

PREPARING FOR THE

HARVEST

EQUIP • EMPOWER • RELEASE

KEY DEFINITIONS

FAMILY OF CHURCHES Our vision for the whole of the Oak Hills Church is to become a collection of independent churches who are linked by personal relationships, history, beliefs and values.

INDEPENDENT CHURCHES We desire each Oak Hills Church campus to become a fully-functioning, self-supporting church in their local community. The independent church will be free to determine their missions, vision, governance structure, and name.

MISSION / MISSION CHURCH A “Mission Church” or “Mission” is the alternative route for a campus that is not ready for independence by September 1, 2021. The Mission Church will operate much like an independent church in terms of contextualized teaching, programs and localized leadership, but will still be tied to Oak Hills Church Crownridge financially and in specific ministry service areas.

MINISTRY SERVICES The current Central Support structure will be integrated into Crownridge, over time, and will operate under the term of “Ministry Services”. This controlled integration will allow for some centralized functions to remain in place to service all campuses during transition to independence.

MISSION, VALUES AND BELIEFS Oak Hills Church is not altering the basic Mission, Values or Beliefs. Our mission statement remains: “We are the body of Christ called to be Jesus in every neighborhood in our city and beyond.”

MINISTRY PRIORITIES The driving ministry priorities for all of Oak Hills Church into this next ministry season (Sept. 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019) are twofold:

1. Developing Christlikeness in all believers through teaching and discipleship that helps people to grow in their abiding relationship with Christ in a way that transforms them increasingly into Christlikeness. Our priority will include developing a clear pathway for people to identify where they are in their spiritual walk and specific ways that they advance in their spiritual development.
2. Leadership Development promotes the ownership of the ministry by the body of believers, including attendees and volunteers as well as staff and elders. We will collectively create a pathway for developing leaders and identifying people to participate in ministry development.

STRATEGY Our overall OHC strategy for achieving our ministry priorities remain the same: Worship and Serve and Join a Group. Each ministry area support this strategy by helping our people to grow closer to God in worship, through serving others in and outside of our church, and by being in Christian community.

CONTEXT/CONTEXTUALIZATION We desire to promote the contextualization of ministry to the local area around each church. Each community is unique: the needs, the culture, the assets and the challenges. A deep knowledge of the community’s context - through participating in daily life there - allows a church and its leaders to customize teaching and ministry activities to the greatest Kingdom impact. It will also allow the church to be more responsive and agile to the circumstances within their area of the city.

CAPACITY We desire to release pent up capacity to own and lead ministry. We believe that giving greater responsibility to the independent church will result in people standing up to serve and lead. Promoting more servant leadership helps people identify and develop spiritual gifts and supports the spiritual growth and development of our people in Christlikeness.

SUSTAINABILITY We desire for each expression of Oak Hills Church to be established in a way that it can move forward and multiply in a healthy way and not be dependent on one leader. This includes establishing the necessary structure, leadership, financial and governance models to sustain it far into the future. Ministering in the local context and building the capacity of local leadership are key components of sustainability.