

A CHURCH PLANT IN HOUSTON, TX

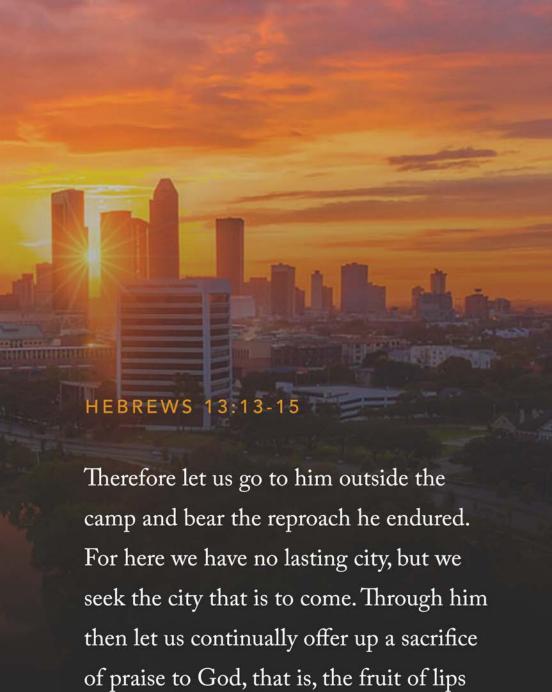
DEL TRAFFANSTEDT



Houston is a city of over seven million people and growing. According to several sources, Houston is the fastest growing large metro area in the United States and ethnically it is the most diverse large city in North America. The economy and job availability makes Houston an attractive target for mobile workers. The area provides outdoor recreation opportunities for many families. Houston hosts sports teams from all the major leagues and hosts two NCAA Division I sports programs. The fantastic rate of growth presents a challenge and an opportunity. Houston's challenge is the rate of growth is outpacing the ministry efforts of local churches and our current rate of church planting. The opportunity is the same, many people are disconnected and lonely due to relocation and are looking for community.

Quick Facts

- The metro area will exceed eight million people by the end of 2021.
- Leading industries: energy, medical/healthcare, banking, petrochemical.
- Home of the MLB Astros, NFL Texans, NBA Rockets, MLS Dynamo.
- The second largest port in the US according.
- A major landing point and destination for immigrants and refugees.



that acknowledge his name.

WHY HOUSTON'S NORTHERN FIFTH WARD?

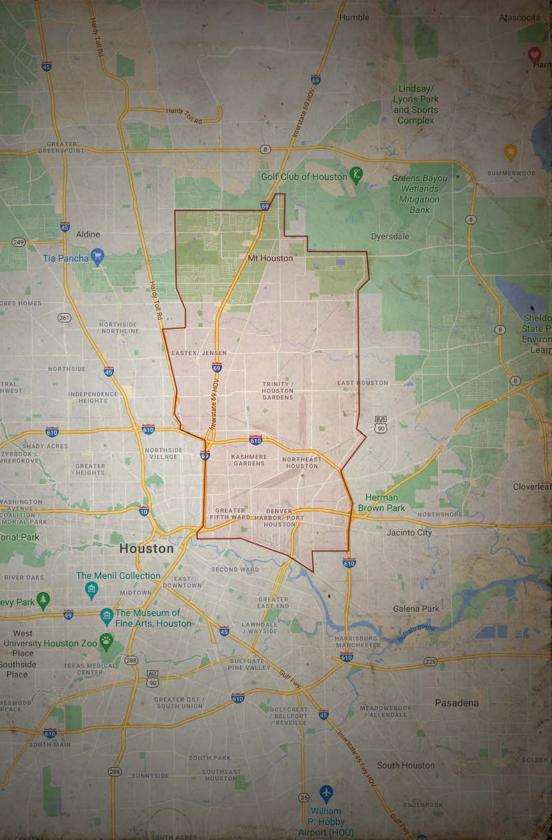
The northern Fifth Ward and the three super neighborhoods to the North have a growing population of over 100,000 people. The economic composition ranges from extreme poverty, to a rising middle-class, to pockets of wealth & affluence. The ethnic make up is fluid but is currently 40% black, 40% latino, and 20% white/other. The average age of the area is approximately 38 and is dropping as younger families move in. The median household income ranges from \$27,000 to \$37,000 across the plant area. The latino population is moving from first generation immigrants with English language primary to second and third generation immigrants with English language primary. While there are many older legacy churches of various denominations, little passion for evangelism exists. Most churches in the area fall into different varieties of the health/wealth prosperity gospel blended with charismatic forms of worship. A desperate need exists for a sound, Bible-centered church that practices faithful exposition and is welcoming to all people. From our launch point there are no SBC churches in a 3 mile radius and only 3 within a 6 mile radius. Six SBC churches serve 100,000 residents.

