

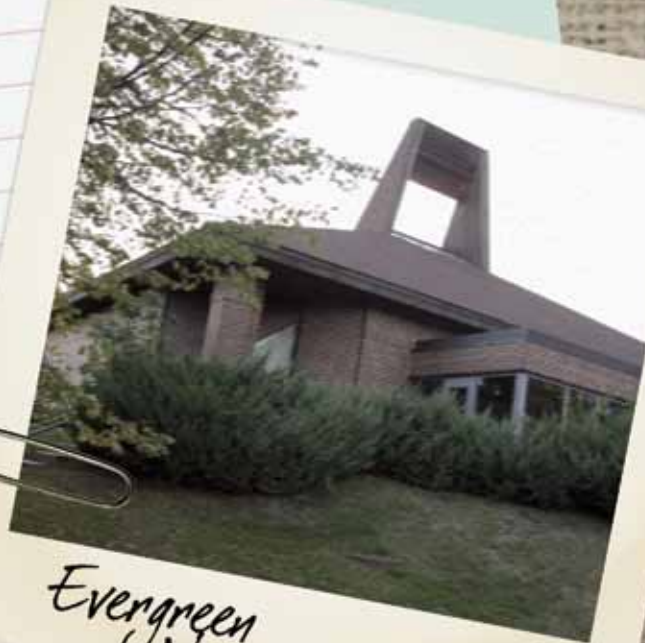


X Own it

THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US, AND WE
ARE FILLED WITH JOY. - PSALM 126:3

X Own it

God is doing great things at this church, and He is inviting His people to join Him.



Evergreen
New Hope

THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US,
AND WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY. - PSALM 126:3

GOD AT WORK

*Psalm 126:3 - The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.*

God has indeed done some amazing things among us. Throughout the history of Evergreen, God has been at work.

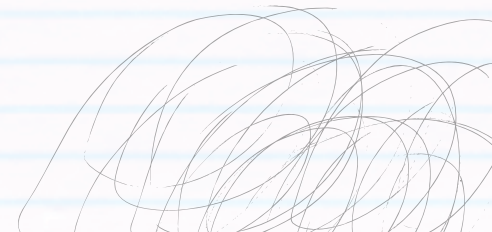
We are a part of Evergreen's wonderful God story of aggressive church planting. Evergreen began in 1988 in Bloomington, and our congregation was the first church plant in 1994. Since then, churches have also been planted in Lakeville, Minneapolis (The Rock and The Urban Refuge), and Berlin, Germany (Rock Berlin).

From 1994 to 2005, our church met in seven different facilities before God led us to our current location in New Hope. What a blessing it was to finally take root in our own permanent facility!

*We have been given a unique
opportunity.*

When we purchased this building in 2008, our faithful congregation made pledges of over \$700,000! Incredibly, we have received 96% of that money to date. During this time, our regular giving has also increased. This is a testament to the wonderful faithfulness and generosity of our congregation and the amazing blessings of God!

Now God has allowed us to be in a position to realistically own our building outright. We currently owe less than \$400,000 on this building that originally cost us \$1.08 million. This is a very attainable goal and an incredible opportunity to free up money for future needs, such as possible staff additions, new ministry opportunities, and building updates.





Our building is busy serving! Events such as these take place in the building on a regular basis: women's Bible studies, men's purity groups, a home school support group, moms' times, various leadership meetings, Dads' workshops, weddings, etc.

*How God Has Been
Using Our Building...*

God at Work in Our Building

For two years we have hosted a 'purity event' for men called **THE BATTLE**. These meetings and weekly small groups are designed for accountability and encouragement. Our building is helping men in their quest for sexual purity!

Each December, our building welcomes many women to the annual **EVERGREEN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**. The gospel is preached to many women, some of whom do not know Christ as their personal Savior.

We hosted a **LIVING FREE IN CHRIST** seminar where over 100 people from our church and

our community came to hear the truths about our identity in Christ.

Our **LOVE BUNDLES** ministry has been able to serve families in our community. Families in need are able to come to our church and get baby care items such as diapers, wipes, cream, and even clothing and toys.

Our **TEEN GROUP** has used the building for various meetings, events, and service projects. Teens have blessed the neighbors in our community by doing raking and other yard work each fall.

