# THE CHURCH WE SEE AT



Vision | Mission | Values

WE ARE A MODERN EXPRESSION OF AN ANCIENT FAITH ENCOUNTERING GOD EXPERIENCING TRANSFORMATION | ELEVATING LIVES

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## Introduction

At Church on the Living Edge, we envision a vibrant community moving as one body, each person clothed in identity and purpose.

We see our church as a beacon of light radiating across our city, sparking transformation, and extending its reach far beyond local borders.

The heartbeat of COTLE pulses outward, renewing lives within Orlando and creating pathways of impact around the world.

Through this vision, we believe God is leading us into a future where our church, equipped and united, brings forth His kingdom in every sphere—both near and far.

This document captures that vision through the circles of our mission, guiding us from the local church community outward to global missions, each step designed to deepen our encounter with God, our transformation in Christ, and our commitment to elevate lives.



# OUR STORY

Church on the Living Edge (COTLE) has a rich legacy rooted in transformation, vision, and dedication to God's mission. Originally founded as The Master's Touch International Church, COTLE emerged from the vision of **Bishop Mark J. Chironna** and **Pastor Ruth Chironna**, who began meeting in Orlando, Florida, in 1998 after responding to a growing desire for their message. Starting with gatherings at Dr. Phillips High School, the congregation soon established a permanent facility, rallying together to transform a neglected building into a vibrant center of worship. This project became a symbol of *"restoring the ancient paths and rebuilding the desolate places,"* a testimony to the faith and energy of the early members.

In 2012, after a season of prayerful reflection on the Great Commission, The Master's Touch underwent a re-envisioning process. This culminated on Good Friday, April 6, when the church embraced a new name, **Church on the Living Edge**, symbolizing a rebirth in mission, values, and identity as a community focused on both local impact and global outreach.

In October 2024, a new chapter began as **Dr. Mario Hood** and **Pastor Misty Hood** assumed leadership of COTLE, carrying forward the vision to be a *modern expression of an ancient faith*, welcoming people from all generations on a transformative journey to flourish in Christ. Under their guidance, COTLE continues to expand its impact, dedicated to building a community of believers who **Encounter God, Experience Transformation, and Elevate Lives.** 





At Church on the Living Edge, we are a church for all generations, committed to creating a community where every age and stage of life feels valued, connected, and empowered. We believe that God's work is for everyone—from the youngest child discovering faith to the seasoned elder offering wisdom. Our multi-generational approach celebrates diversity in experience and perspective, fostering unity while meeting the unique needs of each generation. Through intentional ministry, mentorship, and opportunities for growth, we strive to equip and elevate every individual to thrive in their spiritual journey, building a vibrant church family that reflects the beauty of God's kingdom.



# What We Are For



At Church on the Living Edge, we are dedicated to 3 core experiences:

- Encountering God
  - We are committed to creating spaces where people can experience the presence of God in profound and life-changing ways. Through worship, prayer, and teaching, we invite everyone to connect deeply with the living God who transforms hearts and minds.

#### • Experiencing Transformation

 Our goal is to see lives changed through the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe in spiritual growth that renews every aspect of life—mind, body, and soul—empowering individuals to reflect Christ and live out their purpose.

#### • Elevating Lives

 At COTLE, we strive to uplift individuals and communities, bringing hope, restoration, and empowerment through faith and service. We are passionate about creating opportunities for people to flourish, embracing the call to make a lasting difference in the world around us.



### **Our Mission Statement**

Church on the Living Edge is a modern expression of an ancient faith, uniting generations on a transformative journey to flourish in Jesus.



Church on the Living Edge embodies a modern expression of an ancient faith, bringing timeless biblical truths to life in ways that resonate with today's world. We are rooted in the wisdom and practices passed down from the early Church, embracing them as an anchor that grounds us in God's unchanging truth while propelling us into the future with purpose.

Our mission is to unite generations, creating a vibrant community where people of all ages and backgrounds come together in faith, love, and shared purpose. This transformative journey empowers individuals and families to grow, thrive, and flourish in their relationship with Jesus. By honoring the past and engaging the present, we are building a church that reflects God's grace and glory for generations to come.





