

Multi-Site Conference
Why Multi-Site Ministry?
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Harbor is one multi-cultural church, of multiple congregations (each led by a church planter), meeting in multiple sites. Think of it this way: Harbor is a vine (church) with multiple pea pods (congregations); each pod has one, two, or more peas (sites).

Many of you are doing, or considering multi-site (one vine, one pod with two or more peas). Some of you are doing, or considering multi-congregational (one vine, two or more pods, each pod with one or more peas). A few of you are doing, or considering including multi-cultural (one vine, with different "color" pods and/or peas).

So why do multi-something? Here are some of the advantages:

One Church

We are one church with one session (elder board), one membership roll, and centralized administration, which gives us the following advantages:

1. Shared vision for the San Diego-Tijuana region and the world
2. Centralized administration – which frees church planters to do ministry

Multi-Site

Model: Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York City

Each congregation (pod) seeks to meet in multiple locations, which gives us the following advantages:

1. Reach more people with the Gospel
2. Maximize resources – people and money
3. Big church ministries, small church feel
4. People closer to leaders
5. More opportunities for ministry involvement

6. Greater sense of community and fellowship
7. Impact neighborhoods
8. Provide better transition when primary preacher retires or ramps down
9. Enables small churches to thrive at what they do best

Multi-congregational

Models: Christ the King Church, Boston; Perimeter, Atlanta

We are one church composed of multiple congregations each led by a church planter which gives us the following advantages:

1. Team approach to ministry – You are not out there on your own!
2. On-going training, coaching, grace renewal, and team building
3. Gifts of different pastors strengthen the team
4. Dream big, do small

Multi-cultural

Model: Metro New York Presbytery.

We are one multi-cultural church increasingly reflecting the ethnic diversity of the City, which gives us the following advantages:

1. Richness of worship experience
2. Appreciation of different people and cultures
3. Effective sharing of resources
4. Demonstration of the power of the gospel