



Our Next Senior Pastor CityLife Church

Saint Paul, MN | Spring 2021

WHO ARE WE?

CityLife Church is a Gospel-celebrating community seeking the flourishing of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and the surrounding neighborhoods where we live, work, study, and play. We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).



CityLife Church was founded in 2008 with energy and excitement. Our story began when two Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) ministers with Minnesota connections first dreamed of working together to plant a PCA church in the Twin Cities. In God's kindness, funding and leadership quickly came together. Bart Moseman, CityLife's founding pastor, and Chad Brewer, RUF-UMN's first campus minister, arrived in Minnesota with a clear mission and a mandate.

CityLife's founding vision was that of a community centered on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bearing witness in word and deed to His work in the world as we sacrificially embody that story in and for the Twin Cities. In this work, CityLife has remained committed to the following goals:

- Serving and evangelizing the University of Minnesota—its faculty, students, and staff—especially through RUF. In addition, we have partnered with other campus ministries, including the Navigators, KPA (a Christian residential community), and Anselm House (a Christian Study Center).
- Planting and supporting new churches. Although CityLife has yet to launch a daughter church, we are eager to see our aspirations in church-planting come to fruition.

- Ministering to our neighbors in our urban, post-Christian context, especially by forming strategic partnerships with ministries serving the poor and disadvantaged: Together for Good and Breaking Free are two primary partnerships.

CityLife grew quickly in its early years, engaging our mission, vision, and values with a youthful naivete. Our early innocence and optimism came to an abrupt end when, from 2011 through 2013, in close succession, three young members of our new church lost their lives to illnesses. These deaths included a recent graduate of the U who came to faith through CityLife's ministry, along with two young husbands and fathers who were strong leaders in our church. We quickly became acquainted with grief and had to learn how to steward suffering in Jesus' name. The years immediately following these untimely deaths brought more numerical growth, significant institutional change, but also, in retrospect, a season of spiritual stagnation. Between 2014 and 2018, CityLife ordained its first officers, purchased a building, and hired an associate pastor (served 2017-2020). We continued to attract new members and regular attendees—topping out at about 300 on a Sunday—but struggled to make the transition from church plant to established congregation. Our founding vision faltered. Petty divisions emerged, followed by more serious ones. Our

beloved founding pastor recognized that his gifts weren't being best utilized and resigned in the fall of 2019, along with several ruling elders. A few months following his resignation, our world entered a pandemic and we've been re-learning how to share the life and love of Jesus together.

Our gracious Lord has preserved CityLife and has kept us together in the midst of these storms. We know He has a purpose for our church body. Despite our turbulent times, the Lord continues to add to His number among us and cultivate gospel health within us. In recent years, we have realized the need for rigorous discipleship initiatives for the entire congregation, leadership training programs, and formation ministries for our many children.

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OUR LEADERSHIP

CityLife Church currently has four ruling elders, three deacons, and one part-time administrative team member. Most of the work of the church, however, occurs through volunteer and lay-led teams: LifeGroups, the music team, CityServe, a women's Bible study, and a men's discipleship group. At several points in our history, more than 80% of our regular members and attendees were involved in our community-based LifeGroups. We seek to value the gifts and graces of every man, woman and child among us and are grateful for our amazing lay leaders.

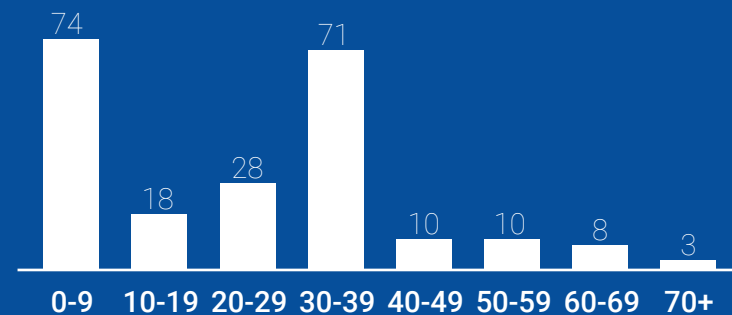
SUNDAY MORNINGS

On a typical Sunday morning, around 200 persons currently attend our 10am worship service, most of them in person. The service is a beautiful display of the body of Christ at work together: volunteers open the doors, clear sidewalks, welcome visitors, lead worship, instruct children, and worship our risen Lord together. We use a traditional Christian liturgy which walks us through the Gospel story every week as we sing, pray, listen, give, and share communion together.



