

“The Lord will do Amazing things among you.”
Joshua 3:5

Amazing



Bridgeway Community Church



I find myself reflecting a lot these days about how far Bridgeway has come. Whether it is a moment on a plane or on a Sunday driving away from our building after speaking three Sunday messages in a row, these moments always bring one word to mind: Amazing! Even after being the Senior Pastor for 15 years, I am still amazed at God's continued favor on us and the many lives around the world being changed because of the existence of our church.

Dr. David Anderson

Senior & Founding Pastor
Bridgeway Community Church

The Bridgeway Vision:

to be a multicultural army of fully-devoted followers of Christ who are moving forward in unity and love to reach our community, our culture and our world for Jesus Christ.



...A MULTICULTURAL ARMY...

I remember church planting consultants saying we couldn't sustain a multicultural church. They said all churches will eventually become uncultural. Yet, I knew God had created a vision within my heart that allowed me to see black and white and Asian and Latino and Jewish and Arab and African people worshiping and praying and growing as one family. Under Christ, we could accomplish a mission that was bigger than us while confronting the sin that society could not heal. In 1992, a small group believed God could help us realize this amazing dream. Slowly, the vision crystallized into names and faces—real people—as each one signed on and believed in the vision too. I was amazed.

...OF FULLY-DEVOTED FOLLOWERS...

Our beginnings were small but slowly and steadily people started coming. Honestly, Bridgeway has never been about just numbers of filled seats on a given Sunday. Each number represents a life - a life God has brought through our doors. Each became a part of what God was doing. None were perfect, but God has a way of using his people and his vision to change us into an amazing example of what only God can do.

...WHO ARE MOVING FORWARD...

We went from meeting at Wilde Lake Slayton House to Smith Theater at Howard Community College. One hundred and twenty of us gathered in the 400+ seat auditorium and prayed for those who would sit in all those empty seats one day. God filled those seats...from one service to two to three services and an overflow Video Café... with a total attendance of nearly 2000 people each week. God was moving us forward.

...IN UNITY AND LOVE...

One distinguishing trademark of the people of Bridgeway is that we love doing life together! Sure, it's sometimes necessary to have hard real-life conversations with each other. Yes, sometimes, we struggle together, but we also pray, play, cry and laugh with each other. That's what unity and love is all about...celebrating our differences with acceptance and respect while coming out from behind our culture to be authentic Christ-followers. God continues to add more people to the Bridgeway family who bring their unique experience and passion to the vision.

...TO REACH OUR COMMUNITY, OUR CULTURE AND OUR WORLD FOR CHRIST.

What really moves me is when our Bridgeway family reaches out to their friends, relatives, associates, neighbors and their kids - bringing them to church. They are so eager to introduce them to me! I love that people want to share the Bridgeway experience with others they care about. Bridgeway is a church where everyone reaches out to their community -- and it is not just the pastors and the staff. Reaching out is a part of the Bridgeway DNA.



"I HAVE OBSERVED BRIDGEWAY FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS BEARING GOOD FRUITS, INCLUDING BRINGING MANY SOULS TO CHRIST, TRANSFORMING LIVES, BREATHING LIFE INTO DEAD

RELATIONSHIPS, AND MUCH MORE. GIVING TO THE CAMPAIGN WAS A NO BRAINER. I KNEW THAT BRIDGEWAY WAS A FERTILE GROUND AND THAT ANYTHING I SOW HERE WILL BE MULTIPLIED FOR GOD'S GLORY."

• DONG WHANG, PARTNER

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

We have moved again—this time, to our new home on Red Branch Road. While we are completing our theater, we are holding services in our lobby and Video Café. Though we enjoy centralized offices for the first time in our history, we are continually re-setting rooms for various ministries for children, youth, and adults. Whether the almost 2000 people that call Bridgeway their home are in the lobby or the Video Café or watch live online, the amazing message of Christ is being heard not just in Columbia, but around the world. God continues his amazing work!

