

Metro Philadelphia Church Planting Partnership



A REGION THAT'S RIPE FOR THE GOSPEL



Independence Hall
Philadelphia



Taj Mahal Casino
Atlantic City, NJ



Lehigh University
Bethlehem, PA

Our vision is to do our part in the Body of Christ to saturate Philadelphia, eastern Pennsylvania and South Jersey with the Gospel and Gospel-centered churches by planting 25-30 PCA congregations in the region by 2015.

Philadelphia is known for its rich historic sites that tell the story of America's pathway to independence. South Jersey is famous for its lavish casinos, crowded boardwalks and the annual Miss America Pageant. Northeast Pennsylvania is a popular destination for campers, hikers, skiers, and kids who love Crayola crayons. But in the years to come we want this region to be known for the liberating power of Jesus Christ and the number of those who become His followers in good, Gospel-centered churches.

To realize this vision we believe the Father is calling us together into an exciting, new missionary network: the Metro Philadelphia Church Planting Partnership. This partnership will combine the resources of the four PCA presbyteries in the region to form a strategic coalition to saturate Philadelphia, eastern Pennsylvania and South Jersey with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We will work side-by-side to identify keys sites for new churches; to recruit, place, train and coach church planters; and to insure that new congregations are healthy and growing.

The great business of man's life is to answer the end for which he lives, and that is to glorify God..."

William Penn
The Founder of the Colony of Pennsylvania
From No Cross, No Crown (1682)

Philly Facts:

- Philadelphia is America's 4th largest metropolitan center with 6.2 million people.
- South Jersey is Philly's playground with casinos, boardwalks, amusement parks and sandy beaches.
- The population of the Lehigh Valley will increase 22% or by 125,000 in the next 30 years.
- Philadelphia and Boston alternate as the cities that have the largest number of college students in North America.
- There are no PCA churches in Trenton, Atlantic City or Camden, New Jersey.
- Philly is famous for unique foods like cheese steaks, hoagies, soft pretzels, Italian water ice and scrapple.
- Eleven new PCA churches have been planted in the region in the past 10 years (see page 2).

FROM MOMENTUM TO A MOVEMENT

Just ten years ago there was very little church planting in the region. At best, the presbyteries around metro Philadelphia started one new congregation every 4 or 5 years. In the past decade, however, the Lord has blessed the region with 11 new mission churches, including those that are serving unique people groups. Ilya Lizorkin has planted Rock of Israel, reaching Russian immigrants. Bagudekia Alobeyo has started All Nations, a church that serves

African immigrants. And Kin Lam has targeted the blue-collar Chinese population in South Philly through New City Mission. Other new churches are already tithing (10%) to missions and sending missionaries, proving the value of church planting in the United States. Our desire is to build on the momentum God has given us to produce a movement of church planting that greatly impacts many lives and this region for Jesus Christ.

The growing church planting movement in greater Philadelphia... shows how churches in a long-established presbytery can work together and plant churches to reach various populations. As a result, the Gospel is spreading in this historic city and lives are changing.

Jim Bland, MNA Coordinator

PARTNERSHIP VALUES

- The need for Gospel proclamation is urgent in our day.
- The best way to fulfill the great commission of Jesus Christ is through a church multiplication movement.
- The presbyteries will grow primarily through church planting.
- We will succeed in our efforts to start new churches to the degree that we cooperate together in a partnership.
- Every church has resources (prayer, time, ministries, money, and people) that could be invested in church planting.
- We will be open to various methods of church planting to reach the wide range of unchurched people in our region.
- We will give special emphasis to reaching the ethnic and immigrant communities of our region through both mono-ethnic/mono-cultural and multi-ethnic/multi-cultural church planting.
- We will proactively select key locations for new churches.
- We believe that there is adequate funding available for the right church planting projects.



Bruce Finn with key leaders in Philadelphia church planting

11 New PCA Churches & Missions in 10 years

New Life Northeast Presbyterian
NE Philadelphia, Stephen Smallman Sr.

Christ Covenant Presbyterian
Hatboro, Mark Herzer

Christ the King Presbyterian
Conshohocken, Adam Brice

Cornerstone Presbyterian
Coopersburg, John Kinyon

All Nations Mission
SW Philadelphia, Bagudekia Alobeyo
African Immigrants

New City Mission
Philadelphia, Kin Lam
Chinese Immigrants.

liberti Mission
Philadelphia,
Geoff Bradford & Steve Huber
young urbanites, college students

Christ Liberation Fellowship
W Philadelphia, Lance Lewis
African American

Grace and Peace Presbyterian
Limerick/Spring City, Bill Mayk

Rock of Israel
NE Philadelphia, Ilya Lizorkin
Russian Jewish and Muslim immigrants

City Line Mission
W Philadelphia, Steve Kim
Multi-ethnic, Asian-American

BRUCE R. FINN CHURCH PLANTING COORDINATOR

Originally from Media, Pennsylvania, Bruce Finn earned a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from West Chester University, a Masters of Divinity from Westminster Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministries degree from Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando. He was ordained in the Presbyterian Church in America in 1980 and served two churches (Baltimore, Md; Hilton Head, S.C.) prior to planting a church in Bucks County beginning in 1986. Bruce and Debbie Finn have been married for more than 30 years. Their youngest daughter Karrie lives with them in Richboro. They have two older children: Brian in northern Virginia and Kelly in San Diego, California.



