



THE BRIDGE

FELLOWSHIP



The Story- How did we get here?.....	4
The Area- Why are we staying here?.....	6
The Vision- What are we doing here?.....	8
The Need- How can someone get involved?.....	11
The Timeline- When will this take place?.....	12

appendix

Our Beliefs and Doctrine.....	14
The Planter.....	16
Yearly Church-Wide Event Calendar.....	19
Partnerships and Affiliations.....	20

“Because of our cultural blinder, we must not only speak to the people over the bridge; we must listen to them as well. We need to listen to what they are saying and take seriously their questions, their objections to what we are saying, and their hopes and aspirations... If we are deeply involved in the lives, questions, and concerns of the people, then when we study the Bible in order to preach it to them, we will see God’s answers to their questions.”

-Tim Keller

“We have never sought to hinder the uprising of other Churches from our midst or in our neighborhood. It is with cheerfulness that we dismiss our twelves, our twenties, our fifties to form other Churches. We encourage our members to leave us to found other Churches; nay, we seek to persuade them to do it. We ask them to scatter throughout the land to become the goodly seed, which God shall bless. I believe that so long as we do this we shall prosper. I have marked other Churches that have adopted the other way, and they have not succeeded.”

- C.H. Spurgeon

the STORY

How did we get here?

2000

First Baptist Church

In 2000, Bubba Stahl led First Baptist Church of Boerne to multiply the congregation when it reached approximately 1,000 people on a Sunday morning. That vision was brought to fruition as John Free was brought in to plant a new church in the growing area. John arrived at FBC in August of 2000 and worked with Bubba to put together a core team. Momentum grew quickly, and it was decided that Currey Creek Church would launch sooner rather than later.

2001

Currey Creek Church

On January 21, 2001 Currey Creek began with a core group of people in the cafetorium of Boerne Middle School South. The first 10 years of Currey Creek was hard plowing, but the evidence of God's faithfulness was throughout as people came to know the Lord. In 2012, the church began to grow. As the church grew, Pastor John's heart continued to be fueled by preaching of the Word and looking to multiply churches as had happened with Currey Creek Church.

2018

Bridge Fellowship

In March of 2018 during a staff meeting, John Free put a date down as a goal for Currey Creek's first local church plant. In that moment, Jared Patrick's heart jumped, and he knew that God might be calling him to lead this effort. Through prayer and seeking confirmation with the pastoral staff, elders of Currey Creek, trusted friends, and his wife, Jared felt confident that God was moving him in that direction. Over the next year of prayer and research, the vision for The Bridge Fellowship was born.

TBD

Future Churches

The sacrificial giving of both First Baptist Church and Currey Creek Church is represented by the saying, "Churches who believe the gospel, plant churches." With this end in mind, The Bridge Fellowship will have in its very DNA, a church planting mindset. As we raise up leaders, it will be our objective to send out and multiply for the sake of the gospel.



