



# EASTSIDE CHURCH PLANT



**KIRKLAND**

**BOTHEL**

**REDMOND**

**BELLEVUE**



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!

One of the PCA pastors in the Northwest said: “Nations have come to us” referring to the growing, diverse South and East Asian communities in the Eastside of the Seattle Metro region. The opportunity to tell of God’s salvation is in our neighborhoods and we’re excited to share the ministry plan for the Eastside Church Plant with you!

It is our desire to reach people with the saving grace of the Gospel. To make Jesus known and the Gospel accessible. Should you have any questions, suggestions or simply want to learn more about our church plant, feel free to reach out! As we grow, there are also many opportunities to get involved in this exciting venture. Your prayers and support are welcome, appreciated and needed as we serve and reach out to the nations for Christ.

*Sagar McKwan*

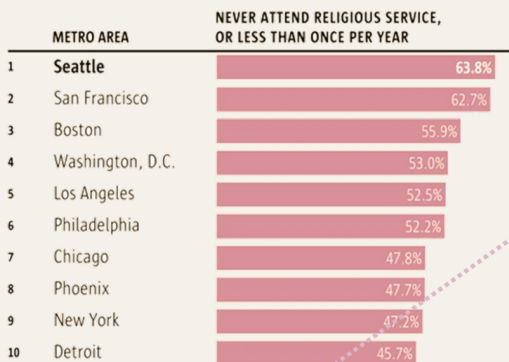
Organizing Pastor  
Eastside Church Plant

# SEATTLE METRO

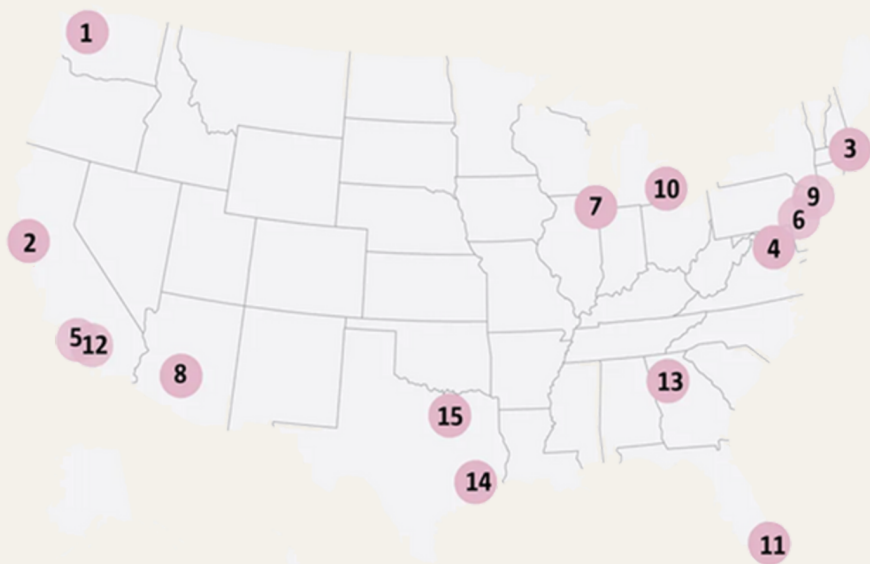
## THE MODERN DAY CORINTH & EPHESUS

### Seattle is the least-religious large metro

In the Seattle area, around 64% of adults never attend a religious service, or go less than once a year.

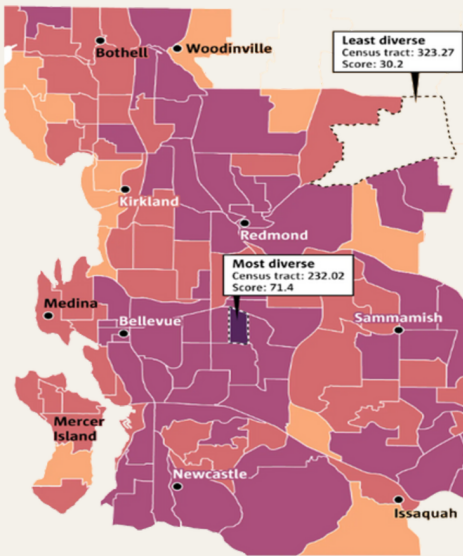


*Seattle is No.1  
least religious  
area in the USA.*



DIVERSITY INDEX (LOW TO HIGH)