We have hosted **MARRIAGE AND PARENTING CONFERENCES**. These events help equip families in our church and in our community to strengthen their families.

Several of our larger **SMALL GROUPS** meet in our building. These groups are where real friendships develop and true spiritual growth happens. Without this building, these groups would have no place to meet.

Our **TWENTY-SOMETHING SINGLES** group has offered a free night of babysitting for couples who need to run errands or just have a date night.

OWN THIS BUILDING

The “Own It” campaign is about being in a solid financial position so that we can use God’s resources to accomplish God’s work here at His church.

When we purchased this building in 2008, we never dreamed we would be in the position that we are in now so quickly. Owning this building outright is within reach!

Eliminating the debt of our building would put us in a very strong position to do additional ministry, which would help us better serve our community and grow our own church family.

Examples of possible ministry opportunities are Kids Against Hunger, hosting community outreach seminars on parenting or finances, and expanding

the aid and services we offer through our involvement with Love INC. We could also add church staff, such as coordinators for these new ministries, a youth ministry coordinator, a full-time custodian, or additional pastors.

In addition, eliminating debt is outstanding financial stewardship. Paying off this building within three years would save us over \$35,000 in interest. We want to use well the resources that God has given us, and avoiding interest costs is a great way to do that.

While the idea of owning this building has tremendous appeal, the “Own It” campaign is about much more than owning a building. God is personal. This campaign is personal. There are several other ways to “Own It.”

OWN YOUR FAITH

Luke 18:8 - ...when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?

- This question is first and foremost – Do we have faith?
- Do we believe God for great things that we cannot accomplish ourselves?
- Is what is happening here only explained because God is at work?
- Is our walk with God personal and growing?

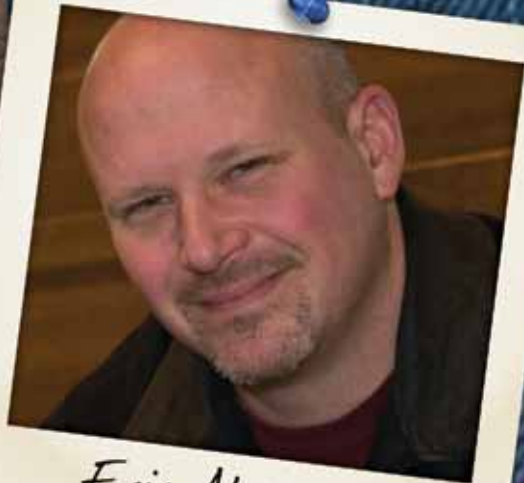
By God’s grace, lives are being changed as we do ministry at this church.

ERIC AHRENS

"Evergreen has helped me to 'own' my faith by giving me the tools I need to build a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Through daily prayer, Bible reading, small groups and service, God is now the number one priority in my life. I'm proud to be a member of Evergreen-New Hope, and I'm grateful for my friends and family here."

ROGER & LINDA HILDEN

"We are not church hoppers or shoppers, but God led us to Evergreen over four years ago after we had left our church of 23 years. We came here to serve God and grow with a community of people who have the same desire. This church is a body of believers at all different stages in their faith journey. Evergreen is a place where you come as you are but will never remain the same. God is so good, and we love being here!"



Eric Ahrens



Roger & Linda Hilden



Our challenge to you is to make this campaign about personal spiritual growth, not just money. Get close to God and seek His leading. Let God speak to your heart, and let Him stretch you. Make your faith your own. Own it!