the AREA

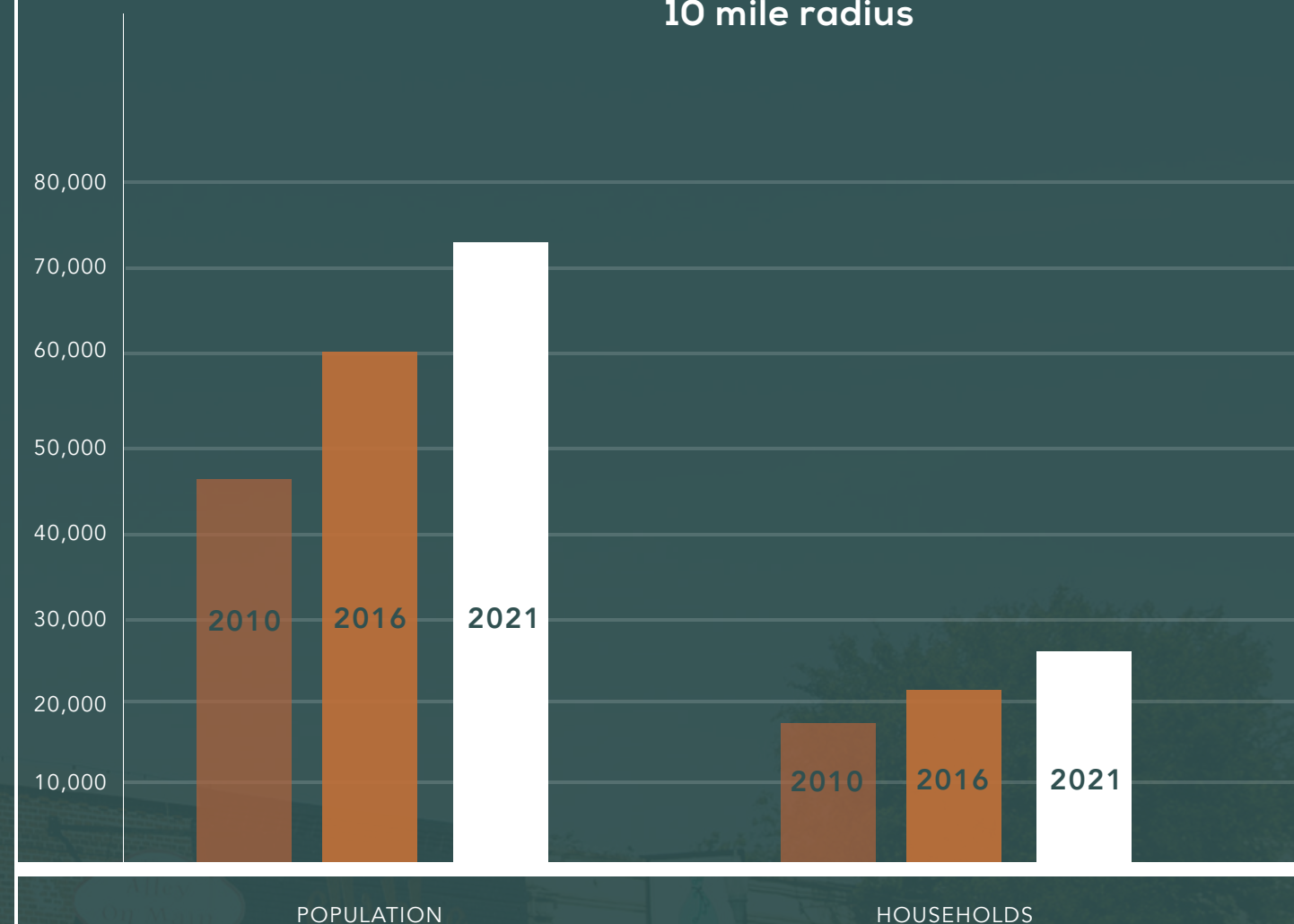
Why are we staying here?

Boerne and surrounding areas have been growing in population dramatically over the last five years. In a recent school board study commissioned by BISD, the results indicated that BISD is on pace to have more than six hundred annual new home starts for the fourth straight year. The district alone has more than 9,800 planned future lots and the school system can expect an increase of approximately 2,400 new students in the next five years. Kendall county is the seventh fastest growing county in the United States and third fastest growing in Texas. There has been a 37% population growth since 2010. Simply put, this is overwhelming growth with even more overwhelming gospel potential. God is bringing people from all over the state, country, and world to the Texas Hill Country, and we want to reach them with the gospel.

Lifeway research finds that new church plants are made up of 42% of people on average who would never set foot in an existing church. This means that a community that is growing desperately needs new churches to start so that many could be reached. It is our desire that new families in our area would be reached through a new church community and that more churches would be planted as the population continues to grow.

demographics

10 mile radius



THE BRIDGE

the VISION

What are we doing here?

