# Church of the Open Door

# Freedom '27 Case Statement

### OUR HISTORY

In 1948, a small group of believers gathered in a home to study the Word and worship together. That simple act marked the beginning of a church committed to deep, life-changing transformation. Over time, we moved to various locations, eventually finding our home at Robbinsdale High School.

The question before us wasn't just about growing in size—it was also about growing in depth. After much prayer and reflection, our community felt called to pursue both: to reach more people while also deepening our spiritual roots. That calling led us to purchase land and establish a permanent home for our ministry in Maple Grove, where we opened the doors to our current building in 2002.

For over two decades, our Maple Grove location has been a place where lives are transformed by the love and truth of Jesus, becoming a beacon of hope to all who walk through our doors.

### OUR VISION

To be a community radically committed to spiritual formation — for the sake of others.

### OUR MISSION

To invite people into the struggle of becoming fully alive in God.

#### **OUR VALUES**

- Brokenness is welcome here. No matter your past, your mistakes, or your struggles, you are accepted and loved here.
- There's no need to hide. Life is messy—and we don't pretend otherwise. God meets us where we truly are, not where we wish we were.
- Embrace the struggle. Becoming fully alive in God is not always easy, but together, we move forward, knowing that the way through struggles is the way to growth.
- Live in grace and truth. Life in God is complex, filled with questions and mystery. We don't claim to have all the answers, but we commit to seeking Jesus' third way—grace and truth together.

#### OUR MINISTRIES

Church of the Open Door offers a wide range of ministries that support spiritual growth and community engagement, including:

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- Sunday Worship Services: Our church's central gathering where we seek God's presence through worship and prayer, and grow together through teaching His Word.
- Children's Ministry (birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade): Providing safe environments with a Biblical foundation for kids to practice Jesus' presence and learn his way of life together in community.
- Student Ministry (grades 6-12): Providing safe environments with a Biblical foundation that empower young followers of Jesus to practice His presence and way of life together in community.
- Young Adults: Providing safe space with a Biblical foundation for emerging adults to practice the presence and way of Jesus together in community.
- Adult Communities: Small groups, Bible studies and classes designed to foster community and deepen one's understanding of Scripture to practice the presence and way of Jesus together.
- Settled: Stewarding Open Door land to be a homestead of healing through establishing a permanent tiny home Sacred Settlement for those moving out of chronic homelessness.
- Local and Global Outreach: Through coordinating volunteer opportunities and partnerships with fifteen core mission partners, we are committed to serving the poor and marginalized, impacting lives locally and globally through prayer, resources, and other support.

### OUR IMPACT

Since moving to Maple Grove, God has used Church of the Open Door as a beacon of hope, reaching over 3 million people. With over 77 years of ministry and 24 years in Maple Grove, we've seen lives transformed, not just on Sundays, but throughout the week.

In recent years, we've been reimagining how we steward our land and buildings—not simply as event spaces, but as places of healing and hope for our community. That vision is coming to life as we host two schools, support local churches in need of space, welcome sports leagues and the Maple Grove Farmers Market, provide a home for outreach ministries like TreeHouse, develop a Sacred Settlement of tiny homes for those transitioning out of homelessness, and offer space for worship and discipleship for our church family.

#### WHAT'S OUR HOPE?

When God led us to Maple Grove, He gave us a vision: to make a broader impact and grow deeper roots. We're committed to that calling by stewarding His resources well and trusting Him to work through us to bless

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our community.

To continue moving forward with this vision, we've invested significantly in the land, buildings, and relocation—totaling \$21 million. Thanks to the generosity of many, much of that debt has been paid down. However, we still carry a remaining mortgage of \$3.5 million, with monthly payments of \$54,000.

There are also several pressing facilities needs that need attention soon, totaling approximately \$2.5 million, that require attention soon, including the following:

- repaving the parking lot
- replacing the roof
- upgrading our HVAC system
- updating the sound system

We also recognize that our staff is a vital part of God's work here. We want to honor its dedication by ensuring that compensation is fair and sustainable; aligning salaries with ministry standards and offering benefits like a 403b match will require ongoing evaluation.

Altogether, we are prayerfully seeking \$6.0 million—not for our glory, but to continue the work God is doing through this ministry, to secure financial freedom, and to expand the reach of His hope and healing.

#### WHY YOUR PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

As we reflect on all God has done through Church of the Open Door, we are filled with gratitude. For 77 years – and 25 of those rooted in Maple Grove – He has faithfully worked through His people to transform lives, bless our community, and impact the world. We've seen His presence guide us, His grace sustain us, and His power change hearts.

Now, we sense Him inviting us to build on that foundation – to continue the good work He's already begun. With \$6.0 million in prayerful funding, we can take meaningful steps forward to become an even greater force for good by:

- Eliminating our mortgage, releasing nearly \$648,000 annually to invest more fully in God's Kingdom work.
- Expand our ministry reach to impact more lives with the love of Jesus.
- Equipping our buildings and grounds to better serve the needs of our church and community for the next 25 years.



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- Expanding our impact through greater investment in global and local Kingdom work.
- Creating more space for spiritual growth by practicing the presence and way of Jesus.

This isn't just Open Door's mission – it's God's, and we're all part of it. Together, let's step forward in faith and continue to say yes to what He is doing through His Church. Our hope is for the ministry of Open Door and our community to experience financial, spiritual, and missional freedom, growing deeper into becoming fully alive in God.

We believe God is writing a powerful story through Church of the Open Door – and there's still so much ahead. Join us in prayerfully investing in the next chapter of His work in and through our community. For more information or to learn more, visit us at <u>www.thedoor.org/freedom-27</u>