30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70 and greater



Source: U.S. census

Data analysis: GENE BALK

Map: ALISON SALDANHA, EMILY M. ENG / THE SEATTLE TIMES

# WHY EASTSIDE?

*The target area is the Northeast of the Seattle Metro known as the Eastside, specifically Kirkland, Bothell, Bellevue, Redmond and Northeast King County.*

- The area is affluent, family friendly, and home to many corporate headquarters. This part of king County is diverse and home to multi-ethnic young families with children.
- Approximately 31% of population is Asian, **of which 11-14% is from India.**
- Prominently, the area is home to the families of tech workers from India and other South and East Asian countries due to its proximity to the Microsoft headquarters in Redmond and many other tech-businesses in Bellevue area.

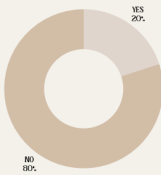
**In the Lake Washington School District 69% of school age children are of Asian origin, particularly from India, China and Korea.**





# WHY SOUTH ASIAN?

## DIVERSITY RATE



**80%** INDIA'S CHRISTIAN  
NO CONTACT RATE

South Asian represent the largest group of unreached peoples in the world. Every fourth person of the planet is South Asian!

- Microsoft, Google, Amazon, T Mobile and other tech companies have **nearly 40% of their workers from India.**
- Redmond and subdivision around Kirkland and Bothell are comprised of nearly 50% of Indian households.
- Majority of people from India are either practicing or cultural Hindu.
- There more than 20+ hindu temples from Bothell to Renton, impacting the culture as well as the rhythm of public life in the surrounding area.
- Financially well off white collar workers, most are in upper middle class



# SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA

- Large South Asian presence in U.S. (6 million+)
- over 51% are ethnically or religiously Hindu
- Linguistically diverse: No dominant language
- Multi-racial, Multi-ethnic and Socially conservative
- large cultural and worldview gap between parent and next generations
- highly educated

## DUAL NEED

- Among Indian Americans, 18% are Christians:
- 11% Protestant, 5% Catholic
- Part of Independent or Pentecostal Churches
- Growing reformed church planting movements among Indian Americans
- Need for training leaders
- Need for training next generation seminarians

## CONVERGENCE AND STORIES

- There is a growing curiosity about **what churches do!**
- We have met several people from India who became Christian in the Northwest in past few years.
- Hindu Temples in Seattle are warning against sending their kids to VBS and from visiting churches.
- A PCA pastor told us that a middle school student from India responded to the Gospel during VBS, only for his parents to subsequently visit the church and advise against having any contact with the child.

# Why US?

Rev. Sagar Mekwan is from Gujarat India. Raised in a polytheistic Sufi family with a deep passion for religion, He converted to Christianity at age of 17 after hearing a sermon on Isaiah 53.

He was a postgraduate student of Physics-Electronics before receiving a call to ministry. Upon which, he began his ministry journey as an indigenous missionary in Gujarat, India.

He is married to Jihye and they have three children: Ellyn (11), Elise (7), and Elliot (4). Jihye grew up in a presbyterian home in South Korea has served as a missionary in India for five years from 2006-2010 in New Delhi and Gujarat post college. Jihye also served in variety of capacities with the Youth with a Mission in India, New Zealand and Fiji.

Rev. Mekwan holds an MDiv from the Asian Center for Theological Studies and Mission (ACTS) in Korea, and a ThM (Old Testament) from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS). He is PhD candidate in the Old Testament at TEDS in Deerfield, USA.

He has served as a missionary and pastor in various settings in India, Seoul-South Korea, and in the Korean-American PCA churches in Chicago for the past 12 years. He speaks Gujarati, Hindi and English as well as conversational Korean.



