



# A BETTER STORY

DO GOOD, BE RICH IN GOOD DEEDS, AND BE GENEROUS AND WILLING TO SHARE.

1 TIMOTHY 6:18 NIV



# WHY A BETTER STORY?

Jesus didn't come to earth so we could live a perfect story. Jesus came to earth so we could live a better story. A story not limited by past failures or paralyzed by the unknowns of the future. A story deeply rooted in forgiveness, redemption and grace.

**A BETTER STORY IS A TWO-YEAR GENEROSITY INITIATIVE** that will multiply the kingdom impact of Fairfax Community Church in our local communities, across global cities and around the world and will allow us to build welcoming new environments for children, youth and adults.

## OUR CHURCH IN 2005.....2014

871

BAPTISMS  
CELEBRATED SINCE  
MAY 8, 2005.

600

In 2005, by faith, 600 people moved from a little church on a dead-end street to a new facility in the heart of Fairfax County.

AVERAGE  
WEEKEND  
ATTENDANCE

611



2,380

AVERAGE  
WEEKEND  
ATTENDANCE

VOLUNTEERS

332



925

VOLUNTEERS

CHILDREN

118



564

CHILDREN

YOUTH

41



143

YOUTH

2.4K

Over the past ten years, by faith, those 600 people grew by 400% to nearly 2,400 weekly attenders.



# OUR FOUR MISSIONAL ARENAS

Fairfax Community Church is not a program-driven church. We are a mission-driven church. The difference is more than semantics. Programs are designed for consumers. Mission activity is designed for servants. We believe the church at its best is not a crowd of consumers but a community of servants. Everything we do and every dollar we spend focuses on one of our four missional arenas.



## THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

We believe God has placed us in this local community to be a welcoming, invitational environment in which children, youth and adults can experience the restoring, redeeming work of Jesus in their lives.

## LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

God has not called us to just grow a church. He has called us to bless a city. We do that by partnering with healthy, kingdom organizations that are addressing some of the most profound needs in our local community.

## GLOBAL CITIES

God has placed Fairfax Community Church in a global city of influence. We desire to come alongside emerging leaders in other cities of influence in the world and help them to be the presence of Christ in that city.

## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

There are places around the world where the brokenness is so profound and the local church so under resourced that the darkness threatens to overwhelm the light. God calls us to those places.

