the nations (Psalm 96:3)."

These words remind us that even as we dream about where God will lead us and how he will provide, our calling remains the same: to be a faithful church, committed to the mission to which God has called us. I am humbled by God's goodness, grateful for your support and generosity, and thankful to walk this journey with you.

In Christ,
Pastor Erik

OUR FOUNDATION AND BELIEFS

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Mediator between God and man. He died for our sins, was buried, and was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Cor. 15:3–4). Through faith in him, we are reconciled to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and are given new, abundant, and eternal life in him.

We believe that the call of the church is to live out those truths and to invite others into that relationship to God that has been revealed through his authoritative, inspired and inerrant Word as we seek to fulfill our motto: Living and proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ, through worship, and prayer, in word and deed.

As a member congregation of the [Presbyterian Church in America \(PCA\)](#), Tucker Presbyterian Church is a reformed and evangelical church that seeks to be “Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed Faith, and Obedient to the Great Commission.” We ascribe to the truths outlined in the [Westminster Confession of Faith](#).

OUR VISION

By God’s grace, our desire is to be a faithful, Bible-believing (Heb. 4:12), Gospel-preaching (2 Tim. 4:2) church in Tucker, Georgia, that seeks to live out (Eph. 4:1) and proclaim (Matt. 28:19) the good news of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1) through our worship and prayer (Acts 2:42) and in our words and deeds (Rom. 15:18). For decades to come, we hope to declare the salvation found in Christ alone (Acts 4:12), worship him in Spirit and truth (John 4:23), grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ (2 Pet. 3:18), be a light of the Gospel to our city (Mat. 5:14-15), where God has planted us, and declare His glory among the nations (Psalm 96:3).

OUR MISSION

Worship: Worshipping God in Spirit and truth

The heart of our mission is to gather together as a people of God to worship him and proclaim his Word with reverence and joy, celebrating the grace of the only Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Our worship fuels our discipleship, ministry, and witness.

John 4:24: God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

Discipleship: Pursuing growth in the grace and knowledge of Christ

God calls his people to live out the Gospel in their lives. Our mission includes faithfully discipling and ministering to one another as we 1.) respond to God's Word by faith; 2.) pray for each other, our city, and the world; and 3.) care for and love one another in Christ.

2 Peter 3:18 - But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

Missions (local and global): Proclaiming the Gospel, ministering in Jesus' name

God uses his church to be a witness of his love and grace to the world. We desire to participate in this mission as we 1) minister to the people of Tucker and surrounding communities in the name of Christ; 2) support, pray for, and send workers into his harvest around the world; and 3) plant churches that can likewise fulfill God's call for his church.

Acts 1:8: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

OUR STORY

In the mid to late 2010s, Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) was experiencing significant growth and, at the same time, the church's leadership sensed an increasing call to plant a daughter church. That led to a January 2019 decision by WPC's session to move forward with a church plant. After exploring possible locations, Tucker was selected given its need for a new Bible believing, Gospel preaching church, and that a core group of WPC members lived in the area.

Pastor Erik Veerman led our church planting effort, which began with recruiting and fundraising. After hitting the target goals of people and funds, we planned our launch for March 2020. Then, COVID happened! Our launch was initially delayed, but plans moved forward through virtual and outdoor gatherings. Three months later, after much prayer, our team decided to launch. Due to COVID, however, our initial worship location fell through. We continued to pray and fast and the Lord, through a series of providential events, led us to the Greater Good BBQ location.

On June 21, 2020, we held our first public worship and welcomed team members, visitors, and supporters. Even with masks, as mandated, all sang and rejoiced for the Lord's leading and provision. The Greater Good BBQ, despite its quirks, smells, and roof leaks, served our growing church family for its first 2 1/2 years, including our particularization service on August 28, 2022, when Tucker Presbyterian Church became an official church in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

After the Greater Good BBQ property was sold, we moved to Nesbit Elementary and held our first service there on January 1, 2023. God's providence, once again, led us to a place that was suitable for the growing church family. The school has served as our home since then, and has been an avenue for ministry such as through Easter Egg hunts on their field and a kids camp in their gym. We have also served Nesbit Elementary through reading to classes and helping with mercy needs and school supplies. In the summer of 2024, due to renovations in the main school building, we worshiped in the gym and had to rent porta-potties, a memory that will last, but hopefully one that will not have to be repeated!

Since the school is used only on Sunday mornings, we leased an office on Main Street in Tucker, right next to the railroad, and in Tucker's historic downtown. That space has served as a meeting location for staff, ministry teams, small groups, outreach, and trainings. It has been a blessing for us to have a location to meet during the week.

Since our inception 5 years ago, we have maintained a heart for ministry including serving the refugee and Muslim communities; connecting with our neighbors through community events and evangelism; and partnering with other churches to pray for our neighbors and city.

As God continues to bless the ministry and work of the church, we look forward to the next part of our story with thankfulness and anticipation for what he has for us next!

KINGDOM IMPACT

WHAT HAS GOD DONE THROUGH TUCKER PRES?