# Eastside Church Plant

## *Vision*

*Our goal is to nurture a community proclaiming the Gospel through hospitality and outreach to the unreached nations that have come to us in the Northwest.*

- To make Jesus known by making the Gospel accessible by bridging the cultural gap and creating a culture of hospitality.
- To be a church sent to joyfully proclaim the glory of God to all nations, making disciples of all peoples by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses of Christ's redemptive work to the ends of the earth. (Psalm 96:1-3; Matthew 28:18 and Acts 1:8)

## *Mission*

*To plant a multi-ethnic English speaking PCA Church on the Eastside.*

- To outreach the South and East Asian tech workers from India and the second-generation Korean American families in Kirkland, Bothell, Woodinville, Bellevue and Redmond area.
- We plan to do this through raising and recruiting leaders who would commit to declaring the Gospel through faithful worship, bold evangelism, hospitality and faithful discipleship in active partnership with Northwest Church Planting Network.

# “COUNTER CATECHESIS”

Tim Keller famously observed that the catechisms of the Reformation era served to counter the prevailing religious views of their time. Similarly, apologetics in the early church not only highlighted the greatness of Christ and Christian doctrine but also critiqued the surrounding culture and its practices.

Tim Keller – North American Mission: The Outward Move

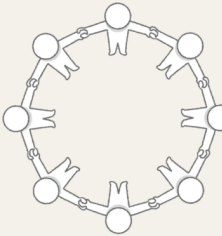
As a church plant, we aim to be mindful of our postmodern context and the need for a form of counter-catechesis. This involves identifying the lies embedded in contemporary culture, exposing them through a Gospel-centered critique, and offering counter-instruction that equips believers to live out the Christian faith in everyday life.

# Our Values



## A Multi-Ethnic Church

- An English Speaking Church
- Bridging Cultural gap
- Creating a culture of hospitality
- Counter Catechesis
- A Missional Community (Acts 2:46-47)



## Community Focused

- Reaching South and East Asian communities
- Home Fellowships and Meals
- Cultivating Deeper Friendship
- Coveting Fellowship



## Worship and Discipleship

- Declaring Gospel through faithful worship
- Emphasis on Reformed Catechism
- Raising and Recruiting Missional Leaders
- Discipleship through community
- Kingdom living through giving of time, energy and tithes

# Strategic Impact



## 1. Engaging Post-Christian Society

The Seattle Metro is secular and morally liberal in its approach to life. Self-actualization is the supreme good that many pursue as a default goal in life. Our goal is to engage and critique the culture with Gospel lense and humility, **offering the Gospel as God's ultimate solution to life and the highest good for individual, community and the cosmos.**

## 2. Raising Ethnic Minority Leaders

Eastside is home to many christian from India. We want to walk along them by providing opportunity to learn Reformed Covenant Theology and Worship. We want to create internship opportunity for ethnic minority seminary students with a prospect of recruiting future leaders and church planters.

## 3. Reaching the Unreached

Reaching ethnic hindu from India who have never heard the Gospel, who are fish out of water in the culture of Northwest Seattle and are experiencing cultural and identity crisis, longing for friendship as well as community. Primarily, through tutoring, friendship, counter catechesis and hospitality we envision raising up first generation christians.



*How Will We Get There?*

# Prayer

**We have taken about 18 months of intentional prayerful consideration towards church planting. In conversation with leaders of the Northwest Church Planting Network and the PNW presbytery, we have discerned this particular Call from the LORD and subsequently prepared for it.**

- The Eastside is where the least religious metro populace and religiously and ethnically hindu from South Asia meet, mutually changing the other. It is not only a battleground for ideas but deeply a spiritual stronghold. Pray for apologetic wisdom to serve a modern day Corinth and Ephesus like society.
- When an ethnic hindu responds to the Gospel, there is family conflict and attacks from both immediate and extended family. There is an ongoing spiritual work and tension, and we covet your prayers for such families and for us to minister to them wisely.
- Most hindus from India have a stereotypical view of Christianity as a religion of the West. They view gospel work as brainwashing through means of physical gains. The current government in India has encouraged a hindu nationalistic fervor against Christian faith. We request you to pray for Holy Spirit to remove these obstacles, to dispel the darkness and for courage and Gospel wisdom.

