

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

MERCYVIEW'S MISSION

TO BE A
GOSPEL-CENTERED
FAMILY
OF MISSIONAL
DISCIPLES
WHO MAKE DISCIPLES
TO THE GLORY OF
GOD AND
FOR THE CITY'S GOOD



mercyview

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THE CHURCH REFLECTING

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

4 Baptisms

6 New Deacons Installed

Strategic Move to Wilson
Training & Learning Academy
in the heart of Midtown Tulsa

24 New Partners Received

Equipping Tracks Added

Women's Teaching Lab
Women's Intern Track
Care/Counseling Learning
Community

Missional Communities Added

Cross-Cultural Workers sent

Men's SCRUM, Women's
Nourish, and College
Ministries Begin

Live Stream Begins

We believe the mission of the
church is, in reality, a
continuation of Christ's earthly
ministry: to contend for and
contextualize the faith



THE CHURCH GATHERED

"I APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE, BROTHERS, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD,
TO PRESENT YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND
ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP."

ROMANS 12:1



WE ARE FAMILY

We believe that one of the primary ways that the Scriptures describe those who are members of a local church is by calling them family.

THE CHURCH IN COMMUNITY

Chris and I first found Mercyview in the fall of 2015. We were new to Tulsa and looking for a church body to call home. We were attracted to Mercyview right away because of the community. From the moment we walked in the door we were greeted with a handshake.

Fast forward to a year and a half later. Our second daughter, Lindie Fern, was born with an unexpected Down syndrome diagnosis. We then spent the first six weeks of Lindie's life in the NICU due to some of her health issues.

Soon after we learned of Lindie's diagnosis we reached out to our missional community. They covered us with prayers. After Lindie was admitted to the NICU they shared our news with the church body, and immediately Mercyview rallied around our family so beautifully. We had so many visitors greet us in the waiting room. They prayed with us. They spent time with us. They brought their children to have playdates at the hospital with our oldest daughter, Eliza. They brought us food upon food. They mowed our lawn and bought Eliza sweet gifts. They cared for our family so kindly in so many ways.

I can remember one specific night when our missional community decided to have MC in the NICU waiting room in order to be with us. The eight of us adults connected while our combined 11 children played in the tiny little space on the fifth floor overlooking the Tulsa skyline. It was such a reprieve for us and a gift of normalcy in a shaky time. Before everyone left they all surrounded us in prayer. We felt so cared for by our community, and we felt God deepening our trust in our community as well.

Chris, Aimee, Eliza, and Lindie Swift

-Chris serves as part of Mercyview's Residency track as well as he and Aimee co-leading Hoover missional community.

The primary context for discipleship at Mercyview is found in our missional communities, a place where we can share our lives in a more intimate context that allows for sharpening and formation.



THE CHURCH EQUIPPED

"What is the purpose?" It was an oft asked question early in the days of the first year of the women's teaching lab and a question I would repeat with the internship as well. Coming from a background that was more patriarchal, I struggled with what it meant to equip women for the teaching of the Word. As I asked questions, I was lovingly met with counter-questions to prompt thought and discussion and, most importantly, the Word itself. Our elders were gracious to provide guidance and dialogue in this wrestle and since most of the women of my MC were also in teaching lab with me, the desire to understand well the biblical roles of women in the church became a community-wrestling. Texts, emails, and impromptu conversations were had about what we were learning in teaching lab and what that application to our lives was as women in our church.

It is so exciting to see what has and is becoming of long discussions over hard topics. Relationships I have within the church have grown as conversations that were once about teaching lab are now about other topics. Scriptures that once seemed hard to understand have found more clarity. Perhaps most encouraging is that I have been equipped to have hard conversations and engage with "hard" people. Because I have wrestled in safety with my community about hard topics, I find it easier to engage in hard conversations with those outside of my church community.

