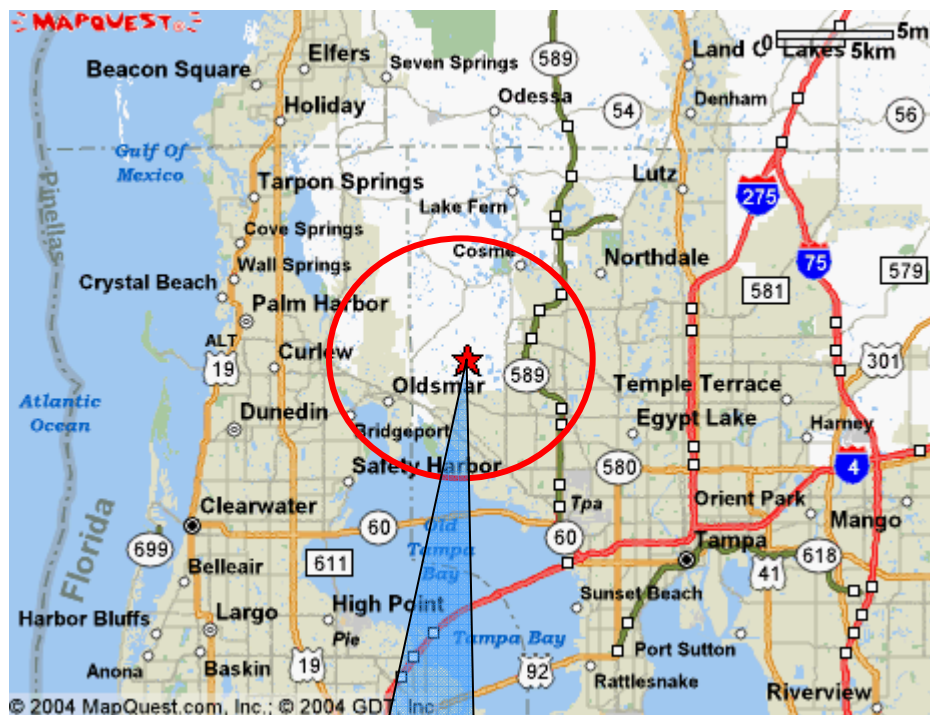


# Proposal for Launching Church at the Bay

## Tampa Florida

(Westchase area, Tampa, FL, 33626)



Davidsen Middle School

**Hal Mayer**

*Church Planter/Lead Pastor*

## Our Purpose

***To help people establish a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and equip them to become Difference Makers in the world.***

### ***We dream of becoming a Church where:***

- The Great Commission (\*Matthew 28:19-29) is our greatest priority. We want to see people come to Jesus Christ in a full commitment that results in them becoming *difference makers*, for Christ, in the world.
- We live in an authentic community inspired by teaching that focuses on life change, participative worship services and relationally-driven community groups.
- Everyone feels welcomed and valued as we encourage each other to participate in the journey of following Christ.
- We discover, sharpen and implement our God-given talents and gifts in ministry to each other, our community and the world.
  - We live out our faith by participating in servant evangelism efforts in our community.
    - Our leaders function as an effective Team at every level and area of ministry.
      - We partner in planting “high yield potential churches.”

**We will do this for the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom.**

*\*Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)*

# **Our Core Values**

## **We Value People**

### ***People matter to God***

We believe people matter to God and therefore they matter to us. God demonstrated the high value He places on people when he gave His very best, his Son, to provide the gift of salvation. Church at the Bay's assignment is to get the message of this good news to the world so we can ***help people establish a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and equip them to become Difference Makers in the world.*** (John 3:16, Romans 5:8, Luke 15:7, Luke 15:10))

## **We Value Application of Scripture**

### ***Teaching is for Life-Change***

We believe the Bible is God's Word to our world. Therefore, we must live and practice the life changing principles we discover. God gave us His Word in order to equip us and change us for His glory and benefit. (Psalm 1, James 1:22-25, Luke 6:46, Psalm 119:11)

## **We Value Authentic Community**

### ***Life change happens best in community groups***

We believe real authenticity is best described as openness with others about our strengths and weaknesses. We will help people find their way from the large group (weekend worship) into relationally-authentic community groups. (Acts 2:44-47, Romans 7, Colossians 4:5)

