

THE BLVD-East Multi-Site FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: In simple terms, what is Multi-Site?

A: Multi-Site is a shortened way of saying multiple locations or sites. Therefore a multi-site church is a church that has one leadership and at least two locations. There are several models of multi-site that can be adopted by a church. Our goal is a low-risk model which involves simple programming (just worship), low up-front investment with the potential for high return, evangelism and growth. We plan to be one committed passionate church in two locations. Our main campus will be referred to as THE BLVD-Midtown and our multi-site campus will be referred to as THE BLVD-East.

Q: Why are we going to Multi-Site worship?

A: There are several reasons why we are going multi-site. One reason that stands out is to make more and better disciples by bringing the church closer to where people are. Not only are there people in this community (East Memphis/suburb) who have no relationship with Christ, there are some who have decided that driving long distances is a key factor in choosing to go to church or not. Perhaps some will say that if these people want a relationship with Christ they should make a greater effort. We say that if we can go out and meet them, it is not only worth the evangelism effort, it is our Christian responsibility.

Q: How will the “one church in two locations” governance work?

A: We will have one senior pastor and one Church Council overseeing both locations under one constitution and one set of by-laws.

Q: Why now? Is this the right time considering the economy?

A: It is the perfect time! During the tough times people historically turn to their faith for inspiration and direction. Although the economy has taken a major hit recently, it has taken less of a hit on the religious community. Now more than ever, people need to know that God is still in control.

Q: Do you think that a lot of the people from THE BLVD-Midtown will transition to THE BLVD-East?

A: Realistically speaking, we know that there are some who will transition to the new location no matter how we try to discourage it. However, it is our sincere hope that the majority of you will allow us to evangelize and bring new believers to Christ by not taking this as your opportunity to move. Additionally, what you get here at THE BLVD-Midtown with the whole service experience (sanctuary choir, small groups, classes, etc) will not be afforded there. Others who have experience with multi-site churches agree that initially there will be some initial interest from existing members but that this interest will taper as the multi-site takes on its own identity which may not mirror what the existing member is comfortable with or seeking spiritually.

Q: How is Pastor Frank going to make it to both services on Sunday?

A: THE BLVD-East worship service is at 8:30am on Sunday mornings. Time has been built into schedule that will allow him to preach at THE BLVD-East and make it to THE BLVD-Midtown in plenty of time to again bring the Word.

Q: How did you choose this particular location?

A: For the past year we have had a team of leaders and volunteers researching several areas and benchmarking locations. This location made the most sense. It is home to a large number of diverse Christians who are not currently attending anyone's church service regularly and who have interest in being a part of a Christian community. In addition, we could not have asked for a more accommodating group of people with a more inviting space providing all of the amenities that this location has offered us. We continually say that God was and still is this!

Q: How many people will the facility hold and what happens when we reach maximum capacity?

A: The facility will hold up to 450 chairs with meeting style seating. Of course consistent overflow would be a great problem to have. If and when this happens we will respond accordingly even if it means adding another worship service. As a side note, because our mission is to bring new believers to Christ we will ask anyone who is a member/servant in attendance to give up their seats and allow our guests to sit when necessary.

Q: What activities will the Multi-Site have and how will you determine the ministries needed?

A: Initially, the only activity that will occur at THE BLVD-East is worship. Ministries of immediate need including spiritual officers, stewardship, music, ushers etc. will be needed in this first phase. Additionally, we will have a Pee Wee Discipletown for children 9 months through Kindergarten. All other needs will be met at THE BLVD-Midtown campus.

Q: What financial impact will this have on the congregation?

A: There is a small start up fee to purchase worship materials and equipment. However, the church is financially in a place to handle this minimal investment. We believe strongly that this location will be self-sufficient and flourishing with time, energy and of course prayer.

Q: Does this mean that midtown campus improvements will be put on hold?

A: Absolutely not. Facility improvements and beautification projects for THE BLVD-Midtown are as important and will continue as planned along with some exciting new initiatives like short term topical Bible studies, receptions etc.

Q: What if it doesn't work?

A: We have prayed and God has answered. We believe whole-heartedly that this is the direction God is calling THE BLVD. We are moving forward and not inviting doubt. However, we are also being good stewards and have done a worst-case scenario. In the event that we are unsuccessful in drawing 100 new servants to Christ by the end of the first year our monetary loss is minimal because we invested very little capital. If after one year we are not successful we can opt out of the facility contract.