CityLife Demographics

Ages of active members and attendees



Median age of adults:

34.5 Years Old

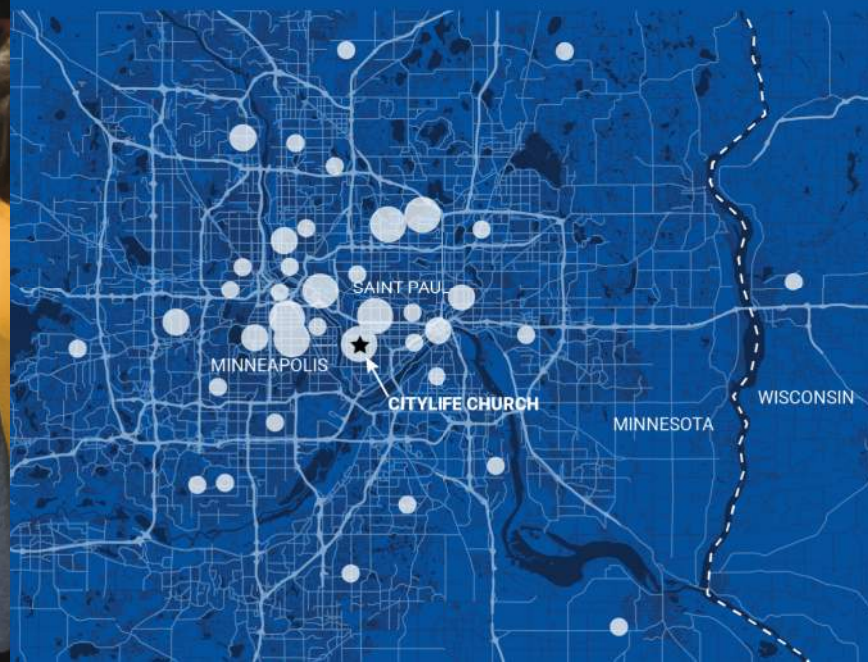
Median age of kids:

5 Years Old



We live throughout the metro area:

● = 1 Household ● = 2 Households ● = 3+ Households



We strive to use the hope we have been given through salvation in Jesus Christ to be salt and light in the Twin Cities.



Photo by Lane Pelovsky Courtesy of Meet Minneapolis

OUR CITIES

CityLife Church is located in the Macalester-Groveland area on the west side of St. Paul, MN. This charming, historic neighborhood includes several large universities and tree-lined residential streets. Within walking distance of CityLife's church building you can find coffee shops, neighborhood diners and family-owned small businesses.

The Twin Cities are home to many of the greatest festivals and fairs in the nation. These gatherings—which are not limited to just one season—highlight the best in art, music, theater, and food. The summer months offer up the Minneapolis Aquatennial, Uptown Art Fair, the famous Minnesota State Fair, along with several other festivals. Not to be outdone, the winter has the St. Paul Winter Carnival, the annual Ice Castle display and the Chilly Open, which is a 9-hole golf course plowed on Lake Minnetonka for golf and winter enthusiasts.

