



CHURCH PLANT

Proposal

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Walpole
NH

The Barneys

Justin & Danielle Stats:

Married: 18 Years

Children: Abbey (12), Søren (10), Cyrus (6 mo)

Ministry: We have been in ministry for all 18 years of our marriage and have participated in three different church plants between PA and NH. Justin has served in both the Associate and Lead Pastor role and Danielle works in public education as a Reading Specialist.

Background: Justin and Danielle both grew up in NH and moved to PA right out of high school to attend college. Nine years later, they moved back to NH in 2012 in order to plant their first church.

Interests: Justin enjoys collecting vinyl records, playing the drums, and hunting. Danielle enjoys a nice cup of coffee with a good friend, taking long walks, listening to music, and being with her family.



The Why

The Need: The desire to plant a church in the heart of Walpole, NH and to reach the surrounding area stems from the direct need for a greater gospel presence in this geographic location. Our desire is to see a new church get planted that will serve the River Valley as a kingdom outpost for years to come.

Brutal Facts: We live in the least-churched region of the country, with only about 1-3% of the population following the way of Jesus. Below is a breakdown of what this actually looks like for the population of Walpole and the surrounding towns within a 10-15 mile radius:

- Walpole - 3,633
- N. Walpole - 560
- Bellows Falls, VT - 2,814
- Rockingham, VT - 5,024
- Alstead - 2,000
- Langdon - 690
- Gilsum - 743
- Charlestown - 5,012

If there are roughly 20,000 people who live here and only 3% of them claim to be Jesus-followers, that means that **19,400 or more haven't encountered Jesus in a life-changing way!**

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few...”

Matthew 9:37, ESV

The Why

Continued

Why Now? From day one, Elm City Church (sending church) has had a stated goal of being a church planting church, desiring to multiply everything that's healthy including: *disciples, small groups, leaders, and churches*. They set a big vision to see two churches planted within their first ten years of existence. In September of 2023, Elm City reached its 5th Year Anniversary as a church! By God's grace, they are now ready to take their first steps towards planting a new one.

Below are some key doors that have opened over the past year:

- **Target Area** - We have an identified location.
- **Team** - We have the outworking of a core team and leaders who will be part of this new work.
- **Meeting Space** - We have a building that is being gifted to Elm City for ministry use.
- **Called Leader** - We have an identified leader to spearhead the work.

"...therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:38, ESV

The What

What? A Walpole church plant would be sent out of Elm City Church with the goal of becoming *self-governing, self-sustaining, self-directing, and self-correcting* within 1-3 years.

Even after the church plant reaches autonomy, it will remain connected to Elm City through an organic, decentralized network of churches who share similar vision, mission, values, and philosophy of ministry, partnered together for the sake of the Gospel and future church planting efforts.

Values

- **Locality** - We want to be the type of church that loves where we live, work, and play. We want to contribute to the flourishing of the communities we are planted in without compromising on our theological convictions.
- **Multiplication** - We want to multiply everything that is healthy, including: disciples, leaders, groups, and churches.
- **Everybody Plays** - We want to empower all believers to see themselves as participants in the mission of God.

The What Continued



Vision

We desire to see 25 healthy Life Groups started and 2 churches birthed in our first ten years to glory of God.

Mission

Practicing the Way of Jesus Together.



The Walpole church plant affirms the EFCA Statement of Faith.

The How

A 30K-FOOT VIEW

The goal is to plant a church planting church that is committed to Jesus' mission of making and multiplying disciples. We envision accomplishing this goal through a strategy called **4 Fields / 5 Parts**:

Empty Field

(Entry)

- Teach people to identify, pray for, and take regular steps with their *OIKOS* (relational networks of 8-12 people made up of family, friends, neighbors, co-workers).
- Prayer Walking.
- Discover "Persons of Peace" (Luke 10).
- Serve each other and the community.

