



# THANKS BE TO GOD

ALMIGHTY & ETERNAL GOD,  
SO DRAW OUR HEARTS TO YOU,  
SO GUIDE OUR MINDS,  
SO FILL OUR IMAGINATIONS,  
SO CONTROL OUR WILLS,  
THAT WE MAY BE WHOLLY YOURS,  
UTTERLY DEDICATED UNTO YOU,  
AND THEN USE US, WE PRAY,  
AS YOU WILL, AND ALWAYS  
TO YOUR GLORY AND THE  
WELFARE OF YOUR PEOPLE,  
THROUGH OUR LORD AND  
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.  
AMEN.



THE VISION OF THE CHURCH AS AN EMBASSY  
OF GOD'S KINGDOM HAS CAPTURED OUR IMAGINATION.

OUR DESIRE HAS BEEN THAT GOD WOULD FORM US  
AS A COMMUNITY THAT ANNOUNCES, EMBODIES,  
AND DEMONSTRATES THE REALITY THAT JESUS  
HAS BROUGHT NEAR THE REIGN AND RULE OF GOD.

OUR HOPE HAS BEEN THAT COTC WOULD BECOME A GOSPEL-  
PROCLAIMING INSTITUTION IN AND FOR NORTHEAST AUSTIN,  
THE CITY, AND THE WORLD, FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

**BY GOD'S GRACE, THIS FALL WE HAVE AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE FORWARD TOWARD  
OUR DESIRE AND HOPE WITH YOUR HELP.**



# THE OPPORTUNITY

GOD'S PROVISION OF 8140 EXCHANGE DR. AS A LONG TERM HOME IS A SIGNIFICANT STEP THAT OPENS UP NEW POSSIBILITIES AND GRANTS US STABILITY FOR THE FUTURE. WE ARE SETTING ASIDE THIS SEASON TO LEARN, PRAY, AND DISCERN HOW WE COLLECTIVELY AND PERSONALLY ARE CALLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS STEP FORWARD.

## LIVING OUT OUR VALUES

### CELEBRATION

This property provides us with space to inhabit more fully in our worship, celebrating God's goodness. The initiative itself presents us with the opportunity to celebrate God's goodness through our own contributions and generosity.

### CONSOLATION

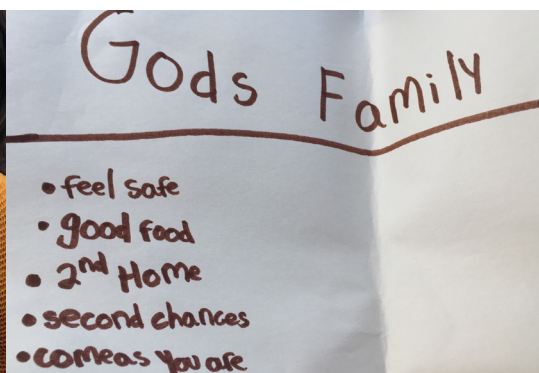
We are embodied creatures, we need shelter and we are shaped by the spaces we inhabit. Having a long-term ministry center, a safe place of welcome and community, allows us to practice hospitality and care for one another and our neighbors. We dream about how children might further experience this physical location as a place of encouragement, fun, and rest.

### TRANSFORMATION

We look forward to this space being marked by rhythms of prayer and learning as we keep company with Jesus. The various spaces in the current building provide room for The Garden as well as catechism and youth gatherings. The possibilities with the adjacent undeveloped lots are extensive.

### PARTICIPATION

This property provides us with the opportunity to continue our participation in God's renewal of all things in a localized and tangible way. There is tremendous opportunity to use this space to invite our neighbors and others to encounter Jesus. As this initiative puts COTC in a solid financial position for years to come there is greater opportunity for us to extend ourselves in mission.



# A CALL TO PARTICIPATE

No building or property makes the church. For that thanks be to God. But as an embodied people, who worship a God who took on flesh, we do see the value and importance of physical space. The opportunities for worship, mission, and formation are remarkable with the building and adjacent lots we have purchased. **Our sacrificial investment in what God is doing at Church of the Cross will contribute to the financial strength of the church moving forward, allowing us to be nimble and creative in response to opportunities and need and help to make the building more conducive for liturgical worship, hospitality, and community.**

Over the coming weeks our concrete ask is that you would make this your prayer, “Heavenly Father, how are you inviting me to participate?” As we make this petition before God, I am confident that He will speak to and direct us clearly. Beyond prayer, listening, and responding to the Lord, I ask if you would make every effort to engage with us in this season. We will be communicating further detail in the days and weeks ahead.

In Christ, Peter

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>OCTOBER 2</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING</b> During this week a team of COTCers will be making calls to pray with and for each of us with regard to this initiative and season in general.
<b>OCTOBER 9</b>	<b>PRAYER</b> Our Bishop, Todd Hunter, will join us for worship this Sunday, sharing his perspective on the initiative and praying for the use of the property to God’s glory.
<b>OCTOBER 16</b>	<b>BLESSING</b> On this Sunday our focus will be God’s call upon and equipping of the church, including COTC, to be a blessing to others in the name of Jesus.
<b>OCTOBER 22</b>	<b>PARISH RETREAT</b> Our retreat this year will involve learning about and considering God’s call upon us in 8140 Exchange Dr. and this part of the city more generally.
<b>OCTOBER 23</b>	<b>FAITH</b> Our focus this week will be upon our faith-filled response to the grace of God, asking “Heavenly Father, how are you inviting me to participate in your work and kingdom?”
<b>OCTOBER 30</b>	<b>SACRIFICE</b> Following worship we will host a special “Lunch & Learn” that will include a presentation regarding our dreams and vision for this initiative and opportunity for further Q&A.
<b>NOVEMBER 6</b> <small>ALL SAINTS DAY</small>	<b>COMMITMENT &amp; CELEBRATION</b> During worship, in addition to baptisms we’ll have the opportunity to make giving commitments over the coming three years toward this initiative. Following worship we’ll celebrate with a party.



FOR QUESTIONS OR TO LEARN MORE

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