The metro area is also a haven for outdoor lovers. Minnesota, as a state, has over 4,000 miles of paved bike paths, around 25% of those fall within the metro area, making it possible to explore lakes, parks and streams throughout the city without ever getting



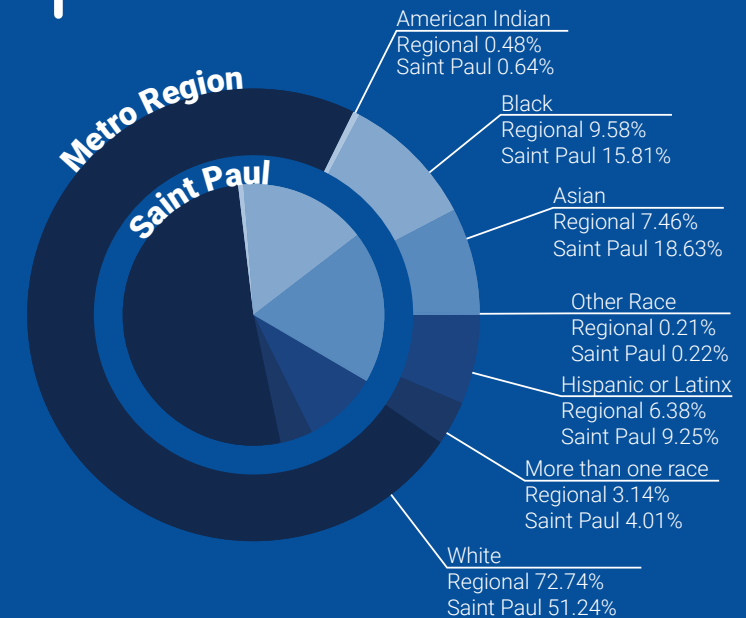
Twin Cities Metro Statistics

3.1 MILLION
PEOPLE

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
\$80,400

191
avg. SUNNY
DAYS per year

44.41%
HOLD BACHELOR'S
DEGREES



Religious Composition of Twin City adults:

70% Christian Faiths

5% Non-Christian Faiths

23% Unaffiliated (religious "nones")

2% Don't know

OUR CITIES

into your car. The Chain of Lakes is a gathering spot for walking, running, sailing, swimming, and kayaking. These five lakes in South Minneapolis border the Uptown area which is filled with options for shopping, dining and a great coffee.

Each season in Minnesota brings its own set of beauty and activities. The warm summer days are perfect for exploring walking and biking trails, campgrounds and parks, and dozens of lakes and rivers all within the metro area. Autumn comes in with its crisp evenings and magnificent fall foliage. An autumn trip up to the North Shore is a perfect chance to appreciate the diversity and splendor of Minnesota waterfalls, hiking trails and miles of impressive shoreline. The beauty of a first snowfall ushers in the holiday season and provides the necessary landscape for sledding, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Last but not least, the first warm breeze of Spring brings with it rushing waterfalls, green grass and budding trees. We love all our seasons and are proud to enjoy Minnesota's year-round beauty.

Contributing to the variety of events, foods and festivals in the metro area is the Twin Cities' high number of foreign-born residents (12%). Minnesota is home to the largest Somali population in the US, and second largest location for Laotian immigrants. These immigrant residents bring restaurants, markets, art, and music from their home countries, which significantly add to the cultural diversity, beauty, and complexity of the Twin Cities.

This past year has been difficult for our cities and neighborhoods, especially with intense issues of race. We are grieved by the reality of sin, the loss of lives, and the devastation to our communities.



We long to be a church sent by the risen and reigning Lord to love and care for our neighbors and to be salt and light in our cities in real and tangible ways. We know the Spirit is at work to energize us to graciously pursue His peace as we respond to the challenges that face our community.

1. CityLife Church
2. Downtown Minneapolis
3. Downtown Saint Paul
4. University of Minnesota (Mpls&StP)
5. University of St Thomas
6. Macalaster College
7. Minnesota State Capitol
8. Mississippi River
9. MSP Airport

CityLife Church seeks a senior pastor who displays the qualities contained in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, along with the following attributes:

- Knows who he is in Christ and whose heart is calibrated toward the Spirit's mission as he casts vision, provides direction, sets goals, distributes gifts, and cares for the needs of our community, along with the elders of the church.

- Is a wise leader with a minimum of 5 years of pastoral experience in a like-minded church.

- Is a shepherd, passionate and skilled in studying, teaching and preaching the Word in a manner that is challenging to those who are spiritually mature, but also accessible to younger believers, skeptics, and children.