#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

Core values are the foundation of who we are and what we do as a church. They guide our decisions, shape our culture, and keep us aligned with God's purpose for our community. These values reflect our shared commitment to live out our faith in ways that honor God, uplift others, and fulfill the mission He has entrusted to us. By embracing these principles, we ensure that every step we take as a church family remains rooted in His truth and reflects His love to the world around us.





#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

We Are A People of God's Presence

We seek and celebrate God's presence, building our lives on His love and strength.



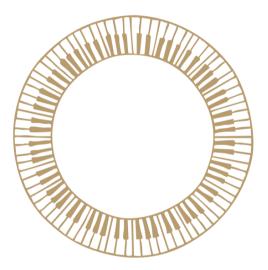
19 So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)



#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

We Are A People of Praise

Worship is at the heart of all we do, honoring God through expressions of gratitude and joy.



Everything that has breath shall praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Through Him then, let's continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips praising His name. (Psalm 150:6; Hebrews 13:15)





ELEVATING LIVES



#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

We Are A People of Prayer

We are devoted to prayer, seeking God's guidance and cultivating a life of faith.



16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)



#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

We Are A People for People

We prioritize love and service, valuing each person and fostering meaningful relationships.



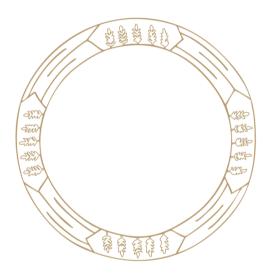
29 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, Israel The Lord is our God, the Lord is one; 30 and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29–31)



#### WE ARE GUIDED BY 5 FOUNDATIONAL VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH FAMILY

#### We Are A People of Prospering

We pursue spiritual, emotional, physical, relational and financial wholeness, grounded in God's blessings and abundance.



Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. (3 John 1:2)





ELEVATING LIVES



## ACTS 2 BLUEPRINT

At Church on the Living Edge, we are inspired by the early church's example in Acts 2, which illustrates a community centered on devotion to God, fellowship, and shared purpose. This **"Acts 2 Blueprint"** serves as a model for how we live out our faith together, embracing practices that strengthen our community and reflect God's love.

#### WHAT IS AN ACTS 2 CHURCH?

An Acts 2 church is one that builds its foundation on the teachings of Jesus and the apostles. It is a community where worship, teaching, prayer, and fellowship are woven together, creating an environment where spiritual growth thrives and lives are transformed.

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF AN ACTS 2 CHURCH MEMBER

As part of COTLE, an Acts 2 church member is:

- **Devoted to Scripture and Teaching** Engaged in learning and growing in the Word, committed to deepening understanding and application of God's truth.
- **Committed to Fellowship** Actively building relationships within the church family, sharing in life's joys and challenges, and offering support to one another.
- **Prayerful and Worshipful** Participating in corporate prayer and worship, inviting God's presence to guide and empower the community.
- Generous and Compassionate We believe in the tithe as the starting point of sharing resources and of giving our time, caring for those in need within the church and in the broader community.

### ACTS 2 BLUEPRINT

#### **BENEFITS OF BELONGING**

At COTLE, we believe that being part of an Acts 2 community enriches our spiritual journey and strengthens our faith. As members, we experience:

- **Spiritual Growth** Opportunities for personal and collective growth, grounded in biblical teaching and discipleship.
- **Deep Connections** Meaningful relationships that provide encouragement, accountability, and a sense of belonging.
- **Empowerment for Service** The joy of using our gifts to serve others, making an impact in the church and the world around us.
- **A Life of Purpose** Living with intention and vision, participating in God's mission to bring hope and transformation to all.

Together, we seek to embody the spirit of the Acts 2 church, reflecting a community where love, faith, and unity flourish, and where every member contributes to building a vibrant, God-centered family.

ENCOUNTERING GOD EXPERIENCING TRANSFORMATION ELEVATING LIVES



## CIRCLES OF CULTURE.

#### A CHURCH FOR ALL GENERATIONS

The idea of Circles of Culture is to represent the interconnected areas of our mission and values. For us, **"culture"** means the **shared beliefs**, **values**, **and practices** that define who we are as a church and how we engage with the world around us. Each circle is a vital part of our community's purpose, expanding outward from our church family to the world beyond. This framework highlights our commitment to **growth**, **outreach**, **and transformation**, with each circle building upon the others to form a complete, holistic vision.