We're feeding those in our community who need help. We're helping to build churches and schools and supporting pastors in Webuye, Kenya and Mamelodi, South Africa. We have a children's ministry, BridgeKids, that reaches almost 300 kids. We are giving 100 backpacks with school supplies, annually to kids from families who need a little help. We are supporting AIDS education in Burundi. We are teaching English as a Second Language right here in Howard County. Deacons are praying in hospitals. We are delivering meals to homes, comforting the grieving, conducting wedding ceremonies and celebrating births.

BRIDGEWAY'S VISION — to be a multicultural army of fully-devoted followers of Christ who are moving forward in unity and love to reach our community, our culture, and our world for Jesus Christ.

BRIDGEWAY'S MISSION — to build into one another as we build bridges to our community.

BRIDGEWAY'S VALUES — B-R-I-D-G-E-S

B Building into one another

R Reconciliation — Spiritually, Racially, and Relationally

I Instruction — Truth from the word of God in the person of Jesus Christ

D Dynamic worship — An active lifestyle of praise to God

G Growth — Moving toward God and moving with God

E Evangelism — Sharing the Good News

S Stewardship & Service — Sharing what is God-given

BRIDGEWAY'S STRATEGY

Connect—Helping people connect to Christ, our church, and each other AND helping the church connect to the community

Build—Helping others grow in their walk as a fully-devoted follower of Christ through The Word, Worship, Prayer, Fellowship, and Sharing

Equip—Helping others grow in their walk as a fully-devoted follower of Christ AND helping them see ministry to others as a natural outgrowth of that walk

It is amazing to see all God has done in spite of our human weakness and effort, and all of that time without a home to call our own. God's hand is upon us and it is humbling. He has blessed us with people and leaders and pastors and servants who believe that God can use them. I believe God can use people like you. I see it happen every day.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Today, we are facing a new chapter in the 15-year story of Bridgeway. We turned the page when we moved into our Red Branch building. The future has yet to be written. New challenges and new burdens, new songs and new messages, new sorrows and new joys, new movements of God and new resources have yet to come to life.

In 2007, we will walk into our brand new 1200+ seat performing arts auditorium. There, we will have more of our Bridgeway family worshipping, learning, praying, crying and celebrating together. More people will hear the dangerous message of God's amazing grace. More people will be sad that they have to wait seven days to return. From services in Smith Theater to the tent in the parking lot to the best looking lobby in the land and in days to come... to our theater, God has blessed us with his presence.





On our journey, we will change and yet stay the same. We have changed with the increased attendance. We have changed from location to location, making adjustments so people can experience God. We have changed with each new staff member and volunteer. We are not afraid of change or of trying something we have never done. Yet, our vision never changes. Our values never change. Our mission never changes. They are what God has honored in the past. They are what God is blessing today. They are what God will use to guide our ministry decisions in the future.

PREPARING FOR TOMORROW TODAY

If we had not prepared in the past for what God is doing right now, I doubt we would have our Red Branch building. I doubt we would have all the great staff and ministries that change lives. I doubt we would be ready for the amazing blessings of God. We are looking to the future to minister to our church family better, as well as to more of our community and beyond. We have only scratched the surface of the multicultural impact of our church!

“NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR WALK, IN THE LAND OF NOT ENOUGH, JUST ENOUGH OR MORE THAN ENOUGH, YOU CAN FULFILL YOUR LIFE BY GIVING CONTROL UP TO CHRIST. HE’LL BE YOUR STRENGTH AND YOUR FOUNDATION. HE WILL PREPARE YOU FOR ANYTHING THAT COMES YOUR WAY. HE IS A FAITHFUL GOD AND HE WILL MEET YOU AT YOUR POINT OF EVERY NEED.”

· JIM HARRIS, BCC TREASURER



FOUR OVER THREE

We want to be prepared for the future while being good stewards of what God has given us right here and now. We want Bridgeway to be in a position that will give us the flexibility and resources needed to take advantage of the ministry opportunities God brings along. We want to be ready for what’s next.