- Knows how to boldly proclaim the Gospel in a setting that is increasingly hostile to it, and who is willing to bring the Word to bear on the difficult and unique cultural issues found in the Twin Cities, with wisdom, love, and grace.

- Is confident and well-versed in the Reformed tradition, willing to teach it unabashedly, yet does so with humility and warmth.

- Is able to disciple Christians of all ages, and skilled at cultivating ministry opportunities for the church broadly.

- Is eager to know, love, and shepherd the flock by strengthening friendships and equipping leaders across the body.

- Has a history of growing robust children's and youth ministries and has a heart for the formation of our children.

- Has a demonstrated track record of leading well through relational and institutional challenges.

- Is experienced in forging partnerships with college ministries and has a heart to reach our universities.

- Has a passion for cultivating a church planting culture within our community.

- Is skilled at recognizing and developing the gifts and graces of others and leading them to utilize them within the body and the Twin Cities.

- Practices hospitality and is committed to loving our immediate neighbors well.



Brice Aarrestad, Committee Co-Chair

Despite mostly growing up in Wisconsin, Brice is proud to be a native-born Minnesotan and except for a few stints has lived in the Twin Cities since first attending the U in 2003. His bride, Meredith, was part of CityLife's launch team and he became a member soon after their marriage in 2014. They live in the country with their two sons, a daughter, and various woodland creatures. Brice is an architect focused on designing learning environments and projects with community-engaged social impact. The Aarrestad's enjoy all four of Minnesota's seasons and the outdoor opportunities of each one.



Rachel Alvey

Rachel grew up in Indiana and was eventually persuaded to move to her husband's native Minneapolis in 2011. She and Rudi began attending CityLife in 2014 with their three kids who are now pre-teens (but also, surprise #4 is due in May). They both work less than full time as physicians in different specialties. The commitment and sincerity of fellow CityLife members has been an encouragement to the Alveys, especially since (partly due to irregular work hours) their consistent participation in evening church gatherings has remained less than Rachel always imagined, having grown up as a pastor's kid. She enjoys running and cross country skiing in addition to any kind of outdoor adventure with family or friends.



Bryan Bademan, Ruling Elder

Bryan grew up in several different Twin Cities suburbs and developed an affection for St. Paul (now his home) while an undergraduate at the University of Minnesota. A long exile from Minnesota after college featured graduate studies at Wheaton College (IL) and the University of Notre Dame, marriage to Tess and their welcoming of twin daughters into the world, and a few years of teaching in New England. He currently directs Anselm House, a center for Christian study at the University of Minnesota, and has been a member of CityLife from its beginning in 2008.



PULPIT COMMITTEE



Ben Eastburn, Ruling Elder

Ben is a native Iowan married to a Minnesotan, who, of course, won the border battle. He and his wife, Brooke, live in Shoreview with their 4 young daughters. A lawyer by trade, he loves helping people solve problems regardless of whether he's getting paid to do it. He enjoys fishing, Navy football, and friendships—many of which were cultivated right here at CityLife. Ben began attending CityLife in 2010.



Anna Gleason

Anna and her husband, Travis, became members at CityLife Church soon after their move to Minnesota in 2011. They live in Shoreview with their three young children. Anna and her family love the community at CityLife and have found great joy leading a life group for the past seven years. Anna is one of the music leaders and can often be found at the piano on Sunday mornings. When she is not busy mothering, homeschooling, or cooking for a crowd at their house, Anna loves to read, drink lots of coffee, and get outdoors.



Dawn Rynders, Committee Co-Chair

Dawn is a Minnesota native who grew up in the southwest corner of the state. She attended Dordt University where she met her late husband, Eric, and they moved to Minneapolis shortly after they were married. She has three adult kids—one married, one in college and one graduating from high school. She has worked for the last 15 years as an executive assistant. She and her family visited CityLife on its one year anniversary and became members shortly thereafter. She treasures the community of believers in this congregation who has supported her and her family faithfully over the years and is grateful for the opportunity to serve on this committee as they search for CityLife's next pastor.