# Circle 1: The House

#### O Vision

To see our house filled, fully debt-free, and prepared to welcome worshippers into a thriving environment.



At the heart of Church on the Living Edge is **The House**—our church's main campus, where members, leaders, and support teams come together to create an inviting and spiritually enriching environment. The House represents our commitment to fill our church with worshippers, fostering a space that radiates God's presence and serves as a sanctuary for growth, connection, and transformation.

Our vision for **The House** is to establish a **debt-free**, **fully equipped church** space where our community can **worship**, **thrive**, **and be equipped for lives of service**. This journey is rooted in both a practical and spiritual calling: **to secure a sustainable foundation that will support our ministry and mission for generations to come**.

The pursuit of this vision unfolds in three phases: Starting debt 11 million | Current 5.8 million

- **Short Term,** we focus on upgrading our facilities to enhance the worship experience, creating an atmosphere that invites deeper encounters with God. **Estimated Cost | \$200k**
- **Mid Term,** we aim to reach the halfway mark on our mortgage payoff, setting a goal to achieve this milestone within three years (starting in 2025). This step brings us closer to financial freedom, allowing us to channel more resources into ministry and outreach.
- Long Term, our vision is to be fully debt-free within five years (2030), establishing The House as a lasting foundation for COTLE. A debt-free church will empower us to expand our impact, fulfilling God's purpose for our community with confidence and strength. **Debt free 5.8 million**

Together, we are building more than a physical space; we are establishing a spiritual home where lives are transformed, faith is nurtured, and our mission radiates outward, impacting the world around us.

## Circle 2: All Generations



#### Vision

Foster a spiritually nurturing and creatively empowering environment for all ages, from youth to adults, equipping each generation for impactful lives.

The All Generations circle includes our weekly ministry rhythm and demonstrates our commitment to creating an environment where people of every age—youth, children, adults, and seniors—can thrive in faith, creativity, and life skills. Church on the Living Edge aims to empower each generation with programs tailored to nurture spiritual growth, creative expression, and a sense of purpose.

This vision unfolds weekly and also includes ministry upgrades and two key initiatives:

- The COTLE House of Study: is a video resource platform offering theological and practical content for personal and spiritual development. It supports our community's growth in knowledge and faith.
- **Arts Embassy:** Founded and overseen by Pastor Chantel, this creative academy is designed to equip young people with artistic, business, and life skills. It merges mentorship with creative expression in a faith-based environment.

Our vision for All Generations unfolds in three phases:

- Short Term: We will complete dedicated room and equipment upgrades, enhancing engagement across all age groups. Estimated Cost | \$15k
- **Mid-term:** The Arts Embassy will be established on campus by mid-2025, offering mentorship and skill-building to a new generation of leaders. **Self-Funded**
- Long Term: The House of Study will roll out its first content by late 2025, providing accessible resources for spiritual growth. **Self-Funded**

Through the All Generations circle, we're creating a multi-generational community where everyone can explore faith, develop their gifts, and contribute to a thriving, purpose-filled church family.



The Local Missions circle embodies our commitment to serve and uplift the Orlando community, reaching out especially to those facing food insecurity and individuals who may struggle with limited mobility, such as shut-ins, the elderly, and disabled individuals. Through The Table, our food outreach program, we aim to provide consistent support and nourishment to those in need, embodying our church's mission to be a tangible source of compassion and hope.

Our vision for Local Missions includes expanding The Table's reach, securing essential resources, and ultimately building a dedicated facility that will serve as a hub for community outreach. This journey will help us better address the needs of our city, particularly in neighborhoods with high food insecurity.

This vision for Local Missions will be fulfilled in three phases:

- Short Term: We will acquire key equipment, such as conveyor rollers, four-wheel dollies, and additional pallet jacks, to enhance the efficiency and reach of our current operations. Estimated Cost | \$5k
- **Mid Term:** Over the next three years, we plan to upgrade our facilities, including expanding refrigerator space and improving parking and loading areas, to serve more people with greater ease. **Estimated Cost | \$25k**
- Long Term: By ten years, we envision launching a fully operational pantry and community facility debt free, complete with a new 24' truck for larger-scale food deliveries to those who need it most. Planning Phase

Through Local Missions, we are building a ministry that serves the practical needs of our neighbors, reflecting the love of Christ and creating a lasting impact within our community.