MAURICE & FAWN CROSSLAND

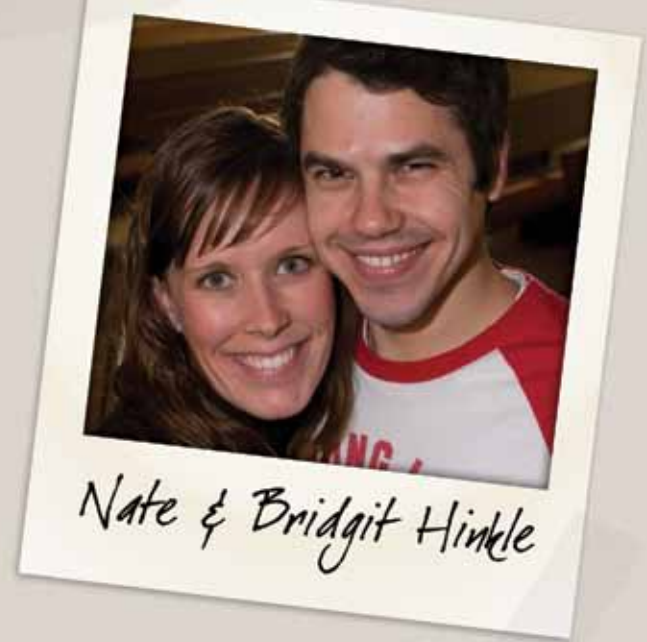
"We have seen God lead us. He led us to each other, and He led us to Evergreen. We love that this church leads us closer to Him. We have grown closer to God through Scripture-based sermons that are easy to understand and relate to, and through great small groups that enable us to really get to know others. Evergreen has helped us to actively strengthen and grow our faith. We are so grateful for our church home."

OWN THE VISION

Several years ago, God gave us a specific vision for our church – to “Make an Eternal Difference” by helping people to “Take Root,” “Reach Out,” and “Plant Seeds”. God has been making that happen in the lives of people at Evergreen-New Hope.

TAKE ROOT

*HELPING PEOPLE TO GROW IN THEIR
RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST*



NATE & BRIDGIT HINKLE

"We love our church family! We are blessed to be part of a church that is so intentional about living lives that exalt Christ. We love being in relationships that make us feel like 'we are not alone.' We love being with others so willing to share their struggles (and victories). We love being with people who challenge us to seek God through His Word and prayer. These people and this church have been so influential in our lives."

OWN THE VISION

REACH OUT

EQUIPPING PEOPLE TO REACH
OUT WITH THE LIFE-CHANGING
MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL OF
CHRIST

*Acts 20:24 (NLT) - But my life is worth
nothing unless I use it for doing
the work assigned me by the Lord
Jesus—the work of telling others the
Good News about God’s wonderful
kindness and love.*



Brad & Chantel Zielke



Mike & Beth Higgins

BRAD & CHANTEL ZIELKE

"During a long 'church hunt,' the Lord brought us to Evergreen a few years ago and made it clear that this was to be our new home. The people of this church reached out to us during our first visit in a way that made us feel the love of Christ.

"We were so excited to join this church body that we began to tell all our friends, inviting them to service each week. But it didn't end with a few of our friends. Our friends, who also felt the amazing love of the Evergreen family, invited their friends, who invited their friends. Soon we knew a handful of 'new comers' just like us.

"Eventually God gave us an opportunity to serve by leading a small group. It has been such a joy to serve our wonderful, loving, providing God here at Evergreen."

MIKE & BETH HIGGINS

"Our goal is to change the world for Christ. We know we're not perfect, but we pray that we will have an impact. We pray for 11 different neighbors weekly and hand out cookies at Christmas, along with an invitation to church. We also have our kids involved and praying for them.

"I (Mike) have made a commitment to communicate in some way a gospel message to everyone I work for. I am often in homes of unbelievers and have a unique opportunity to share the love of Jesus with those who don't know Christ. I have missed some opportunities but will keep looking and praying for more. I believe we can all change the world for Christ."



PLANT SEEDS

ENCOURAGING PEOPLE
TO PLANT SEEDS
OF KINDNESS AND
GOOD DEEDS IN OUR
COMMUNITY

Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world— like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

DEBRA ROSE

"The Love Bundles ministry has had an impact on many people in our church and community. We have been able to meet the needs in our community by supplying families with a variety of baby items donated through our congregation. We are also able to provide an opportunity for them to hear about Jesus and the love that He offers. We are blessed to know that our God is working through us and our church to meet needs in our community that we would not be able to do on our own.

"When I volunteer in the Love Bundles Room, I am really impacted when I help the clients. Meeting their needs in a tangible way is great, but when I get to pray with them, meeting their spiritual needs as well... that is what makes it worth it to me."



Debra Rose

OWN YOUR ROLE

*Jon & Julie
Sybrant*



Jon & Julie Sybrant
Jon & Julie lead a small group for empty nesters, lead mission trips to Africa, and joyfully serve in other ways as they are able.

