

# PLANTING PROCESS SUMMARY

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The six phases of the church plant (shown below) reflect the development of the congregation much like that of a baby in the womb. From conception through key phases of development and growth, the end goal is for the congregation to be healthy, self-sufficient, and reproducing new leaders and congregations



## ANKENY DETAILED PLANTING PROCESS

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### 1. Plan (August 2022 – August 2023)

- Pray over and discern the plant location
- Solidify vision and values
- Develop working budget
- Develop website
- Invite partners for prayer and financial support
- Find housing prior to move

### 2. Engage (August 2023 – March 2024)

- Relocate to Ankeny
- Embed and engage in community activities
- Cultivate relationships with increasing community connections
- Gather and develop launch team
- Connect with local pastors and community leaders
- Learn the local culture and how it will relate to church ministry
- Schedule and invite connections to hospitable events that provide information on the church plant
- Begin regular Bible study and fellowship groups
- Research and buy startup equipment, (sound, chairs, signage, etc.)
- Invite to and plan for monthly preview services



### 3. Preview (April – August 2024)

- Begin monthly preview services (Easter?)
- Continue to develop launch team and invite them into regular prayer for the church plant and community
- Identify key leaders to disciple and prepare
- Put healthy systems into practice (setup, music, altar, etc.)
- Provide next steps for newcomers from various faith backgrounds

### 4. Launch (September 2024)

- Launch weekly services
- Celebrate God’s faithfulness with team and partners
- Continue in regular prayer, outreach, and discipleship
- Improve systems as learning, health, and growth necessitates
- Practice good pastoral care especially for those that are part of the local church body

### 5. Grow

- Pray for and encourage competent leaders for the congregation
- Work toward financial self-sufficiency
- Charter the congregation
- Establish sustainable programs that fit with the core values
- Invite volunteers and staff to cover growth needs

### 6. Multiply

- Cast a vision for multiplication among leaders and the church
- Pray for clear vision on the next leaders and locations
- Send the best leaders joyfully and celebrate the work that God does through them

## CHURCH GROWTH ESTIMATE

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The following is an estimate that we have used as a benchmark and guide in the church planting process. It helps us to estimate internal giving as the plant nears self-sufficiency (the end of year 5). We willingly acknowledge the Lord’s perspective on numbers and timetable are often different than ours and eagerly wait to see how exactly He will build His church in the context of Ankeny, Iowa!

<b>Year 0 (Prior to weekly services)</b>	15-20 people (5 family units)
<b>Year 1</b>	20-40 people (8 family units)
<b>Year 2</b>	40-70 people (12 family units)
<b>Year 3</b>	70-100 people (22 family units)
<b>Year 4</b>	100-120 people (30 family units)
<b>Year 5</b>	120-140 people (35 family units)