Quick Facts

- Over 100,000 people in the zone with only six SBC churches in the area.
- Young families are moving into the area and need connections. Village
- Schools are underserved by churches and are eager for partnerships.
- Average age is 38 and is getting younger.

Four Corners

A natural place for development with affordable property and access to downtown.





THE TRAFFANSTEDT FAMILY

Pastor: Del Traffanstedt

Spouse: Charmaine Traffanstedt

Children: Tyson (13), Mary (12), Connie (11), Seth (5)

EDUCATION

- University of Central Oklahoma, BA History
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Masters of Divinity

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- Collegiate Ministry Oak Crest Baptist Church
- Refugee Mentor Prestige Language Institute
- Associate Pastor for Missions & Communications Northeast Houston Baptist Church
- Senior Pastor Mission Dorado Baptist Church

BIOGRAPHIES

Del grew up in California and Oklahoma and came to faith in Christ at the age of 18 while on Christmas break from college. A US Army veteran, Del served four years on active duty as an Army officer and four years in the reserves. He worked in corporate America as a professional executive in a variety of roles primarily in new business start-ups, finance, logistics and customer service. He surrendered to the Lord's call to full-time vocational ministry at the age of 35 and pursued his seminary education. With a background in business and progressive ministry roles, God has led Del to plant in an area where all his life & work experience will come into play.

Charmaine grew up in Lawton, Oklahoma and accepted Christ at the age of 29. She has served as a nurse in Nebraska and Texas. Charmaine has led in discipling women and leading in kids ministry. A gifted administrator and teacher, she is currently pursuing her Masters of Arts in Christian Education at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Charmaine views her calling as a Senior Pastors wife to be her primary ministry. Alongside Del, she is led to plant in Houston to reach the unreached.

"We love Houston and my wife and I view Houstonians as our people group. After Hurricane Harvey, I ended up serving around 93 consecutive days in Hurricane relief in and around the Fifth Ward and Eastex/Jensen area. As I met the residents, the Lord placed a deep pull on my soul that never left.

The area lacks a significant gospel presence and a thriving church committed to outreach. We left for Odessa with the burden on our souls unresolved. In August of 2020, both of us received a strong vision from the Lord to consider planting in Houston. We prayed about it and put our "yes" on the table but also felt led to wait. Unbeknownst to us, Northeast Houston Baptist Church was praying through planting at the Community Center in Houston's Fifth Ward.

In February, the two visions collided, and we were asked to consider accepting the role. We know the area and we know the people and are ready to give our lives for the advancement of the Gospel in Houston. We know it will not be easy but we know God has planted us in this area for the rest of our ministry career for his glory."

— DEL TRAFFANSTEDT



VISION

Cross Community Church is a faith gathering for all people with our identity rooted firmly in Christ alone.

The Gospel tears down dividing walls and promotes unity built on the love of God and love for others, so we will be "Cross Centered" on the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Word of God. We will be "Community Focused" inside and out, living out the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. Cross Community will be a "Church Sent." We will equip, grow, and deploy our membership to reach the surrounding community and the ends of the earth. Coming from many different ethnic backgrounds, God has assembled our family to show how diversity can live in community and unity under the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

STRATEGY

In Genesis 12:1-9 God said to Abraham that he would bless all peoples through him.

We see the fulfillment of the promise through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ so we can have a relationship with God through the forgiveness of sins. In the second half of the passage, Abraham arrives in the promised land, a place filled with an advanced, hostile nation and Abraham worshipped the true God there.

Worship now existed where it was missing before. Cross Community and the assembled core team of 50 with the same objective, we want to bring worship to where it does not presently exist. We will do this through door-to-door evangelism, community outreach, school and neighborhood partnerships, and we will utilize the physical needs mission. Our objective is to reach every home within a three mile radius with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Reconciled to God. United as one. All because of the Cross of Jesus Christ.