Seeded Field

(Gospel)

- *30-second Testimony* - Knowing and telling your story.
- *3 Circles* - Knowing and telling God's story.
- *ALPHA* - Explore Christianity with no strings attached.



Leaders

See Below

Harvested Field

(Church)

- *The Church Circle* - Acts 2:42-47
- The Corporate worship gathering of believers.

Sprouted Field

(Discipleship)

- *411 Training* with existing believers and people "warm" to faith.
- *3/3rds* pattern of discipleship-style small groups (Life Groups).
- *Commands of Christ*.
- *Discovery Bible Studies*.

Leaders (Multiplication) • Life Group Leadership, Zume' Training, Church Planting.

The How

Continued

Below are stages of what a ministry process will look like for bringing an individual who is hovering in the “crowd” to someone who is “comissioned” and sent out as multiplying leader.

Crowd

- Attends public worship services or community events.

Congregation

- Attends Meet & Greet.
- Takes “Next Steps.”
- ALPHA.
- Commands of Christ.

Committed

- Joins a Life Group.
- Gives financially.
- Serves in ministry.
- Makes disciples.

Core

- Becomes Partner.
- Active ministry leadership.

Comissioned

- Leadership training.
- Equipped and sent out on mission.
- Church planting.

The When

Below is broad timeline of milestones that we are working towards over the next three years:

2023



Gather and onboard Steering Committee.



Year-End Fundraising Campaign launched.



Host Christmas Eve service in Walpole.

2024



3 Life Groups established.



Phase 1 of building upgrades complete.



Host several Preview Services.



Launch public services.

2025



Establish Elders, Deacons, and a preaching team.



Grow in new disciples, attendance, and financial independence.



Refine plans, systems, and structures.

2026



At least 80 identified adults are part of new work.



Establish local Board of Directors.



Long-term building plan secured.



Identify next area to plant.

The Budget

Below details our high view budget over the next three years, showing the different streams of income that we plan to draw from. This budget covers operational and startup expenses, church planter support, and outreach costs. We have a path for support decreasing each year with a goal of being completely self-sustaining by 2027.

2024

\$125,000

- \$55K - General Tithes / Offerings.
- \$45K - EFCA Grants (R.E.A.C.H. + NEDA).
- \$30K - Elm City Church (Planting Fund).

2025

\$140,000

- \$75-85K - General Tithes / Offerings.
- \$40K - EFCA Grants (R.E.A.C.H. + NEDA).
- \$25K - Elm City Church (Planting Fund).

2026

\$150,000

- \$100-125K - General Tithes / Offerings.
- \$25K - Elm City Church (Planting Fund).

2027

- Financially self-sustainable.
- Structurally autonomous.

The Ask

Despite the dire statistics here, we believe that God is up to some big things in New Hampshire and we want to invite you to be part of the story! Instead of planting one church, we believe God wants us to think more broadly, working towards a multiplication movement of churches planting churches in order to reach the lost in our region with the Gospel. **Would you pray and consider how God might want you to partner with us to make a lasting Kingdom impact?**

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” Habakkuk 2:14, ESV

Prayer

We cannot underestimate the power of prayer. When it comes to church planting, there are many needs, but we serve a God who’s primary mission is to build His Church! If you would like to partner with us in prayer, join our *Walpole Prayer Team* [HERE](#) to receive regular updates and prayer needs.

Finances

For the 2023 Year-End, we are trying to raise \$100K in order to offset operational costs as we work towards sustainability over the next three years. If you would like to make a one-time or monthly Kingdom investment, you can do so [HERE](#) or by visiting:

elmcitychurch.churchcenter.com/giving
(Click the dropdown for “Church Planting”)

People

Interested in being part of the team? We are currently looking for families and individuals who might commit to serve in the church plant for a short or long-term period to help get things started and established. If what we’re trying to do resonates, please reach out:

justin@elmcitychurch.com -or- 603-903-9856