**If you would like to partner with us through prayer, please consider subscribing to our newsletter and join us as we reach the nations that have come to us**



# SUPPORT RASING

We are trusting the Lord to provide through the generosity of God’s people until as a church we can become internally self-sufficient, we assume portion of the funding above will be met through internal offerings and tithes of a mission church in God’s providence.

## NETWORK AND CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

Northwest Church Planting Network – \$120,000  
Trinity Church Seattle – \$60,000  
External Support: \$24,000

TOTAL : \$1,645,462



## EXTERNAL SUPPORTS

ONE-TIME GIFT		MONTHLY GIFT (2-5 YEARS)	
# of partners	Value	# of partners	Value
2	\$100,000	10	\$250
4	\$50,000	20	\$100
4	\$25,000	40	\$50
5	\$10,000		

IN GOD’S PROVIDENCE, YOU MAY CONSIDER GIVING ANNUALLY.  
(\$25000X 4 YEARS; \$10,000 X 5).

# GIVING



1. MNA: Fund 1991



2. Scan the QR code



3.Text "MNA 1991" to 76959

<https://give.pcamna.org/to/1991/>

All gifts are tax-deductible and 100% of your contributions go directly to this project. MNA does not charge any fees for their services.

# Eastside Church Plant

## TIME LINE

Year 1

### Residency and Gathering

- **Goals:** Support Raising, Gathering a team. (Q3-4 of 2024)
- Cultivating intentional relationship and networking at Trinity, Seattle.
- Training and building up a launch Team through house fellowships (Q1-2 of 2025)
- Identifying a strategic location/area. (Q2-3 of 2025)

Year 2

### A Mission Church

- **Goals:** Becoming a Mission Church and establish Temporary Session
- Continuing to Support Raise and Network.
- Meeting as a house fellowship and strategic planning.
- Look for a worship place near/around strategic location (Q3 of 2025)
- Beginning a corporate worship (Q3/4 2025)

Year 3

### Growing and Multiplying

- **Goals:** Sunday worship, developing Ministries (Q4 2025-Q2 of 2026)
- Continue to work towards achieving goals of Year 2.
- Focused evangelism and community groups.
- Strengthening the launch team and corporate worship.
- Continue to raise support

Year 4

### Maturing

- Goals: Assessing budget needs, personnel and growth.
- congregational awareness in intentional giving of tithes and offering.
- Building organizational structure and budget evaluation.
- Improving ministry staff, curriculum and rhythm.
- Membership training, vows and commitment, identify leaders.

Year 5-6

### Becoming a Particular Church

- Goals: Identify Needs and leaders
- Prepare for leadership training: elders and deacons
- Organizing the Church's own Session.
- Evaluating the Budget needs and internal giving.
- Evaluating congregational culture.

2024-2030



# Advisors and Mentors

**Mike Kelly**, *Director of Northwest Church Planting Network.*

Mike has been at the forefront of envisioning and executing the project. He continues to providing overseeing and mentoring.

**David Richmond**, *Lead pastor at Trinity Church Seattle- host church for residency.*

TCS have taken the planter and the family under their wings and continue to provide support for the initial launching and setting up of the church plant and transitioning to mission church.

**Timothy Teopilus**, *church planter and lead pastor of Christ the Cornerstone Church, PCA, Seattle (Ethnic Indonesian Church).*

Cornerstone church played crucial role in envisioning the church plant in the Northwest. He continues to provide logistical support, warns and guide about potential dangers and pitfalls of the church planting pastor.

**Indra Pramono**, *Ruling Elder at Christ the Cornerstone, Seattle.*

Indra encouraged the project from the outset and continues to support the plant.

## PARTNERS

PACIFIC NORTHWEST PRESBYTERY (PCA)



Every day they continued to meet together...  
They broke bread in their homes and ate  
together with glad and sincere hearts, praising  
God and enjoying the favor of all the people.  
And the Lord added to their number daily those  
who were being saved.  
Acts 2:46-47



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