No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. Acts 4:32b



# THE GATHERED COMMUNITY



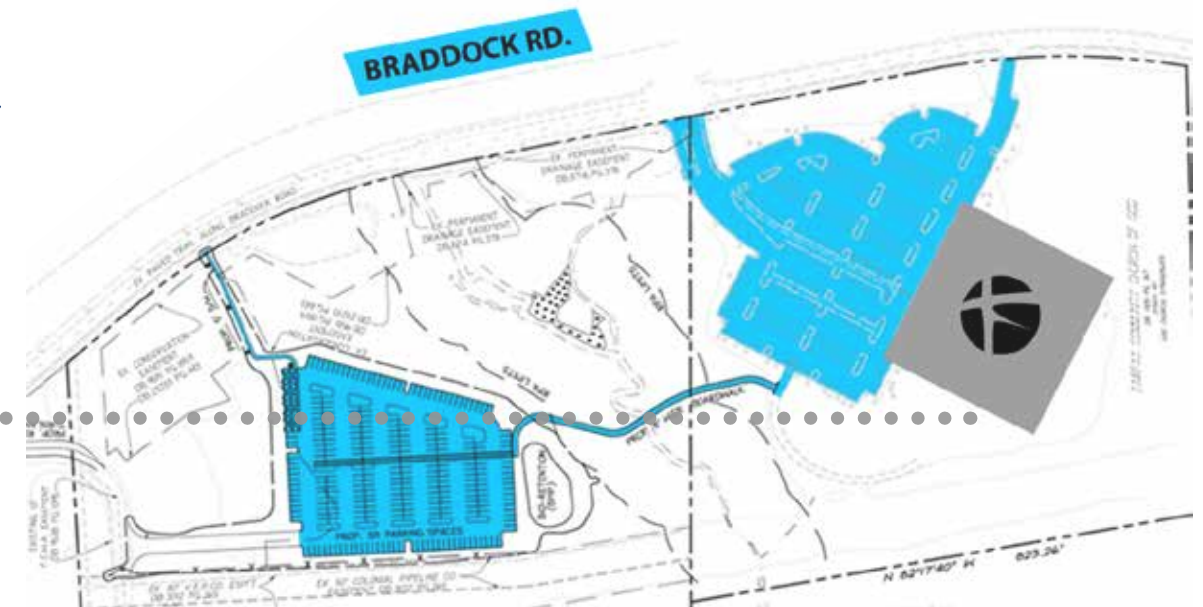
36K

ADDITIONAL SQUARE FEET

# THE IMPACT OF A BETTER STORY

As people make the decision to walk through our doors, 925 volunteers are prepared to welcome over 2,400 adults, youth and kids in attendance each weekend.

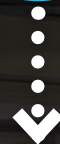
A Better Story will provide an additional 36,000 square feet of space on three levels and a new 300-space parking lot on land immediately adjacent to our property with lighted walking paths.



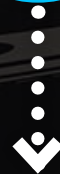


Currently, an average of 120 volunteers serve 564 children each weekend.

**120** VOLUNTEERS



**564** CHILDREN



A Better Story will increase children's capacity by over 50%.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## ELEMENTARY ROOM

Our children's ministry helps kids birth through sixth grade understand that they have a Heavenly Father who knows them, loves them and wants to be their friend forever. A Better Story will give us space to create more small group rooms for children, providing a better environment for relational growth, along with additional large group environments so kids can learn God's truths through creative teaching and musical worship at a level just for their age.

A Better Story will welcome families through a dedicated family lobby, allowing for heightened security and smoother flow. It will provide additional space to serve children with cognitive or developmental challenges and physical limitations.



Students attending Fairfax.cc are positioned to invite their peers into a relationship with Jesus, influencing them to live out a Christ-centered life in their community and the world.

A Better Story will provide new “pre-function” space uniquely designed to make students feel welcome and allow them to share their lives as they grow in their faith.




## STUDENT MINISTRIES



## AUDITORIUM

200

AUDITORIUM SEATS



*I started attending The Hangar a couple of years ago. My faith took off like a rocket. After a life-changing mission trip with our youth, I began to volunteer as a middle-school youth leader. This past November my family, the youth leaders, and my kids in the middle-school small group I help to lead all celebrated with me when I decided to follow the Lord in water baptism. Being a part of FCC, my daily life has changed from waking up and trying to make myself happy to waking up and living the day in hope to satisfy God instead of myself. — SARAH*

A new 200-seat auditorium will allow students to invite more of their friends to experience passionate worship and life-transforming teaching. The auditorium will also provide overflow space for our weekend worship services.



Average attendance at our weekend worship services has grown by 400% over the past 10 years. Our prime-time worship services on Sunday morning are often filled beyond capacity. A Better Story will provide a redesigned and expanded sanctuary with 225 additional seats plus a 200-seat auditorium that will provide quality overflow seating.



225

ADDITIONAL SEATS

WORSHIP



*My wife and I began hanging out more and more in the Great Room. One Sunday as we were talking to people before the service started, it occurred to me that this random grouping of people had become like a second small group for us. We were sharing joys and hardships as we were doing life together. —MATT*



GREAT ROOM  
COFFEE SHOP



Great insights are born out of engaging conversations; both of which happen daily around the tables in the Great Room. It is not uncommon for people to connect with one another in the Great Room and begin to “do life together” in a God-honoring way.

A Better Story will allow us to redesign the Great Room Coffee Shop so that it becomes a destination spot during the week for our neighborhood and continues to create community before and after our weekend services.





## COMMUNITY LIFE

It is essential that Fairfax.cc “stay small” as we get big. Community Life makes that possible. When we develop God-honoring relationships in more intimate settings, we begin to experience God’s forgiveness and grace as a way of life.

A Better Story will provide additional space for leadership training and appropriately designed meeting rooms for our growing lay-counseling ministry.