MISSION

WHAT WE AIM TO DO

To make disciples of Jesus that celebrate the gospel in worship, apply the gospel in community, and extend the gospel in mission.

VISION

WHAT WE LONG TO SEE

A gospel movement that reaches every person of the Hill Country and is carried to the ends of the earth.

CELEBRATE THE GOSPEL

Our hope is that you would encounter Jesus from the moment you arrive at The Bridge Fellowship. In our worship service, you will experience thoughtful and intentional worship every Sunday morning as we celebrate the gospel in ways that remind us of God's saving grace through Jesus. We celebrate the gospel through weekly communion, songs that are rooted in scripture, messages that lift high Jesus and develop good within us, and plenty of conversation with coffee from our fantastic hospitality team.

We will offer BridgeKids during our service times for your children birth through fifth grade. This time will be just as intentional as the adults as children celebrate the gospel through a curriculum called "The Gospel Project." Our volunteers are well-trained, and our desire is to walk alongside parents to plant a strong seed of faith with their precious children.

▶ EXTEND THE GOSPEL

Our desire is to equip you to extend the gospel through everyday ministry. Whether it is serving coffee on Sunday mornings or being sent around the world with the gospel, we aim at pouring our lives out for the sake of Christ. According to Matthew 28:19 we have been sent on mission and we take this commission very seriously. Extending the gospel in our church, homes, neighborhoods, workplaces and world will be at the center of who we are.

To illustrate this, The Bridge Fellowship is not built to be a cruise liner for relaxation, but an aircraft carrier meant to propel us into the battle. We extend the Gospel through using our time, talent, and treasure in our church, in our town, in our nation, and around the world.

One of the major ways that The Bridge plans to extend the gospel is by partnering with ministries, schools, and organizations in our area. Rather than starting our own ministry where others already exist, we will join and volunteer with those organizations that are doing the kind of work we want to be a part of.

▶ APPLY THE GOSPEL

Small groups are the primary avenue for connection at The Bridge. Our goal in groups is to become fully mature disciples of Christ as we apply the gospel together. Our desire is that true community would be found as families both joyfully do life together and consistently create space for outsiders to enter and be known.

During these gatherings space is created for community, accountability, family discipleship, and missional outreach. We do not want to be a church that offers small groups, but one that is built on small groups.



the NEED

How can someone get involved?



PRAYER PARTNERS

It is impossible to accomplish anything without God's power and grace working in and through us. Therefore, we need you to pray for us. Even with hard work and constant strategizing, God has to be the one to build His church. We know that God is powerful and gracious to answer the prayers of His people and empower us for His work.

Please pray that:

- God will use us to make disciples in the Greater Boerne area.
- God will save many people through the witness of The Bridge Fellowship.
- We will see depth and growth in the people of The Bridge Fellowship.
- We will be fruitful and humble.
- We will make much of Jesus and that he would use us to increase His fame.

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

It's been said that church plants are similar to college graduates; they have all the energy to take on the world but not enough gas money to get out of town. Being a church plant requires a lot of resources and a lot of dependence at first on outside supporters. Our financial needs will include staff salaries and benefits, initial ministry costs, start-up funding, office expenses, and renting facilities. Over time, by God's grace, we plan on being self-funded and sending resources to help other churches get started, much like what we will experience in the early years.

As we plan and budget for The Bridge Fellowship, we hope to enjoy financial partnerships with churches, organizations, and individuals for the first three years as we work toward becoming financially independent. With this in mind, please prayerfully consider giving for three years to the mission of The Bridge Fellowship.

- 2020 - \$188,580
- 2021 - \$315,608
- 2022 - \$451,716

CORE TEAM

Finally, we are looking for people who feel called to begin a new ministry in our area to join us on mission to make disciples for God's glory. Jesus' Great Commission is not just for pastors or career missionaries, but for everyone who professes Him as Savior. If anything in this plan stirs in you, we ask that you pray about coming and sacrificing your time, energy, and resources to be a part of something that God is doing for His glory and our good.

the TIMELINE

When will this take place?