"Because our brothers and sisters in Christ are our true family, this building feels like a home to us. Intellectually, we know it is just a building, but emotionally it is a treasured place for us."

Tim Broge



WHAT'S MY PART?

An important question to ask is, "What is my part in this church family?" We encourage every person who considers Evergreen his or her church home to get involved, to serve, and to make this "your" church. On the following pages are examples of people who have moved from being attenders to being actively involved in the life of this church, using their gifts to live intentionally for God.

Tim Broge

"Evergreen has become my home in a number of ways, but I think that the most influential part in my life is that Evergreen is a great place for me to grow and stretch my faith in Christ. There are many opportunities for me to do this in small groups, serving, and through Sunday morning services. All three of these areas give me a chance to grow in humility."

Ellie Petersen

"After getting baptized here at Evergreen, I wanted to find some way to share my passion for God. So I started the Girls GIG (Growing in Godliness) Bible Study, which started out small but grew steadily to about 20 girls.

"Ever since Girls GIG started, we have wanted to do something for our church, so we decided to have a bake-sale to raise funds for our Kids Against Hunger pack-a-thon. We set a goal of raising \$200, a number that seemed huge to us. When it was all said and done, we made about \$1,400! That day God really strengthened my faith. I am excited to see how God will change me in the future."



Ellie Petersen



Alyssa Poucher

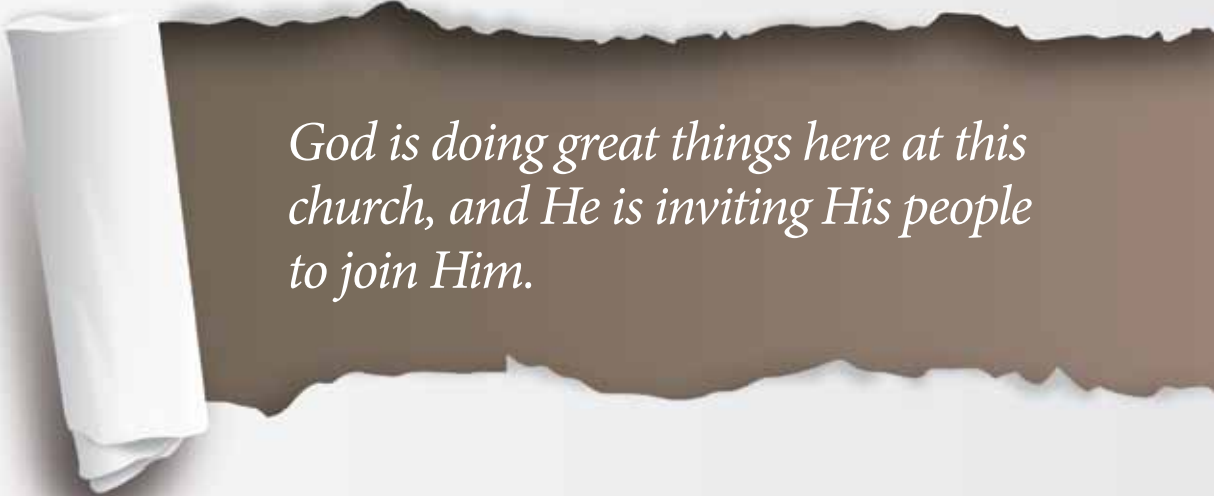
Alyssa Poucher

"Evergreen has become a place where I'm a part of a family. I can serve God in ministries that use my gifts, and I have found the closest friends of my life. I have connected with a small group which has helped me grow closer to my Lord and Savior. I've also been so blessed working with middle school kids, since I love being around young people... they teach me so much about humility and having a simple faith. God uses this church community in so many wonderful ways, and I'm so blessed to be a part of it."

YOUR HELP IS VITAL

Our goal for this campaign is to raise enough money to fully pay off our building. Including interest payments and minimal campaign costs, this would require a total of \$425,000 to be pledged. If God blesses us with more than this amount, then any excess monies would be used for such things as facility repairs and updates or new ministry initiatives (like Kids Against Hunger).