Bruce R. Finn
Church Planting Coordinator

For the past ten years Bruce has served as the chairman of the Church Planting Committee in the Philadelphia Presbytery. Under his supervision 11 churches have been planted in Eastern Pennsylvania. In January 2005 Bruce was unanimously called to serve as the Church Planting Coordinator and director of the new Church Planting Partnership covering metro Philadelphia, Eastern Pennsylvania and South Jersey. He will supervise coaching and care for all church planters, gather resources for a church planting movement and lead the implementation of a strategic plan to saturate the region with the Gospel and Gospel-centered churches.

REFERENCES

Over the years I have come to appreciate Bruce as a strong leader with clear vision and extraordinary passion for extending the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus through church planting. He has first hand experience in church planting and pastoral ministry, has been through the trials of life, and has emerged from it all with a depth of godly character and a fire for the gospel that, combined with his leadership gifts, eminently qualifies him, in my mind, for an expanded ministry role in Kingdom expansion.

Ted Powers

Church Planting Coordinator

Mission to North America, PCA

Bruce has provided capable, wise and visionary leadership for a full range of church plants—urban, suburban, multi-ethnic—to both young men contemplating church planting for the first time, and seasoned church leaders at the initial stages of considering church planting as a vital contemporary ministry of the church. God has truly used Bruce's tireless efforts to build Christ's church in the Philadelphia region.

Mike Kelly

Professor of Old Testament

Westminster Theological Seminary

My Ministry Objective

The Father is calling me to serve the King and His Kingdom by leading a PCA church planting movement in and around one of the nation's largest cities, through which the region is saturated with the message of Jesus Christ and lives are transformed by the power of the Gospel.

God has used Bruce Finn to carry forward the work of church planting in greater Philadelphia. His personal ministry to our session has helped to shape our vision for the city, and his encouragement to our church planters has strengthened them in the work of the gospel.

Philip Graham Ryken

Senior Minister

Tenth Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia

**METRO PHILADELPHIA
CHURCH PLANTING PARTNERSHIP**

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*Saturating Philadelphia, Eastern Pennsylvania
and South Jersey with Gospel-Centered Churches*

**Send us an email:
CP_Philly@comcast.net**



**Metro Philadelphia
Church Planting Partnership**

*Saturating Metro Philadelphia, South Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania
with the Gospel and Gospel-Centered Churches*

How to contribute

Your tax deductible contributions may be sent to:

**Mission to North America
1700 N. Brown Road, Suite 101
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8122**

Please designate each contribution to:

**Bruce R. Finn
MNA Account #41031175**

We urgently ask for your prayerful and financial partnership.

1. Please pray.

Our desire is to have an army of prayer partners who will join us in asking the Father for boldness, open doors and protection as we move forward toward this great vision. Just let us know how we can contact you to keep you updated on the progress of this exciting partnership.

2. Please give.

We are true missionaries and we are supported like missionaries. We are asking churches and individuals to contribute generously toward our ministry as we seek to saturate metro Philadelphia, eastern Pennsylvania and South Jersey with the Gospel and Gospel-Centered churches.



Bruce and Debbie Finn

Our Annual Support Goal

For salary, administrative and ministry expenses **\$97,000**

We are seeking churches or individuals who will contribute to our ministry in the following ways:

1 @ \$15,000 per year	\$ 15,000
2 @ \$10,000 per year	\$ 20,000
5 @ \$ 5,000 per year	\$ 25,000
7 @ \$ 3,000 per year	\$ 21,000
10 @ \$ 1,000 per year	\$ 10,000
* Other valued gifts up to \$1,000 per year	\$ 6,000
Total Contributions	\$ 97,000

We are also seeking contributions toward one-time start-up expenses for the ministry and office:

Office equipment & supplies **\$ 5,000**

** Gifts in any amount are appreciated.*

3. Please visit.

We invite you to come to Philadelphia for a tour of our mission churches, church planters and future sites. You will get a behind-the-scenes look at how the Gospel is breaking through to many people and in many places.