## **We Value Relevance**

### ***Although our methods will change, our Message will not***

We believe the Bible is the most exciting book ever written, and we seek to share its' good news in relevant environments. We will create appropriate environments for our Preschoolers, Grade school children, Middle and High school students as well as adults. (1 Corinthians 9:22, 2 Corinthians 11:2, 1 Chronicles 12:32)

## **We Value Service**

### ***Every member is a minister***

We believe God has equipped every Christ-Follower with gifts and passions so they can become difference makers for Jesus Christ. We will encourage everyone to use and develop their gifts and talents in service to our church, community and world. (1 Peter 4:10, Romans 12:6-8, 1Cornithians 12:4-7, Ephesians 4:11-13)

# Our Target

## **General Population Statistics and Projections:**

- 3 mile radius- 60,476 (2003), 21% growth projected over the next 5 years.
- 5 mile radius- 147,545 (2003), 14% growth projected over the next 5 years

## **Adult Demographic:**

- 25-34 years old 22%
- 35-44 years old 27%
- 45-54 years old 20%

## **Religious Background**

- 75% unchurched

## **Education:**

- 2 Years or less of college 33%
- Bachelors Degree 34%
- Graduate Degree/Professional 15%

## **Median Income:**

- Family \$74,668

## **Ethnicity:**

- 80% white,
- 7.6% Black,

## **Family-**

- 43% of homes have children
- 72% married (15 years and older)
- 75% moved in since 1995
- 31 minutes average (mean) travel time to work

## **Segmentation Analysis-**

The only group with a large percentage is the *Home Sweet Home* segmentation (27%). *Home Sweet Home* is described as: *widely scattered across the nation's suburbs, the residents of Home Sweet Home tend to be upper-middle-class married couples living in mid-sized homes with few children. The adults in the segment, mostly between the ages of 25 and 54, have gone to college and hold professional and white-collar jobs. With their upscale incomes and small families, these folks have fashioned comfortable lifestyles, filling their homes with toys, TV sets and pets.*

(Provided by Claritas <http://www.clusterbigip1.claritas.com/claritas/Default.jsp>)

**Our primary target will be 30 something, married adults with children.**

## **Our Strategy**

**Church at the Bay** will be a purpose driven church. We will challenge our people to 5 primary pursuits. These pursuits are modeled and measured by the listed behaviors.

### **Pursue KNOWING Jesus Christ**

- I am attending weekend worship
- I have committed my life to Jesus Christ and have been baptized
- I have completed Discovering ***Church at the Bay*** (New Member Class)

### **Pursue GROWING in Jesus Christ**

- I am regularly attending a community group
- I am spending time daily with God
- I am giving my financial resources

### **Pursue SERVING Jesus Christ**

- I am serving in a ministry
- I am mentoring a potential leader
- I am a continual learner

### **Pursue SHARING Jesus Christ**

- I am building relationships with who do not know Jesus Christ
- I am sharing my story
- I am bringing my new friends to ***Church at the Bay***

### **Pursue HONORING Jesus Christ**

- I am pursuing **KNOWING, GROWING, SERVING, AND SHARING** Jesus Christ.

**THESE 5 PURSUITS AND THEIR BEHAVIORS DESCRIBE  
A DIFFERENCE MAKER.**

# OUR BELIEFS

A key principle we will live with is, *we will focus on the things that unite us, not the things that divide us.* There are some essentials that we will agree on. The following is a simple listing.

## **ABOUT GOD**

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

*Genesis 1:1,26,27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14*

## **ABOUT MANKIND**

We are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. We are the supreme object of God's creation. Although we have tremendous potential for good, we are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin". This attitude separates us from God.

*Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1,2*

## **ABOUT ETERNITY**

We are created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are places of eternal existence.

*John 3:16; John 2:25; John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; 1 John 5:11-12; Matthew 25:31-46*

## **ABOUT JESUS CHRIST**

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of kings, and Lord of lords.

*Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13*

## **ABOUT SALVATION**

Salvation is a gift from God to all people. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can we be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment we receives Jesus Christ into our life by faith.

*Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1*

## **ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY**

Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, we are secure in salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by our self-effort. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

*John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5*

### **ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christ-Follower with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christ-Follower seeks to live under His control daily.

*2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1*

### **ABOUT THE BIBLE**

The Bible is God's word to all mankind. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5*