CROSS CENTERED

Ephesians 1:3-14, Psalm 119, Philippians 2:1-11

- Centering worship on Jesus Christ, His Gospel, and the Word of God
- Gathering weekly on the Lord's Day to worship corporately
- Anchor corporate worship in expository preaching

COMMUNITY FOCUSED

Ephesians 4:1-16, Proverbs 1:1-7, Acts 6:1-7

- Community Outreach
- Neighborhood Aid and Service
- Church Member Care
- Small Groups and Serve Teams
- Build Common Identity in Christ

CHURCH SENT

Genesis 12:1-9, Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:18-20

- Train in gospel proclaimation and influence
- Support local, national, and international missions
- Choose global partners to invest in long-term

MAY TO JULY 2021

Recruit, interview core team

Identify church partners

Set up outreach calendar

Meet community contacts

Launch online presence

Finish prospectus

JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2021

Work out evangelism calendar

Host teams from partner churches

Build a database of contacts

Renovate meeting space

Start online marketing initiatives

Purchase and test necessary equipment for launch

Reach out to contacts from the community

Train core team in functional areas

Start prayer meeting on campus

SEPTEMBER 2021

Host last outreach events the week of launch

Follow up with each contact via text or phone the week of launch

Dry run worship service

Launch Sunday 9.12.2021

Continue to host outreach events

Build a partner calendar for 2022

PROJECTED BUDGET

YEAR ONE (PRE-LAUNCH)

Operating expenses	\$110,000
Equipment	\$70,000
Advertising	\$10,000
Evangelism/Outreach	\$10,000
Reserve for Growth	\$25,000
Total	\$225,000

YEAR TWO

Total	\$275,000
CP/GC Giving (6%)	\$15,000
Reserve for Growth	\$10,000
Evangelism/Outreach	\$10,000
Advertising	\$10,000
Operating Expenses	\$220,000

YEAR THREE

Total	\$275,000
CP/GC Giving (6%)	\$15,000
Reserve for Growth	\$10,000
Evangelism/Outreach	\$10,000
Advertising	\$10,000
Operating Expenses	\$230,000

BECOME A PARTNER

PRAY

"And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness" (Acts 4:29). The mission of the kingdom of heaven rests on the Word of God and Spirit-empowered prayer. We will not succeed unless we pray for boldness and God's people join us far and wide. We want to invite you to join us in praying for the work, for boldness, and for fruit. You can sign up via our mail list and we will keep you informed of regular needs on a monthly basis and urgent needs as they arise.

GO

"But as it is written, 'Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand" (Romans 15:21). Cross Community Church is launching into an area with limited true gospel witness. Most of the residents of the area have only heard a false version of the gospel. We will need churches to partner with us in reaching our community through direct evangelism. There will be opportunities before and after launch. We want partners who desire to see God's Kingdom grow in Houston's Fifth Ward. It is a great encouragement to our church to see others come alongside us.

GIVE

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11). The challenge for Cross Community Church initially is the financial position of many of the first converts. We are planting in an area that has rising affluence but still experience great poverty. For a sustained gospel presence, we need the generosity of God's people to meet our needs. We have a generous lead gift but more will be needed over the first three to five years. Please consider giving to support the work on a regular basis, no amount is too big or too small.

Our sending church is generously giving us \$600,000 over the first 5 years which will meet approximately 50% of our need. We are also starting with a core team of around 30 - 40 adults.

HOW GIVING WORKS

Cross Community Church needs \$1.2 million over the first five years of operations. If you are so led, your church can match the lead gift of our sending church to bring the gospel to the Fifth Ward.

1x	\$600,000
2 x	\$300,000
6x	\$100,000
12 x	\$50,000
24 x	\$25,000
60 x	\$10,000

If you are interested in partnering as a strategic giver, or if you would like more information on how you can assist us, please contact Del Traffanstedt at TraffD@iCloud.com or via phone at (281) 608-6191.

ANNUAL MONTHLY GIVING

\$1000/mo x 3 years = \$36,000

\$2,000/mo x 3 years = \$72,000

\$3,000/mo x 3 years = \$108,000

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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