## Circle 4: Compassion and Relief

#### O Vision

Equip COTLE to respond compassionately and effectively to crises, extending God's love and provision in times of need.



The Compassion and Relief circle represents our commitment to be a compassionate presence in times of need, offering support to individuals and families affected by crises both locally and globally. Through this initiative, we aim to mobilize resources and create an aid network, extending hope and practical help to those facing hardship.

Our vision for Compassion and Relief includes building a sustainable disaster relief fund, establishing a dedicated crisis response team, and forming strategic partnerships with local and global organizations for a more significant impact.

This vision unfolds in three phases:

- **Short Term:** Within the first year, we will establish a disaster relief fund to ensure immediate financial support is available for emergency situations.
- **Mid Term:** We will organize a trained volunteer crisis response team equipped to provide hands-on assistance, prepared to act quickly and effectively as needs arise.
- Long Term: Over time, we will develop partnerships with established relief organizations, enabling a swift and coordinated response to larger-scale crises.
- Estimated Cost: Our long-term goal is to honor the principle of tithing as a church by setting aside a tithe of the tithe—10% for our missions work. This would enable us to dedicate 5% to local missions and 5% to global missions.

Through this circle, we embody our mission to bring hope, compassion, and practical aid in times of crisis, standing alongside those in need and showing the love of Christ through tangible acts of support.

## Circle 5: Global 7, Missions

#### Vision

Support and partner in God's work worldwide, advancing the gospel and nurturing sustainable ministry through global missions.



The Global Missions circle reflects our commitment to extend the reach of Church on the Living Edge beyond local borders, sharing the gospel and supporting spiritual growth in international communities. Through this circle, we aim to develop sustainable partnerships with global ministries, assist missionaries in key regions, and foster meaningful relationships that embody our mission to elevate lives worldwide. By building these connections, we are answering the call to make a lasting impact on a global scale, creating avenues for spiritual growth and tangible support in communities around the world.

This vision for Global Missions will be realized in three phases:

- **Short Term:** Within the next two years, we will establish partnerships in one or two key regions, laying the foundation for meaningful international ministry.
- **Mid Term:** We will organize annual mission trips, sending teams from COTLE to strengthen relationships, provide hands-on support, and assist ministries abroad.
- Long Term: Our ultimate goal is to create a sustainable international presence, supported by COTLE, enabling us to serve and uplift global communities for generations to come.
- Estimated Cost: Our long-term goal is to honor the principle of tithing as a church by setting aside a tithe of the tithe—10% for our missions work. This would enable us to dedicate 5% to local missions and 5% to global missions.

Through the Global Missions circle, we are building bridges of faith and support across borders, sharing the love of Christ with the world and embodying our vision to be a church that impacts lives globally.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

#### IT'S GO TIME

#### THE HEARTBEAT OF COTLE: A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

Generosity is woven into the fabric of our church's vision and mission, forming the foundation of each circle within COTLE. Our giving starts with the tithe, and through additional offerings and acts of service, we fuel our worship, support our ministries, and expand our reach. This culture of generosity allows us to be a beacon of hope within our community and beyond. As a church, we are committed to empowering every member to give, serve, and grow as a reflection of Christ's love.

Through faithful giving and stewardship, we build a sustainable and impactful church—one that honors God, uplifts people, and fulfills our mission to encounter God, experience transformation, and elevate lives.



### FUEL THE VISION

At Church on the Living Edge, we believe that **generosity is a profound act of worship**, a way to honor God with the resources He has entrusted to us. Rooted in biblical principles, giving reflects our gratitude, devotion, and commitment to God's kingdom. As members of COTLE, we are called to live by a different narrative—a narrative of generosity, faithfulness, and sacrifice that stands in contrast to the world around us.

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT: GENEROSITY BEGINS WITH THE TITHE

The foundation of our giving begins with the tithe—**the biblical practice of returning the first 10% of our income to God.** As described in Malachi 3:10, God invites us to "bring the whole tithe into the storehouse" so that His house may be provided for. The tithe is more than a duty; **it is an act of faith and obedience, symbolizing our trust in God as our provider.** By setting aside the first portion for God, we acknowledge that everything we have comes from Him and that He is our source.