Would you prayerfully consider how the Lord would have you financially join Him in this campaign? We urge you to ask God, "How are you asking me to participate?" Remember that He has designed the Body in a way that when every part contributes, mighty things can happen! Through your gifts we look forward to a greatly increased ability to fulfill our mission to "Make an Eternal Difference."



God is doing great things here at this church, and He is inviting His people to join Him.

FAITH-FILLED STEPS TO SACRIFICIAL GIVING

PRAY

Pray for God's guidance and leading with an open mind and heart.

Ask God to help you respond to this opportunity in faith and strengthen your trust in Him through the process.

Ask God to lead you in an amount to give to the "Own It" Campaign.

ASK YOURSELF

Am I currently being a good steward of what God has given me by tithing to the church first?

What amount do I believe God is leading me to give to this campaign?

Is my gift sacrificial?

What am I willing to sacrifice in order to participate?

Am I demonstrating an expression of faith in God with this amount?

Am I convinced I can give this amount with a motivation of worshiping God, showing my thankfulness?

DISCUSS WITH YOUR SPOUSE

(if applicable)

Recognize you are partners in the Kingdom if you are married.

Have a heart-to-heart conversation on what God is speaking to your hearts and decide together how much to give.

DELIGHT

Psalm 37:4 (NIV) Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Rejoice in the satisfaction of finding and following God's will.

Anticipate seeing God meet your greatest needs in Him as you sacrifice lesser things.

Take time to delight in and thank God for revealing himself to you throughout the journey.

COMMIT

Psalm 37:5 (NIV) Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

Fill out the commitment card that will be distributed at the weekend service on Sunday, March 25.

Commit to following through on your gift pledge.

WAYS TO MAKE AND MEET A PLEDGE

This chart is a tool that you may find helpful as you seek to hear personally from God. The chart is a hypothetical representation as to how the church might receive gifts totaling \$425,000 based upon statistical data from other churches that had similar fundraising goals. The chart shows the number of households giving at various levels and the cumulative effect of those gifts.

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS	AMOUNT OF WEEKLY GIFT	AMOUNT OF MONTHLY GIFT	AMOUNT OF EACH COMMITMENT FOR 3 YRS	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
1@			\$30,000	\$30,000
1@	\$128.21	\$555.56	20,000	20,000
2@	96.15	416.67	15,000	30,000
5@	48.08	208.33	7,500	37,500
16@	32.05	138.89	5,000	80,000
25@	25.00	108.33	3,900	97,500
20@	20.00	86.67	3,120	62,400
19@	15.00	65.00	2,340	44,460
9@	10.00	43.33	1,560	14,040
12@	5.00	21.67	780	9,360
TOTAL				425,260

The biblical basis for this chart is that God has given each of us differing amounts of resources to manage.

“Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.”

- Matthew 25:14-15, NLT

Since we each have differing resources we, therefore, should pledge differing amounts to the campaign.

To start, ask yourself, “At what level on the chart do I (we) feel the most comfortable giving?” Then prayerfully consider stretching your faith, and ask God to show you ways to give at the next higher level.

Meeting the Need

Our building needs will be met as we discover ways to give “over and above” our normal (tithe) giving. The true practice of Biblical management is not limited to what we are able to give from a bank account. We manage a broad variety of resources in addition to our bank accounts. We should examine all the resources that God has given to us to manage. True giving reflects the totality of our life, not just what’s in the bank!

Giving Ideas

For example, God has led people to give by the following:

PRIORITY BUDGETING

- Gift by postponing a planned expenditure (“Buy the car in three years and not now.”)
- Gift by sacrificing something presently in the budget (“go without the car”)

GIFTS OF UNEXPECTED CASH

- Gifts from an inheritance or dividend

GIFT FROM INCREASED INCOME

GIFTS FROM ACCUMULATED CASH

GIFT FROM EXTRA WORK OR SECOND JOB

GIFT OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY

GIFTS OF STOCK AND BONDS

GIFTS FROM LIFE INSURANCE

GIFTS FROM A TRUST

- Gift of property
- Gift from a retirement fund

Important note:

Secure legal and tax counsel prior to giving stock or property to the church. Also, check with Jim Bird (952-564-3771) prior to giving any personal property to verify that the church can accept the property.



X Own it



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EVERGREEN CHURCH

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