Growing God's Family

What started with an idea to launch a new church plant in Tucker has grown into a healthy body worshipping together on Sundays. In response, we have sought to grow both our staff and ministries to better meet the needs of our community. In the last several years, we have added a church administrator, an associate pastor, and a children's ministry director to our team.

Faithful Worship and Preaching

Worship remains the foremost key ministry of our church and we maintain a commitment to expository preaching and worship services that center on God's Word and prayer.

Vibrant Ministries

We desire to intentionally invest in the spiritual lives of all in our community. Discipleship happens intentionally through corporate worship and other avenues including Sunday School, twice-per-month Sunday evening fellowship, Bible studies, home groups, support groups, and more. In addition, our Mercy Team is active in helping those in our congregation and community who are experiencing hardship.



Community Outreach

Our Outreach Team's goal is to create opportunities for our congregation to serve. The team organizes numerous opportunities to do so, including a summer outreach to the nearby refugee community; an annual Easter egg hunt; reading to the classes at the school where we worship; a chess club with the goal of sharing our faith; and an annual "Pray for Tucker" event where we partner with other churches to pray for our city. Several members are also involved in a letter writing ministry to prison inmates.

Missions

Global missions is a big part of our identity. 10% of our General Fund gifts are devoted fully to supporting mission work, which includes 11 missionary family units that are serving in the US, Middle East, Africa, Central and South America. We also support short term mission trips and give gifts to other ministry workers as needs arise.

Members of TPC have participated in more than 13 short term mission trips in the past 2 years, most of which were supported by our missions funds. Additionally, we support several other ministry partners, including NETworks, MTW, MNA, Camp Westminster, Covenant College, RTS, and Lifeline.

CHALLENGES TO GROWTH

As TPC moves forward, we do so with an increasingly sharp need to secure a more sustainable solution to church facilities. While we are grateful for the facilities that God has provided for us at each step of the way, there are several ways we are particularly challenged:

Sense of Transience

Without a dedicated church home, it is difficult to build upon a foundation. There is a lack of a sense of permanence in our mission and ministry, and statistically, it is difficult to continue growth in this scenario.

Logistics Struggles

One of the realities of a rental space is that there is a tremendous amount of setup and teardown required for every use. This takes not only a lot of time, but also takes a toll on the staff and volunteers responsible for these logistics.

Location Limitations

Our current rental location is on the outskirts of Tucker. As it is not centrally located, it lacks a level of visibility that would help with familiarity, approachability, and convenience.



The Unknown

Even as TPC's leaders pursue a church home, we know that no church is perfect. We must continue to pursue excellence in ministry, diligence in discipleship and care, and faithfulness in administering the Word. There are *always* paths for improvement.

Our Response

WHAT IS THE PATH FORWARD?

As a result of many months of prayer and discussion, and following a clear directive from the congregation and leaders in the recent feasibility study, our leadership is moving forward with a proactive search for a church home for TPC. This process will be pursued intentionally and in earnest, but also with patience. One of the clear themes shared by the congregation during the study was that while this is a need, we do not want to be in a rush. Our priority is to pursue this project with patience and faith in God's timing.

In order to secure this church home, we believe the most feasible, financially prudent, and promising option to be the purchase of an existing property and building. While we do not yet know exactly what form this will take – whether a church building, a warehouse, an office building, or some other type of structure – this is how the search will be focused, and already we are seeing indicators of what options are going to look like. For this search, we will target a project range (purchase plus renovation) of \$2.5 - \$3.5 million.

A PROACTIVE INITIATIVE

HOW ARE WE GOING TO ACCOMPLISH THIS?

In order to accomplish this project, and to be prepared to move forward with a purchase in the future, we are launching a proactive fundraising initiative, themed *Established in Faith. Forward by Faith*. It will invite the church community to invest in our future church home.

The preliminary goal of the campaign will be to raise a baseline of \$1.75 million, and a stretch goal of \$2.25 million, from the congregation and external supporters.

In addition to fundraising, TPC will be open to pursuing a mortgage if needed. Based on input from the Feasibility Study, any loan will not exceed \$1.25 million. All financial plans will be openly shared with the congregation.

JOIN US

HOW MIGHT THE LORD USE YOU?

Paul teaches us much about partnership. From his letter to the Philippians:

“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

Paul understood that there was no support without partnership. He understood that any support was not a *donation* to a cause, but rather an *investment* in a mission, with the anticipation of a Kingdom return on that investment.

With this biblical concept of partnership in mind, we ask you to join us in this exciting church initiative in the following ways:

1. **Pray** for the life and work of Tucker Presbyterian Church. Pray for our leaders, members, and those in our community, that they would engage with us and turn to Christ for hope and salvation.
2. Consider a **sacrificial investment** in the Established in Faith, Forward by Faith, campaign to help us achieve this goal, for the sake of the Gospel in our community and world.
3. As opportunities arise, help us **advocate** to others the importance of this mission and the capital campaign.

We deeply appreciate your prayerful consideration of how the Lord might be leading you to partner with us in this exciting step forward. To God alone belongs all glory!

