



The launch process is coming into the final stretch

Hey everyone!

I hope you're having a great week and that you'll be here on Sunday. There's lots to update you on. God is on the move!

LAUNCH UPDATE

I know many of you were not able to make our launch update meeting this past Sunday so I wanted to share some exciting news. We have prayerfully discerned a new name that we will begin to use. In a unanimous decision, our Launch Committee believes God is calling our new church to be named Church of the Holy Spirit. The name reflects how we will be similar as we launch yet different, and how God has been leading us by his Spirit throughout this process. It is also a unique name among the 50 or so churches within our Diocese.

Work has begun on new logos and rebranding ourselves as we transition to our name. We have acquired the domain name holyspiritdi.org and we are working on implementing a new church management software.

Some major other things are falling into place:

1. We have begun a monthly prayer and worship night to bring our launch needs and other concerns before the Lord. We are already seeing powerful answers to prayer! These are held on the second Thursday of each month, from 7:30-8:30 PM in the Parish Hall and all are welcome.

2. Jessica Willis has been hired in a combined role as our Director of Communications and Director of Operations. Jessica has been the full-time Director of Communications for Holy Cross for 6 years already and brings a wealth of experience and creativity to our staff team.

3. South State bank has agreed that we can be given the deed to our property by Sullivan's Island despite the shared debt we carry as two campuses. Our debt portion will be 30% of the remaining \$1.9 million, or approximately \$600,000.

4. Our by-laws are near completion, and incorporation will follow soon after.

5. A new vestry will be put in place by the end of January, and they will lead us forward come March 2024.

There is more, but the final thing I want to mention is under the guidance of our Launch Finance Sub-Committee, headed up by Chris Hamlin and Rusty Seymour, our budget for 2024 is coming together, and it is clear that we can continue to operate in 2024 as we have been. However, I believe that, as we launch, God is calling us to more. I spoke in a sermon recently about the 'What ifs': the things that could be done if we become more generous in our giving; marriage ministries we could run to help save marriages in our community; the buildings we could expand to accommodate the huge need for more classes in our pre-school and the possible addition of a kindergarten; the scholarships we could offer to children in need; the desire to give 10% of our income to outreach missions; clergy we could hire to help start new congregations and church plants, etc.

Therefore, I would ask as you consider how much God might be calling you to give to the work of his kingdom through Holy Cross Church (soon Holy Spirit Church) in 2024. Would you prayerfully consider giving at least a tithe, 10% of your income, and perhaps more? The Lord calls us to trust him in our giving, knowing that all we have is a gift from him anyway, and that scripture teaches us to be regular, cheerful, and generous in what we give. May we be a people who hear the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 8:7 and put them into practice:

"Just as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us-- see that you also excel in this grace of giving."

Pledge here

As always, let me know if you'd like to get together for coffee or lunch sometime.

See you on Sunday!

Jonathan⁺

P.S. Weeks 6 and 7 of Clive Calver's devotional book, 'Alive in the Spirit', are attached.

Click any image below for more information regarding an event.



CO:MISSION IS A HUGE SUCCESS

The preliminary estimated net gain for the CO:Mission fundraising events is \$36,664, which represents a 33% increase over the 2022 fundraising total of \$27,450. This will be finalized in the next few weeks but is a great number! Thank you to all of you who contributed your time, talents and treasure to make this such a success and to help fund overseas mission!