

The Morse Church

Simple. Authentic. Transparent.



A congregation of Holy Trinity Blue Valley & a ministry of the Swedish Mission Friends (the Covenant Church).

Morse Church – 20 Year Plan

last edited May 4, 2007

Morse Church statistics: February 1, 2007

Average weekly attendance:	101
Number of active participants (attend > once per month):	129
People who have taken the Alpha Course:	41
People in small groups:	61
People active in ministry teams: (e.g., Sunday school teacher, finance team, small group leader, building and grounds, etc)	79
People who have participated in mission work: (Freedom Fire, Grand Avenue Temple, Katrina Relief, etc)	149
Total income, Fiscal 2006:	\$134,216
Appraised value of buildings and grounds:	\$305,000
Outstanding mortgage	(\$189,000)
Equity	\$116,000

Goals for 2007

- Worship—150 people or more attending one of three services
- Grow—50 individuals in “grow” ministries (small groups and Alpha)
- Serve—4 ministry teams established
 - Each team has a team leader
 - Each team is populated with at least 10 people.
- Give
 - 30 proportional giving households by February 1
 - \$14,000 in monthly local giving
- Staffing
 - Senior pastor
 - Worship leader
 - Administrative assistant
- Facilities
 - A worship space able to comfortably seat 150 people
 - At least 8 comfortable, safe classrooms
 - A room large enough to seat 100 people at tables and chairs.
 - Adequate restroom facilities
 - Parking for at least 50 cars.
- Governance
 - Leadership team of 4 plus senior pastor
 - Constitution in place
 - Budget adopted

Morse Church: *Years 3, 4, and 5*

From the end of 2007 to the end of 2009, we expect to have a 20% growth rate across the spectrum of our ministries: worship, grow, serve, give. Therefore, God willing, this is what our church would look like at the end of the first 5 years:

- Worship: 200+ people attending 1 of 3 services.
- Grow: 72 in Alpha or groups.
- Serve: 80 people involved in the ministry of the church.
- Give: 43 tithing households.
- Staff: Senior Pastor, 2 Worship teams, administrator, children's pastor, youth pastor

The Morse Church — “the non-mega church”

Years 6 to 20.

We started the Morse Church because research on evangelism in the United States points to this conclusion—the fastest and cheapest way to increase church attendance is by starting new churches. Since this is unlikely to change in the next 10 to 15 years, we will continue to focus on church planting. In other words, instead of continuing to attempt to grow a single congregation around a single leader or vision, we will instead focus on growing big by growing small. That is to say, when we reach the mature stage discussed above (200+ in attendance, 70 people in small groups or Alpha, 80 or so in ministry positions, and adequate staff and facilities to minister to people of all ages), we will then raise up leaders and core group members who leave the Morse Church to start new, affiliated congregations.

So that is the long term vision for Morse. Each time we grow to reach 200 or so people, we will raise up a team of people to start a new, autonomous congregation. In other words, we will grow big by growing small. It might look something like this:

