



# ANKENY

FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH PLANT

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# PROSPECTUS

# WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

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## Dear Friend,

It is with great joy and anticipation that we share with you something that is near and dear to our hearts—an AFLC church plant in Ankeny, IA. Through connections and visits to the area, God has grown our hearts in love for the people and community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this prospectus. This provides the why, what, and how we will go about this church plant. It is a plan that God has given to us through much prayer, research, and wise council. As you read, we invite you to consider how you may be able to partner with us in this ministry. It is only through the prayer, encouragement, and financial gifts of God's people that this God-given vision can become a reality.

We have no illusion that church planting is an easy task, but we are confident God has called us to this work. Each step of the way, we cling to God's promise: "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Mat. 16:18)

In Christ,

**Pastor Matthew and Julia Pillman**



*"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." – Jesus*

**Matthew 13:37-38**

# WHY CHURCH PLANTING?

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## 1. Biblical mandate and example

Jesus gives the mandate in the Great Commission to make disciples. This is carried all through the book of Acts by planting churches.

## 2. It reaches the unchurched

Statistics and experience demonstrate that new churches are uniquely effective at reaching the unchurched and de-churched.

## 3. The number of unchurched is growing

There are upwards of 120 million non-churched people in America. Just in the past 10 years, an estimated 38 million people in the U.S. have left the church. That is more than the entire population of Canada. At the same time, the number of churches closing their doors is more than 2 times the number of new churches planted.

POPULATION 70k+

GROWTH 2X in 15 years

MEDIAN AGE 32.5 years

UNCHURCHED 55%



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# WHY ANKENY?

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Ankeny, IA is a booming suburb of Des Moines. It is the fastest growing city of its size in the Midwest and in the top 6% growth rate in America. With 75-80% of the population not attending an evangelical church, the mission field is ripe for harvest!

*“You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Jesus*

**Acts 1:8**

# WHY LUTHERAN?

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## 1. Evangelical

Lutheranism speaks in Biblical terms of Christ and the cross as the place where salvation is won for us and delivered as a free gift of grace through faith.

## 2. Biblical

Lutheranism trusts and follows the Bible in all areas of life and salvation even when it seems to conflict with our natural reason.

## 3. Sacramental

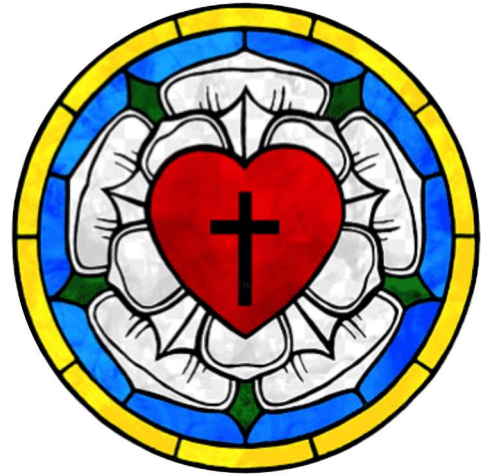
Lutheranism affirms the mystery of Christ's presence and gracious work through physical elements especially in Baptism and Holy Communion.

## 4. Historical

Lutheranism is rooted in the time-tested rhythms, traditions, and teachings of the church so far as they are not in clear contradiction to the Word of God.

## 5. Vocation

Lutheranism emphasizes the calling and freedom of a believer to love their neighbor without any notion that it contributes to salvation.



# VISION & VALUES

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## VISION STATEMENT

**Gathering into the life-giving presence of God**

## CORE VALUES

**1. Rooted in God's Word**

We firmly stand on God's inspired and inerrant Word as our final authority and guide in every aspect of life.

**2. Shaped by historic Christianity**

Our divine worship and patterns of life seek to embody the timeless and life-giving rhythms of historic, Lutheran Christianity.

**3. Gathered as spiritual family**

Our congregation is attuned to the needs of the church family and seeks to practice radical hospitality.

**4. Called to live for Christ**

We challenge our members to understand God's unique call for them to love their neighbors in every calling of life.

**5. Commissioned to multiply**

In order to have the greatest discipleship impact, our model is to multiply Word and sacrament congregations and equip our members to lovingly share the hope of salvation with those around them.

## PLANTING PROCESS

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The six phases of the church plant (shown below) reflect the development of the congregation much like that of a baby in the womb. From conception through key phases of development and growth, the end goal is for the congregation to be healthy, self-sufficient, and reproducing new leaders and congregations.



# OVERSIGHT & ACCOUNTABILITY

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## Sending Congregation

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Pipestone, MN is serving as our sending congregation. They provide financial accountability, administrative assistance, and practical guidance through an oversight board.

## AFLC Home Missions

We have crucial coaching and financial support through the ministry of AFLC Home Missions. We regularly connect with the director, share prayer requests, and provide the committee with periodic updates.