PHASE 1 CULTIVATE THE SOIL

(June 2019 - January 2020)

Expectations

1. Develop a Prayer Team
2. Incorporate and set up non-profit status
3. Open bank account
4. Refine vision, strategy, and doctrinal statements
5. Develop by-laws
6. Develop master calendar
7. Develop five-year strategic plan
8. Develop website, blog, podcast, fundraising capabilities
9. Design and print brochures and advertising materials
10. Develop discipleship philosophy (Groups, Family Ministry)

PHASE 2 PLANT THE SEED

February 2020 - September 2020

Expectations

1. Continue to pray
2. Publicly announce The Bridge Fellowship
3. Hold interest meetings
4. Develop a core team
5. Refine budget
6. Refine website
7. Identify Elder candidates
8. Identify key volunteers
9. Develop a plan for Student Ministry
10. Hold initial trainings for Family Ministry, Groups and Hospitality ministries
11. Gather 200 people

PHASE 3 TAKING ROOT

(September 2020 – January 2021)

Expectations

1. Publicly launch The Bridge Fellowship
2. Connect newcomers into small group process (Group Connect)
3. Cast vision for and begin membership process (Weekender)
4. Launch BridgeKids for Sunday gatherings
5. Launch Bridge Student ministry
6. Assess staffing needs and begin recruitment process
7. Begin saving and looking for permanent facility
8. Gather 200-500 people

PHASE 4 GROWING

(January 2021 and on...)

Expectations

1. Communicate vision clearly and frequently
2. Develop guests into attenders
3. Develop attenders into members
4. Develop members into leaders
5. Develop sending opportunities and significant leadership pipeline process
6. 500 -1,000 people

PHASE 5 CULTIVATE THE SOIL AGAIN

(Unknown)

Expectations

1. When we have 1,000 people in attendance, begin the process of planting a local church.

BELIEFS & DOCTRINE

The Bible

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

The Trinity

We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

Salvation

We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

Holy Spirit

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

Resurrection

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

Unity

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

*As adopted by the National Association of Evangelicals

Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)

We reaffirm the inerrant Scripture to be the sole source of written divine revelation, which alone can bind the conscience. The Bible alone teaches all that is necessary for our salvation from sin and is the standard by which all Christian behavior must be measured.

Solus Christus (Christ Alone)

We reaffirm that our salvation is accomplished by the mediatorial work of the historical Christ alone. His sinless life and substitutionary atonement alone are sufficient for our justification and reconciliation to the Father.

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

We reaffirm that in salvation we are rescued from God's wrath by his grace alone. It is the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit that brings us to Christ by releasing us from our bondage to sin and raising us from spiritual death to spiritual life.

Sola Fide (Faith Alone)

We reaffirm that justification is by grace alone through faith alone because of Christ alone. In justification Christ's righteousness is imputed to us as the only possible satisfaction of God's perfect justice.

Soli Deo Gloria (God's Glory Alone)

We reaffirm that because salvation is of God and has been accomplished by God, it is for God's glory and that we must glorify him always. We must live our entire lives before the face of God, under the authority of God and for his glory alone.

*As declared by Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals

the PLANTER

MEET JARED PATRICK

Jared Patrick grew up in west Texas, which means he knows how to hit the golf ball low to keep it under the wind. He was raised as a pastor's kid, but the gospel had never taken root. After losing his father in a car accident, Jared went to Glorieta, New Mexico where God saved him and called him into ministry. Jared served as a Collegiate Discipleship Minister with Lifeway Glorieta before moving to San Antonio and becoming the High School Pastor at Community Bible Church. Jared met Meredith at CBC and got his act together quickly. They have been married for eight years with three children: Caiden (8), Carson (6) and Presley (4). Jared is currently a student at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The temptation these days is to treat the church as if it were a franchise to be marketed. Simply implement a slick plan and select a winning personality with CEO qualities to lead the franchise and success is inevitable! Having had the privilege and opportunity to plant two churches, I assure you this is not the way. Plans and personalities may help, but they cannot be the foundation. First, the foundation begins with Jesus Christ and his atoning sacrifice. Second, I believe there must be a man that understands the compelling call of God on his life and who is completely committed to the revelation of the Bible. Third, there must be a committed group of people willing to follow a leader whom they believe is called of God.

