

# ABIDE CHURCH

VISION GATHERING | SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

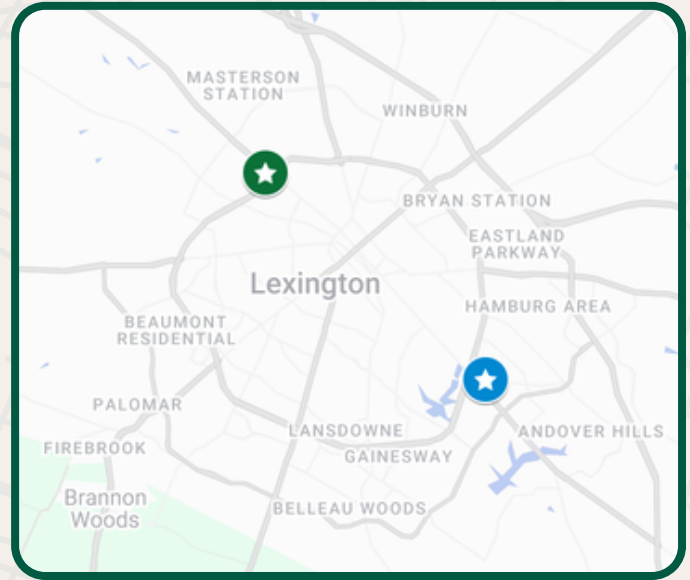
Coming Fall 2027 · Lexington, KY

## MISSION

Making abiding disciples of Jesus Christ, together.

## VISION

Sending disciples, leaders and churches to our neighborhood and the nations.



## VALUES

### SCRIPTURE

Abiding disciples know, love and obey God's Word.

### COMMUNITY

Abiding disciples grow together.

### MISSION

Abiding disciples live sent.

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO COUNT THE COST?

- Where can I be all in?
- What makes the most sense for pursuing Biblical community?
- What makes the most sense for living on mission?



→  
**WHAT IS  
YOUR NEXT STEP?**

## THE BASICS

### **Is this a church plant or a Center Point campus?**

Abide Church will be an autonomous local church. We believe the healthiest long-term path is autonomous churches strategically partnering with one another.

### **Where will Abide Church meet?**

In the Masterson Station area, roughly the region from Leestown Road to Newtown Pike. We are still identifying a location, but most likely a portable setup, such as in a school.

### **How many people are you hoping to send?**

We're praying for 100–150 people from Center Point to be sent to Abide Church.

### **What is the projected timeline?**

- **October 2026:** Vision Gathering follow-up conversations, another vision meeting, building the Core Team, raising funds. It would be best for people to decide whether they are joining the Core Team by the end of October.
- **November 2026:** Core Team Community Night
- **January–July 2027:** Regular Core Team meetings, with meetings becoming more frequent as launch approaches.
- **Early August 2027:** Commissioned from Center Point, covenanting together as Abide Church, having preview gatherings.
- **Late August/early September 2027:** Official public launch

## JOINING THE CORE TEAM

### **What is the Core Team, and what are the expectations of being on it?**

The Core Team is made up of those being sent from Center Point to plant Abide Church. We will meet regularly leading up to being commissioned from Center Point and covenanting together as a new church, because we want to build clarity, community, and culture before we officially get started. If you join the Core Team, you are committing to attending Core Team meetings and to giving, serving, and being part of a Community Group when we officially start. In other words, you're committing to be all in.

### **When do we stop attending Center Point?**

Abide Church will be commissioned from Center Point in early August of 2027.

### **Can I be involved without being sent?**

Yes. Pray, give, and champion the work. Be all in at Center Point. Help out when Abide Church does outreach initiatives.

## FINANCES

### **What's the financial need?**

- **Startup costs:** ~\$75,000–\$100,000. Center Point has been contributing to a Church Plant account in its regular budget for years. Some of Abide Church's startup costs will come from this account, in addition to a one-time offering that will be taken in the spring of 2027. More information will be communicated by the Leadership Team.

- **Ongoing general funds:** Primarily from the giving of those who are sent and from CPC members who give above and beyond their current giving. We will ask other churches and donors to consider regular giving for the first three years of Abide Church to fill any gap in funding.
- **Other partners:** We are in the process of receiving \$50,000 spread over three years from the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Other churches and donors will be asked to give as the financial need becomes clearer.

### **How will Center Point make up for sending the giving of 100–150 people?**

This will take wise management of the budget and current reserves. The Leadership Team sees this as one of the "worth it" costs of sending and as a wise step of faith.

### **Will any money be used that was raised for the Committed Campaign?**

Those funds were designated specifically for a future CPC facility and will be used for that purpose, not for the church plant.

### **If I am going to be sent out to join Abide Church, when should I switch my regular tithe/giving?**

Exact details will be communicated later, but the earliest you would switch is summer of 2027.

### **If I give to Abide Church, what about my giving to Center Point?**

Right now, any gift to Abide should be above and beyond what you already give to CPC.

## **When will Abide Church be self-sustaining?**

Our desire is to be self-sustaining by the fall of 2030.

## **How could I start giving to Abide Church right now?**

There will be a CPC-designated fund available to contribute to online. You can also include "Abide Church" on the memo line of a check.



## **LEADERSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS**

### **Will Abide Church have elders?**

Abide Church will be led by a plurality of elders, similar to Center Point. We are still working through what this will look like in the initial stages. While a plurality of elders is certainly the goal, we also don't want to rush to put elders in place too early. This will be discussed more during the monthly Core Team meetings.

### **What will staffing look like?**

Initially, Graham will be full-time and we will hire a part-time Kids Director, with other roles being filled as God allows and the church grows.

### **What's the relationship with Center Point after launch?**

Abide Church will be autonomous, but we intend an ongoing strategic relationship with Center Point. We'll do some things differently than Center Point, but there will be a strong family resemblance.

## What denominations and networks will we partner with?

The Southern Baptist Convention, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Central Kentucky Network of Baptists, The Pillar Network, and other like-minded churches.

## MINISTRY

### What ministries will there be?

Ministry at a church plant will look and feel different from ministry at an established church. We value excellence and will do the best we can with what we have.

Our early priorities:

- **Sunday.** Biblical, practical, expository preaching, congregational worship, praying together, and clearly sharing the gospel every week.
- **Membership.** Abide Church is a family on mission, and we want church membership to be a high priority. This will be discussed more during the monthly Core Team meetings.
- **Kids Ministry.** We want to help kids become abiding disciples. This is not childcare — it's discipleship. We want to partner with families to make living out the gospel in their homes a regular reality.
- **Discipling and Community Groups.** Abiding disciples grow together. Personal discipling relationships and sermon-based small groups will be our two primary rhythms from the start. What Center Point calls Connect Groups, we're going to call Community Groups. Same idea, different name.

Over time we hope to add men's and women's Bible studies, theological equipping, and leadership pipelines — some possibly from the beginning, others as God provides the leaders for them.

## **What about MS/HS students, college students, and young adults?**

The desire is to have, at the very least, Community Groups for MS/HS students and college students, and options for young adults, depending on leadership and need.



# **WHAT IS YOUR NEXT STEP?**