The current goals are to complete the Bridgeway theater to compliment the current ministry space and to be debt-free, thus having enough resources to be ready for the other amazing things God might have us to do next. What is the result if these goals are met? First, it allows us to complete a sanctuary and performing arts theater in the space adjacent to our current Lobby/Worship Area (formerly a warehouse). Second, we will be in a strong fiscal position to exercise the purchase of the building - on which we have the option at a fixed price. And third, the campaign funds will free up the flow of fixed resources that can be re-channeled to reach out to our community, culture and our world for Christ.

To accomplish these goals, we are going to start our Amazing Campaign with the goal of raising 4 million dollars beyond our regular giving over the next 3 years. Together, by faith, I believe Bridgeway can do this. Every family can play a part. It will require sacrifice by all. Some will give more than others, but the amount is not my interest. I want us all to believe that God has an amazing future and we want to be in on it. We want to use the money to secure the Red Branch building and to complete the work on the performing arts auditorium.


TAKING THE LEAD

The core leaders of this church believe so much in Bridgeway's future that they have put their homes on the line to serve as collateral in order to help Bridgeway to move forward. There are people in our congregation who have set the pace by already significantly committing to the campaign. In recent weeks, we invited several households to 'set the pace' for the rest of the Bridgeway family. This generous group has already committed nearly one million dollars over the next three years! Now, I want the rest of the Bridgeway family to be encouraged by their example and join them in playing a part in the Amazing Campaign.

THE CALL

Get in on what God is doing! Don't just watch it, participate with us all and see what Amazing things God will do! Will it be a sacrifice? Yes, but the pages are turning. Your sacrifice writes you in as a character in the Bridgeway story that God continues to unfold. You can get a front row seat and unite, arm and arm, with your brothers and sisters.

Will you invest in this eternal journey? God promises us that He will do Amazing things among us if you do (Joshua 3:5).



Dr. David Anderson

Bridgeway's Capital Campaign

Amazing

"RARELY HAVE WE SEEN SERVANTS AS SACRIFICIAL AS THE LEADERS AT BRIDGEWAY. RARELY HAVE WE SEEN SUCH COOPERATIVE DIVERSITY IN ONE PLACE.

RARELY HAVE WE SEEN SO MUCH FRUIT FROM FOLLOWING THE SPIRIT. FRANKLY, IT'S HARD TO NOT WANT TO SUPPORT THE VISION OF GROWING A BODY OF FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST."



• MILTON HALL, PARTNER

F.A.Q.s

AMAZING CAMPAIGN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What does "Above & Beyond" mean? "Above & Beyond" means that your commitment and giving to the Amazing campaign should not replace your regular giving, but is after your regular Bridgeway giving.

What if I don't have much to give? Each should give according to their ability [2 Cor 9:7] remembering that everyone is a part of the body [1 Cor 12:12-27], and it is the heart [1 Sam 16:7] and sacrifice [Mark 12:42-44] that God honors.

How do I designate this? Designate "Amazing" on the memo line of your check. You may use one check for regular and campaign giving.

Who will know how much I am giving? Similar to regular giving, only those who record and report your giving will have access to your commitment and giving information.

Will my commitment be private? Yes, see above. Your commitment will not be shared with others.

Will we get statements? Yes, you will get 3-4 statements per year to help you track your commitment and giving to the Amazing campaign.

What will my money be used for?

- Get us into the final stage of the building / completing the building
- Position us to purchase the building
- Christian community development

What is the timing for the theater? We hope to begin Sunday worship in the theater in September 2007.

What are the key dates in 2007?

On **April 22nd** and **May 6th**, we will host post-service informational meetings in the Faith Auditorium. All are welcome to learn details and updates beyond the brochure content.

On **May 6th**, Bridgeway Kids will begin a one month curriculum on 'generous living' and adults will receive a 28 day devotional on 'generous living'.

June 3rd is Commitment Sunday.

What happens on June 3rd? We will all gather, celebrating God's amazing grace in our lives, and the vision He has given to us. Having prayed about this Amazing opportunity, we will submit our written 3-year commitments to the Amazing campaign.

Bridgeway

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