Because I believe these things it is my pleasure to recommend Jared Patrick to you. Having worked with Jared for the last six years I believe that he is called to plant this church, is committed to preaching Christ crucified, and is committed to God's word. The only missing component at this point is committed people! Would you sincerely ask the Lord if you are to be a part of this new church?

John D. Free
Senior Pastor, Currey Creek

"It is my great pleasure to give recommendation to Jared Patrick as a church planter and pastor. In the time that I have known him, he has proven to be a man deeply in love with Jesus, burdened for the local church and naturally wired and equipped by God to lead others into deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Jared is one of those unique people that God has equipped as a spiritual and emotional thermostat for the people around him and honestly, were it not for a call to lead my own church, I would move with Jared to be a part of the work that God is forming through him. Further, in the time that I have known Jared I have seen nothing in his life that would give me pause about his character, competency or call as a pastor. Simply put, I not only believe Jared is called, equipped and being sent to plant a new church, but I also believe him to be a leader that I would feel privileged to sit under."

Austin Lawrence
Lead Pastor, The Well Abilene

I have known Jared for many years as a pastor and a friend. I know he would be an excellent leader of a new church. He and Meredith have a heart for Jesus and a love for people. Their marriage and family are strong and are a great example for others to follow. If I were raising my family in Boerne, today, I would gladly have them sit under Jared's teaching and follow his leadership. You have a proven leader who is called by God to plant a new church!

Robert Emmitt, Pastor Emeritus
Community Bible Church, San Antonio, TX.

I have known Jared for eleven years and over that time I have seen the Lord greatly use him in ministry to children, students, and adults. Not only has Jared been an effective minister wherever the Lord has called him, I also believe the Lord has been preparing him for this time. He is a wonderful husband to Meredith and a loving father to Caiden, Carson, and Presley. Jared is also a gifted teacher, a passionate leader, and a trustworthy friend. He truly has a minister's heart and will be a fantastic pastor to the people of The Bridge Fellowship.

Stuart Head, Associate Pastor
Currey Creek Church, Boerne, TX





THE
PATRICK FAMILY



THE BRIDGE FELLOWSHIP

CHURCHWIDE YEARLY EVENT CALENDAR

We believe that a church has more gospel impact when it focuses on a few things with excellence, rather than many things that would spread itself thin. Our churchwide event calendar is designed so that we can focus on a few opportunities to 1) reach out to our community and 2) equip our people for the work of ministry.

SPRING

Men's Weekend (Equip)
Easter at The Bridge (Reach Out)

SUMMER

Kids Week (6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) (Reach Out)
Student Life Camp at Glorieta (Equip)

FALL

Women's Conference (Equip)

WINTER

Christmas at the Bridge (Around December 20th)
(Reach Out)

PARTNERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

The Bridge Fellowship is one community of a much larger community of believers. We are proud to stand beside these great leaders, churches, and ministries as we work together to grow Jesus' Kingdom. There is no way we want to do this alone, so here are a few people we are growing beside.

Partner Churches

Currey Creek Church (Parent Sending Church)
John Free, Senior Pastor
Boerne, TX

The Well
Austin Lawrence, Lead Pastor
Abilene, TX

Affiliations

North American Mission Board

1. Strategic Cities Initiative with specific church planting partnerships
2. NAMB support for future church plants

International Mission Board

1. Sending opportunities
2. Global missions giving