Over the last year, God has brought a handful of women into my life to love and to speak truth into. Weekly, they teach me something new about His grace. But my eyes wouldn't have been opened to their need for knowledge and truth if I hadn't wrestled with my own need. Being equipped encourages me to help equip others which in turn will hopefully continue on. Now my question isn't "what's the purpose?" but "what do I/we do with this?"

-Christina Connel, serves as part of Mercyview's intern track



THE CHURCH'S FUTURE

"My vision and hope for this year at Mercyview is to equip teachers to feel confident and capable in their role as care-givers as well as gospel-sharers to the children we serve. I hope this will lead to children having a better understanding of the gospel, create a trusting home-like environment within the time we have them, and open doors for children to ask more questions."

Kari Rich, Mercyview Kids Director

"My vision and hope for this year at Mercyview is to see Mercyview develop a culture of congregational worship and prayer that extends beyond our Sunday morning gatherings."

Jacob Sweat, Lay Deacon of Worship Arts

"My vision for Mercyview this year is to see international people becoming part of God's kingdom via the scope of our evangelism outreach."

Jim Campbell, Elder of Mission + Theology + Prayer

"Our hope and vision is that more MV Partners would be confident in their ability to wisely apply scripture to the needs of those they shepherd and walk alongside."

John and Elizabeth Floyd, Lay Deacons of Counsel + Care.

"My vision and hope is for us, as Mercyview's women to continue to be equipped for works of ministry, alongside our brothers, and to see us grow together in our love, understanding and obedience of His Word."

Laura Campbell, Staff Deacon

'My vision and hope is that our enjoyment of Christ overflow in loving, joyful, and urgent evangelism in our spheres of influence in Tulsa and to the nations.'

Justin Schell, Lay Deacon for Mission



THE CHURCH SCATTERED

We believe a gospel-centered person and church multiplies both organically and organizationally. The church multiplies as it plants missional communities from within but also it plants churches outside of its fellowship.

The area around 61st and Peoria is known as a difficult context in Tulsa's landscape. Mercyview's vision to be a church-planting church has fueled a team within her walls to live what is in the forefront of their minds: the mission of reconciliation. To that end, we have been sent out to answer that call - to be ambassadors of Christ to a part of our city that has little hope with the great hope of the gospel.

Formerly P61 Mission, now CityHope exists to build gospel relationships, rally others to gospel engagement, encourage gospel reconciliation, and display the gospel's power to redeem the lost in the place we've been called to reach.

We were excited in September of 2017 to begin our first monthly worship gathering as CityHope. It provides an answer to those who are asking "where do we attend church?" It has begun to draw people together as one body and help them see themselves as a partner together in this community.

As CityHope Church presses forward in 2018, pray for opportunities to engage deeper into the life of the P61 community. Ask that CityHope's leaders and core team trust the Father to bring fruit from the seeds of the gospel being sown.

-Steven Land, planting pastor of CityHope



I AM MERCYVIEW

I am Mercyview.

I believe in ONE God, the Father, the Almighty.

I believe in ONE Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified.

Together, we are Mercyview.

We are led by THREE elders, shepherding us as ONE church. We gather on Sundays in ONE place, on an average, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE of us in ONE accord. We are served by NINE deacons, each uniquely called to love us.

Weekly we currently gather as TEN missional communities throughout our city for ONE purpose, to be on His mission as His community, His hands and heart, caring for ONE another.

We serve as ONE body, gifted by His Spirit. We are many parts, honoring ONE another. Currently teams of TEN serve weekly the children entrusted to us. Currently teams of TEN weekly bring life and order to our facility that we may gather. Currently teams of gifted musicians lead us before ONE throne of grace, to worship our ONE true God. MULTITUDES of others serve faithfully in both seen and unseen ways.

Weekly we honor our ONE God by giving of our finances as an act of sacrificial, cheerful giving. As ONE church in 2017 we gave THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PLUS dollars to carry out our ONE mission, to know Him and make Him known locally and globally.

We are Mercyview.

I am Mercyview.