OFFICERS



Jeremy Donaldson, Ruling Elder

Jeremy grew up on Lookout Mountain, Georgia, and also spent time in Chicagoland (Wheaton College), central Texas (U.S. Army), and Indianapolis. He has worked in the insurance industry for the past 20 years, and has been involved in CityLife since moving to Minnesota in 2014 with his wife, Kathleen, and 2 (now teenaged) children. He's an amateur sports journalist and enjoys doing play-by-play for various high school sports on local television.



Tyler Giles, Deacon

Tyler was raised unchurched in Central Texas, was invited into the family of God by Baptist friends as a teenager, then re-evangelized into the Reformed tradition by YRR friends in grad school. He unexpectedly found himself an economic migrant to Minnesota in 2009, joined the CityLife plant team, and never left. He lives in St. Paul with his (Minnesotan) wife Lani and three kids under 5, with one on the way. He supports control systems at the power grid operator and enjoys home improvement, cooking, hospitality, and science fiction.



David Ingold, Deacon

David is a problem-solver by day, and a neighborhood community advocate by night. Hailing from Arizona, he has now planted himself at the Seed House community in the East Phillips neighborhood (Minneapolis) where he endeavors to work on his green thumb. He enjoys challenging the status quo, building spreadsheets, getting to know people, and working alongside others.





Paul Nedrud, Deacon

Paul was born in North Dakota and raised in Minnesota. He is a self-proclaimed pastor's kid and prodigal son, thankful for a Father and others who loved him back home. He and his wife, Jan, have three adult children. Paul enjoys Lake Superior ("a bad day on the big lake is better than a good day anywhere else"), Minnesota Gophers basketball, food from his garden, and honey from his bee hives. As a deacon, he wants to help neighbors who are not like him--particularly those neglected-- to have the ability to freely enjoy what he has.

Emily Ahern, Administrator and Treasurer

Emily graduated from University of Northwestern Saint Paul with degrees in History and Biblical Studies in 2013 and first started attending CityLife in 2014. She grew up in the Evangelical Free Church and became exposed to reformed theology her senior year of college and soon became Presbyterian. Emily has served in many volunteer positions at CityLife over the years. She became Treasurer in 2018 and Church Administrator at the end of 2020. Emily happily lives in Hastings with her husband Andrew. She loves homemaking and enjoys a good excel spreadsheet. She, alongside Andrew, loves practicing hospitality and generally being outside.

Brandon Haan, RUF Director

Brandon has been called to pastoral ministry since 2004 and has since held various pastoral roles in high school youth ministry. He earned his MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary in 2010. Beginning in 2015, Brandon was called to be the Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Campus Minister at the University of Minnesota. Brandon and his wife, Erin, have two young boys. They love caring for and serving college students at the U and worshipping alongside them at CityLife Church. The Haan family loves fishing, being outside together, making good food, and spending time with family and friends.



To learn more about the Senior Pastor role or to provide your information for consideration, please send copies of the following documents to pulpitsearch@citylifetc.org

CITYLIFE CHURCH
225 CLEVELAND AVE. S.
SAINT PAUL, MN 55105
CITYLIFETC.ORG

Initial application materials:

- Cover Letter
- Resume

As part of your cover letter, answer the following questions. Please limit your cover letter to no more than three pages.

1. Briefly describe your walk with the Lord Jesus Christ throughout your life.
2. What role does prayer serve in your life and what are your regular personal spiritual practices/habits?
3. What part of serving the church energizes you? What do you love most about pastoring?
4. In the face of increasing cultural headwinds, we believe in holding steadfastly to Biblical convictions in a manner that is accessible to our neighbors. Sometimes that means saying unpopular things. Please send a link to a sermon, teaching, or article where you have demonstrated your conviction to biblical truth over and against cultural identity pressures.

Please use the following format to label all attachments:

FirstnameLastname_Resume

Examples:

- JohnKnox_Resume
- JohnKnox_CoverLetter

Thank you for your interest in CityLife Church. We look forward to hearing your story and exploring God's plans for you and your possible relationship with the people of CityLife.

