



Church Profile

Church Information

Name: City Grace Church

Location: New York City, New York

Classical Church Counselor: Kwon Do Lee

Search Committee Contact

Name: Allen Peng

Email Address: pastoralsearch@citygraceny.com

Staff Description

Council (1x deacon, 2x elders, 1x interim pastor)

1x worship coordinator

Council meets monthly. Also have an advisory team to help during church transition consisting of Council + former Council members + other community leaders.

Church Demographics*

Average Sunday Attendance: 30

Active adult professing members: 25

Profile of church members: Mix of 20s - 40s, some 50/60s, some 70+

Education: High School - Post-Doc

Occupations: Business/Finance, Arts/Media, Retirees, Unemployed, Retail/Construction, Local Gov't, Tech, Academia, Non-Profit, Engineer

Race: East Asian, Hispanic, Black, Caucasian

*Includes a partial congregation of another church working with us.

Worship

How are members involved in planning and participation in the liturgy/worship?

A worship coordinator works with a media team, worship team, MCs and interim pastor to facilitate worship services and implement a schedule of rotating volunteers.

Describe the worship services in your church:

Our church's worship services center on directing the congregation's attention to God as one united body through prayer, fellowship, the singing of His praises and promises, and the preaching of His Word.

It is contemporary in nature, from our liturgy to the music that we sing.

Describe the discipleship practices in your church:

One-on-one phone calls, meeting up for meals, inviting folks to serve in ministry and do life/serve together. Very informal.

Church Characteristics

Presently, the focus of our church's ministry is community & current members/participants equally.

In our church, the worship service is designed for the unchurched and believers, but we lean a bit more towards believers.

The style of music used in the worship service is mostly contemporary.

Leadership is generally provided by the interim pastor + lay leaders.

Encourages spiritual growth through ministries for most groups.

Evangelism strategies and methods are equally unplanned and planned.

Mostly representative of the economic diversity of our community.

Mostly representative of ethnic diversity of our community.

Response to compassion, mercy and justice needs is a mix of church-based and personal action.

Missional focus is mostly local.

Narrative

In what ways does your church participate in ecumenical activities?

Individual members participate in other ministry activities involving other churches, but the church itself does not formally participate in many ecumenical activities.

Reflect on your strengths/gifts as a church:

Racial/socio-economic/industry-job/age diversity, small community, flexible, welcoming/hospitality, missional focus

Reflect on your passions as a church:

One of the big passions we have as a church is serving unhoused men. We used to volunteer at a local mens' shelter for several years and became friends with many of the men. Our church's current location is right next to another mens' shelter, and several men have become an integral and valued part of our community.

List specific problems with which our congregation struggles:

Limited resources/volunteers/staff, figuring out how to meet the variety of needs in a small congregation, how to invite/support/be welcoming to young families, church growth

Collaboration with Grace Faith Church

In 2019, City Grace and Grace Faith began our collaboration worshipping together at the Nord Anglia school in the East Village. Both churches were in a season of transition for different reasons, but the collaboration gave us the opportunity to learn from one another and re-energize our efforts in the ministries that God was calling us to.

Given the success of the collaboration, both churches considered the option of merging at the end of 2019. With careful consideration and multiple conversations between both churches' leaders and town halls with congregants, it was mutually decided by both leadership teams that it wasn't a viable option.

In 2020, due to the pandemic, we moved services to Grace Faith's building in Chinatown. Grace Faith has graciously hosted us since.

We hold community nights on Thursdays, small groups throughout the year, Wednesday prayer meetings and Sunday service and post- service lunch / fellowship.

In our collaboration, City Grace has primarily led the worship service and Grace Faith has led in hospitality and hosting us in their space.

City Grace's main areas of ministry currently include our unhoused neighbors, discipleship and prayer. City Grace has also been committed to diversity across socioeconomic status, race & generations.