

Hello,

After a long season of prayer, discernment, and preparation, we have some significant news.

Katie and I have officially been approved as church planting missionaries with Missionary Church USA (MCUSA) and given the green light to plant a new church in Fillmore. MCUSA is the denomination that has commissioned us and will be walking alongside us throughout this church plant — providing accountability, ministry support, and coaching as we grow. They believe in what God is doing in Fillmore, and so do we.

We are also grateful for the blessing and support of several local churches as we seek partnerships.

This has been something that has been growing in our hearts for many years. Having lived in this community for over two decades, we've seen our community change and grow while many people remain disconnected from meaningful spiritual community. At the same time, we've met countless people who are open to conversations about faith but aren't sure where to start.

We believe God is opening a door to plant a church that is deeply rooted in Scripture, shaped by authentic relationships, and committed to serving the city with the love of Christ. We're grateful for the churches already serving this community, and we see this not as competition but as joining what God is already doing here.

We're starting simply — gathering people in homes, opening the Word together, and building a community centered around following Jesus in everyday life. Our goal this summer is to build our prayer, support, and financial teams so that this fall we can focus fully on people — deepening roots, and launching our first gatherings. Your partnership now helps make that possible.

We would greatly value your prayers as we step into this work. Church planting is ultimately spiritual work, and we are deeply aware of our dependence on the Lord in every step. Specifically, please pray for open hearts in our community, for a prayer team and core group to form around this vision, for the financial provision we need to launch well, and that God would grow a church that welcomes the people who don't yet feel like they have a place — those who are spiritually curious, spiritually wounded, or simply haven't found somewhere they belong.

We are also building a team of ministry partners who will support this work through financial giving. These partnerships make it possible for us to devote our time and energy to planting and leading this new church.

Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us financially? Whether that looks like a monthly commitment or a one-time gift, your support directly funds the work of reaching people in Fillmore with the gospel.

We would especially love the opportunity to share the vision in person. If you're local, we'd love to have you over in the coming weeks to talk about what God is doing, answer questions, and share more about the church plant.

We are also hosting informal vision dinners on Saturday, July 18, and Saturday August 1st at 6 pm. If you'd like to join us at either one, just text one of us and let us know which date works for you and how many will be coming. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

You can learn more about our vision, give, and find links to the Missionary Church at fillmoremissionary.org.

If you're not ready to partner financially right now, we encourage you to sign up for our newsletter while you're there — it's a great way to stay connected and keep up with what God is doing in Fillmore.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We are deeply grateful for the people God has placed around us and for everyone who chooses to partner with us through prayer, encouragement, and support.

We've included a photo magnet — stick it on your fridge and think of us when you pray.

Fillmore is home. These are our neighbors, our kids' friends, the people we run into at the supermarket and the park. We believe God is already at work here — and whatever church you call home, we'd be honored to have you standing with us as we seek to reach the lost.

With gratitude,

Tony & Katie Spore