## Coaching & Conferences

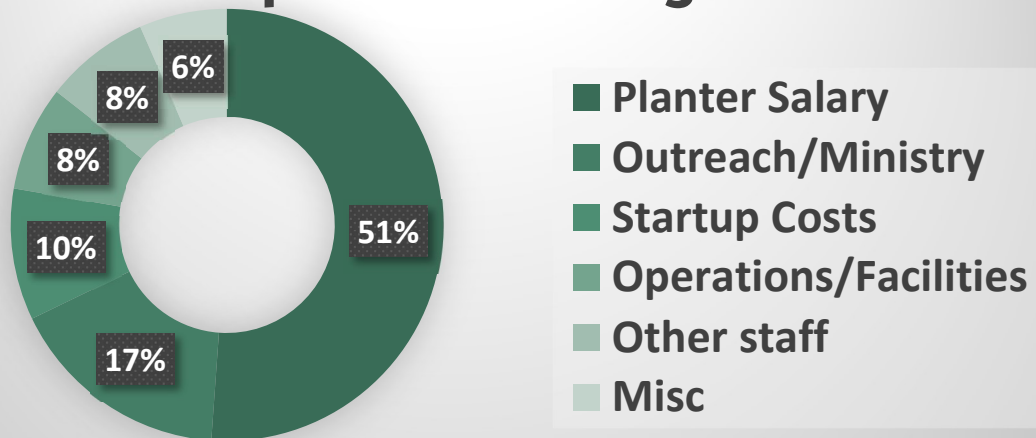
We have been able to benefit from networking, coaching, assessment, and conferences provided both within and outside of the AFLC.

# FINANCIAL PICTURE

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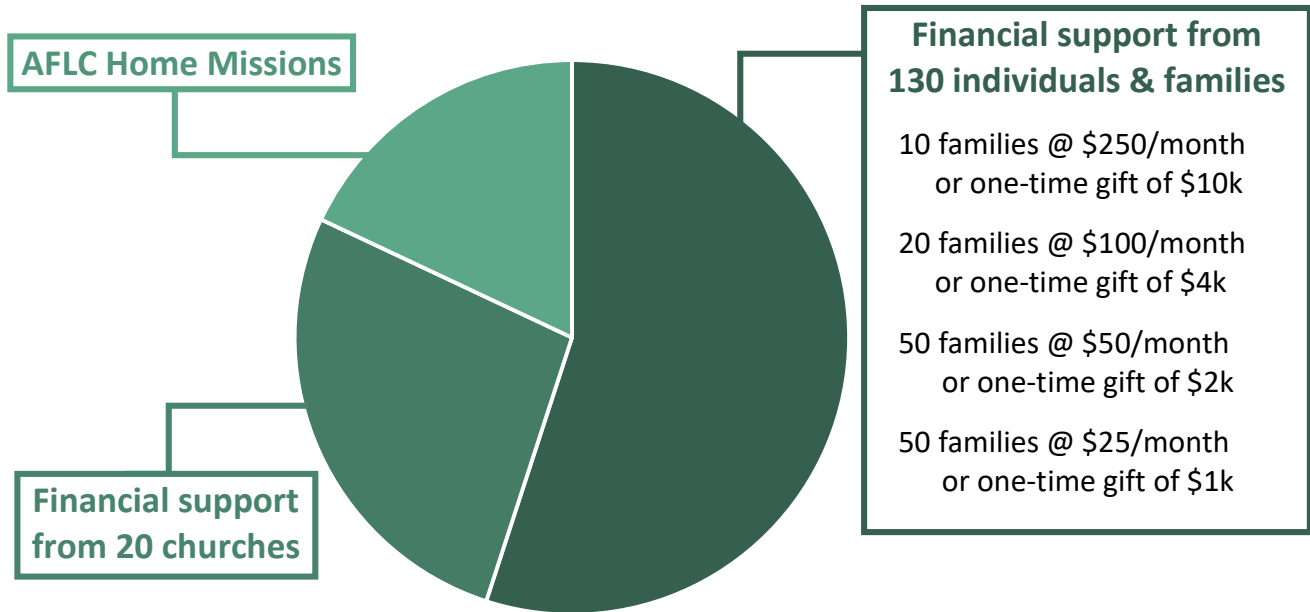
**Our goal is to raise \$550,000  
for the Ankeny Church Plant**

## Sample Annual Budget



## Where does my gift fit in the picture?

The chart below represents our anticipated sources of funds. For an updated picture of actual funds given & committed, visit our webpage: [www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny](http://www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny)



## PARTNER WITH US

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### 1. Pray

Would you to stand with us in daily prayer for all aspects of this ministry? Sign-up on our website for our monthly newsletter and prayer requests: [www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny](http://www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny)

### 2. Connect

If you or someone you know lives in the Ankeny area, we would love to connect with you. Please connect with us to share more details: [ankenychurchplant@gmail.com](mailto:ankenychurchplant@gmail.com)

### 3. Serve

There will be various opportunities for individuals and congregations to visit Ankeny to help with ministry. Consider how you or your church could come and help over the upcoming years!

### 4. Give

Would you consider partnering with us financially? Your gift will enable us to launch the church well with a level of excellence. You can make a one-time gift or a recurring monthly gift of any amount. For more details or to set up your online donation, visit [www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny](http://www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny)

**For more information about the Ankeny church plant  
and to stay up-to-date, visit our webpage:**

**[www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny](http://www.ctkpipestone.com/ankeny)**