*We quickly joined a small group—folks we can be completely vulnerable with, people we love and who love us back. Real prayer partners, digging into God’s Word together, at the table, each week. —LINDA*

## CLARKSBURG CAMPUS

In September of 2014, Fairfax.cc launched its Clarksburg campus. Since then over 150 people from the Clarksburg community have walked through the doors, and the campus averages 124 people in weekend attendance.

A Better Story will allow us to expand our ministry in Clarksburg and reach more people in Montgomery County with the good news of Jesus Christ.

124

AVERAGE  
WEEKEND  
ATTENDANCE



*When you invest in A Better Story, you are not investing in a building or a parking lot. You are investing in people who have a heart for God and a desire to love others into the kingdom. —BROOKE*





# LOCAL ENGAGEMENT



18

LOCAL PARTNERS



Fairfax.cc partners with 18 kingdom-advancing organizations to be a restorative presence of Christ in our local community. A Better Story will enable Fairfax.cc to mobilize hundreds of additional servant leaders, creating new opportunities for kingdom impact.

Alternative House  
Birmingham Green Nursing Home  
Bull Run Elementary School  
Clarksburg CAN  
Fairfax FISH  
Fairfax Villa Elementary School  
Fire Station #3  
Hopewell Juvenile Justice Ministries  
International Justice Mission

Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter  
The Lamb Center  
Local Engagement Prayer Team  
Northern Virginia Family Services  
NOVA Human Trafficking Initiative  
OAR  
Stop Hunger Now  
The Refuge  
Young Life Capernaum

The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Matthew 9:37-38





3K

AVERAGE WEEKEND  
ATTENDANCE OF OUR  
GLOBAL CITIES CHURCHES

## GLOBAL CITIES

As in the first century with the Apostle Paul, any strategic effort to engage the culture with the good news of the kingdom must begin in the city. Global Cities Ministry partners with emerging pastors in cities of influence in order to increase their kingdom impact.

### CURRENT GLOBAL CITY CHURCH LOCATIONS

NEW YORK  
PARIS  
HAMBURG (2)

BUDAPEST (2)  
CAPE TOWN  
ATHENS  
PHOENIX (2)

SANTO DOMINGO  
AMMAN  
WASHINGTON D.C. (2)

Through A Better Story, Fairfax.cc will be able to increase its impact in the global cities we're currently connected to and partner with additional emerging leaders in five global cities to engage the culture with the good news of the kingdom.





## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

10K

NUMBER OF PEOPLE  
SERVED WEEKLY BY OUR  
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT  
PARTNERS

Our Global Engagement Partners and Global Impact Teams use their unique gifts and talents to change the world through practical expressions of Christ's love.

A Better Story will enable Fairfax.cc to increase its support for our Global Engagement Partners and mobilize additional high capacity volunteers to advance the kingdom in some of the most challenging areas of the world.

### GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

LEBANON - HEART FOR LEBANON

IRAQ - CHURCH PLANTING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CENTRAL ASIA - EVANGELISM/DISCIPLESHP

ZAMBIA - VILLAGES OF HOPE

MALAWI - PARTNERS OF HOPE

HAITI - TEACHAITI

KENYA - KIMA INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY



*God's timing is perfect. A team from Fairfax.cc, which included a crisis management specialist, was in Northern Iraq during the rise of ISIS. This global impact team was able to be the presence of Christ in a challenging time and provide a much-needed security plan for our missionaries. —FIELD MISSIONARY*



# A BETTER STORY OBJECTIVES

While part of the purpose of A Better Story is to resource the vision of Fairfax.cc, an equally important goal is the transformation of the people of our church into more generous followers of Christ. The objectives below are designed to help us measure our growth and progress in becoming an increasing generous community of grace.

1

## 100% PARTICIPATION

We are hoping and praying that 100% of our Fairfax.cc family will take a next step in generosity during A Better Story.

2

## 500 NEW GIVERS

We are striving to build a culture of generosity at Fairfax.cc – a community of people so full of gratitude for God's generous grace that we are eager to resource God's work in our world. We want as many people as possible to be a part of this redeeming, restoring mission.

3

## 50% OF GIVERS SET UP REOCCURRING GIFTS

The establishment of a reoccurring gift not only aids in projecting monthly giving to A Better Story, it helps each person to be consistent in giving God their first and their best.