In addition to the tithe, we are encouraged **to give offerings** beyond the tithe as an expression of generosity and worship. Proverbs 3:9–10 calls us to "honor the Lord from your wealth," promising that, in return, "your barns will be filled with plenty." When we give above and beyond, we step into the fullness of God's blessings, trusting that as we prioritize His kingdom, "all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

Finally, we believe in **the gift of giving.** The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (Romans 12:8). It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God. Those who want to use their gift of giving to help accelerate the vision of COTLE serve on **the Circle Builders Team.** 

Our financial gifts support the mission and vision of COTLE, enabling us to reach further, serve more effectively, and create a lasting impact both locally and globally. Giving is also a sacrificial act that aligns our hearts with God's purposes. As Psalm 50:23 teaches, "the one who sacrifices a thank offering honors me." Sacrificial giving isn't always easy, but it brings us into a deeper relationship with God, inviting His blessings and provision as we step out in faith.

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### SERVE THE VISION

#### TIME AND TALENTS: SERVING WITH PURPOSE

Beyond finances, stewardship includes the offering of our time, skills, and talents. Each of us has been uniquely gifted, and every member of COTLE has something valuable to contribute to the life of our church. Whether through serving in a ministry, joining outreach efforts, or supporting our various church initiatives, we are each called to use our talents in ways that align with God's mission for our church.

As we serve, we follow the example of Joshua 24:15, declaring, "as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Serving with excellence, integrity, and a willing heart is a way to honor God and bless others, reflecting our commitment to live out our faith in action. Through acts of service, we become vessels of God's love, creating a community marked by generosity, compassion, and impact.

ENCOUNTERING GOD

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### **OWN THE VISION**

God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done. **2 Corinthians 9:10 MSG** 

#### LEGACY OFFERING

Our Legacy offering is dedicated to paying off the \$50,000 monthly mortgage of our building. To achieve this goal, we've set three phases to move toward becoming completely debt-free:

- **Short Term (1 Year and on):** Meet our monthly mortgage needs consistently and begin reducing the principal balance.
- Mid Term (3 Years and on): Reduce the mortgage by 50% and free up resources for ministry expansion and community impact.
  - In three years, \$1.8 million in monthly payments with the proposed giving structure.
  - Half of the \$5.8 million mortgage is \$2.9 million, leaving a \$1.1 million remaining to hit goal.
    - Praying for God + Us to make up the difference.
    - Planning for Mid-Way Million Dollar Offering.
- Long Term (5 Years): Pay off the mortgage entirely, allowing the church to operate debt-free and invest fully in our mission.



### **OWN THE VISION**

#### LEVELS OF GIVING

Every member's participation is vital, no matter the amount. To make this vision a reality, we invite you to prayerfully commit to one of the following levels of giving:

- (\$100):
  - Contribution: 35% of \$50,000 = \$17,500
  - Minimum Participants: 175 participants
- (\$250):
  - Contribution: 35% of \$50,000 = \$17,500
  - Minimum Participants: 70 participants
- (\$500):
  - Contribution: 20% of \$50,000 = \$10,000
  - Minimum Participants: 20 participants
- (\$1,000):
  - Contribution: 10% of \$50,000 = \$5,000
  - Minimum Participants: 5 participants
- **One-Time Gifts:** consider making a one-time large gift to accelerate the vision.

We believe that when every member participates according to their ability, we will not only meet our goals but exceed them, creating a legacy of faith and financial freedom for generations to come.



### OWN THE VISION

#### FILL THE CIRCLES

GOD

The Circles of COTLE represent the heartbeat of our church's mission. Each circle provides a unique opportunity to serve and contribute to the vision of the church. As you read through the description of each circle, consider where your time, talents, or resources might best fit:

- The House: Can you contribute to building improvements or help maintain our facilities?
- All Generations: Do you have a heart for mentoring youth, supporting children's ministries, or engaging seniors?
- Local Missions: Are you passionate about outreach, such as The Table food pantry or community service projects?
- Crisis and Disaster Relief: Can you assist in organizing or supporting crisis response efforts locally and globally?
- Global Missions: Do you feel called to support international ministry, mission trips, or partnerships abroad?

Take a moment to reflect and pray about how you can step into one of these circles. Whether it's through financial support, volunteering, or offering expertise, every contribution matters. Together, we can fully own the vision and see God's purpose realized in and through our church.



# THE CHURCH WE SEE AT



Vision | Mission | Values

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