Amount needed to fully resource the mission and ministry budget of Fairfax.cc over the next two years. (\$4.6 million in 2015, \$4.9 million in 2016)

\$9.5  
MILLION

Additional funds needed to help fund expansion of our Fairfax campus

\$6.5  
MILLION

Total Goal for A Better Story over the next two years (2015 & 2016)

\$16  
MILLION

## THE MATH OF A BETTER STORY

THE  
GOAL

Through A Better Story, we will combine the mission and ministry needs of the next two years at our two campuses with the additional funds we want to raise for expansion of our Fairfax campus. This gives us one financial goal to aim for over the next two years (2015 & 2016).



# ONE

CHURCH • VISION • FUND

This One Fund approach allows us to pursue the entire vision to which God has called us over these next two years and fulfill our mission to engage this generation with the good news of the kingdom.

Throughout history, the plan of God has always been to resource His mission through the generosity of His people.

For A Better Story to become a reality over the next two years, it requires each of us to trust God and step forward in generosity in a new way.

## GROWING IN THE GRACE OF GIVING

While we all are at different places in regards to our generosity, we all can take a next step to grow in the grace of giving. This “generosity ladder” is designed to help you identify where you are in trusting God with your finances and help you prayerfully consider what a next step might be.

### EXTRAVAGANT

I give over and above a tithe of my income to Fairfax.cc

### TITHING

I give a tithe (10%) of my income to Fairfax.cc

### INTENTIONAL

I give regularly and consistently to Fairfax.cc

### EMERGING

I give to Fairfax.cc but not consistently

### POTENTIAL

I believe in the vision of Fairfax.cc but have not yet given to support it



## GIVING GUIDE

Investments Needed	Gift
1	\$1,000,00
1	\$750,000
1	\$500,000
2	\$350,000
4	\$250,000
8	\$150,000
9	\$100,000
24	\$70,000
35	\$50,000
42	\$35,000
55	\$25,000
72	\$18,000
85	\$12,000
95	\$10,000
100	\$7,500
150	\$5,000
200	\$2,400
250	\$1,200

## WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

A Better Story is a huge vision. It will require total dependence upon God and the participation of the entire Fairfax.cc family. But with God's help, it is entirely possible.

Not everyone has the same financial capacity, but everyone has the capacity to do something. This giving guide shows the levels of investment that would allow us to reach and even surpass our two-year goal of \$16 million.

Prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give to A Better Story over the next two years (2015-2016).

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

## MY COMMITMENT TO A BETTER STORY

God wants to write A Better Story in our church, our community, the cities and the world. God is calling us to share the love of Christ with our generation. When we help to resource the vision God is calling us to, we become a part of the Better Story that God is writing.

This simple worksheet will help you to clarify your commitment to A Better Story over the next two years.

I will not sacrifice to God that which costs me nothing. 2 Samuel 24:24

## TWO-YEAR GENEROSITY COMMITMENT

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ What I/we normally give in a year

+ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ My/our expanded annual generosity

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_ x 2 years = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

+ Gift from stored resources \$ \_\_\_\_\_

= My/our Two-Year Commitment \$



# OUR STORY

In 1929 a young preacher from Maryland named Harvey Edge held a series of worship services in the eastern part of Fairfax County. A number of people responded to the gospel and became passionate followers of Jesus Christ. In response to the call of Christ, these new believers started what would eventually be known as Fairfax Community Church. Over the next 75 years, Fairfax Community Church faithfully engaged the culture with the good news of the kingdom.

In 2005, as a result of God's miraculous provision, Fairfax Community Church moved from a little church building on a dead-end street to a new facility in the heart of Fairfax County. Over the past 10 years, Fairfax Community Church has grown from 600 to nearly 2,400 weekly attenders.

In September of 2014, Fairfax Community Church launched Clarksburg Church, an exciting new campus in Clarksburg, Maryland. The new campus is the result of a merger with a small congregation, which had also been started by Harvey Edge, 85 years earlier. Through this amazing and divinely orchestrated story, God is using Fairfax Community Church to write A Better Story in Fairfax, Clarksburg and the world.

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