

REACH QUARTERLY UPDATE

In March 2022, Citylight Church launched the Reach Initiative. Reach is a two-year generosity initiative with the primary goal of discipleship in generosity and the secondary goal of raising \$4.3M. A long-term facility will help us set down deep roots and bear lasting fruit as we reach more people with the gospel of Jesus Christ for years and decades to come in the Philadelphia region and beyond!

You are part of Citylight's Reach journey because every dollar given to Citylight over the next two years counts toward Reach. Thank you for your generosity! As we walk in faith-filled giving, I am reminded that we have the privilege of making an eternal impact with the Master's resources!

In the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), the Lord Jesus teaches his disciples, and by extension all of us, how to live in his Kingdom now while we wait for his return. He tells the story of a master, three servants, and the talents (money) that the master entrusted to each servant. Two servants take industrious risk with the master's talents, earn more talents, and are commended. The final servant buries his talent and is condemned. The parable teaches us as Jesus' disciples to make an eternal impact with our resources while we wait for his return. All of our resources are his. We are his stewards, and the stakes are eternally high.

Have you embraced Citylight's vision of making disciples of Jesus to the glory of God in Philadelphia and beyond for years to come? If so, would you consider making a generosity commitment at citylightphilly.com/reach? A generosity commitment can be a wonderful tool to help you make an eternal impact with the Master's resources.

In this quarterly update, you'll hear just a few of the many stories of people just like you who have made significant commitments toward Reach, as well as some recent Citylight highlights made possible by your generosity.

Joyfully with you,

MATT COHEN

OUR GOALS

100% *engagement*

We are inviting everyone who calls Citylight Church their home to give themselves first to the Lord, to embrace Reach, and to make a faith-filled generosity commitment

raise **\$4.3 M**

We believe God is calling us to raise the funds necessary for Citylight to secure a new, long-term facility for our congregation, while continuing our mission of making disciples of Jesus.

OUR PROGRESS



\$1,283,395.24

GIVEN TOWARDS OUR
2 YEAR **4.3 M** GOAL
(as of oct 15th)



"The lifelong process of learning to live completely through Christ has been harder on some days than others; but He continues to stay alongside me and that makes it all the more fruitful."

RUSLAN MURPHY
BAPTIZED AT CITYLIGHT
ON AUGUST 7, 2022

HOW CAN YOU BE *praying*

- That Jesus will be worshiped, that his people will be built up, that our neighbors will be served, and that many people will come from death to new life in him through this property for years and decades to come.
- That Citylight Church will finalize the purchase of 4050 Main Street in November.
- That the Lord will supply every financial need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- That Citylight Church leaders, along with our architecture firm, will design a facility that is ideal for worship and disciple making.
- That the Lord will lead Citylight Church to the best general contractor for the job and that construction will run as smoothly as possible.

for more, visit citylightphilly.com/reach

PROJECT UPDATE

After a 3.5 year long search for a facility, Citylight is under agreement and our members have officially voted to purchase the property at 4050 Main Street in Manayunk! In the process of the Lord leading us to this property, our denomination voted to give Citylight a \$1,000,000 gift toward the project! To our knowledge, this gift is truly unprecedented in our denomination, and reflects the great belief they have in our mission to reach Philadelphia.

The property is currently under agreement and in an extended due diligence phase while the seller works to clean up some final title issues. We anticipate closing on the property sometime in November! Please continue to pray that the Lord opens doors and gives us the right team to renew this property and transform it into a beautiful worship space.

MINISTRY UPDATE: ROXBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

“God’s ways are mysterious as the pathway of the wind...”
ECCLESIASTES 11:5

THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PARTNERSHIP

Citylight’s REACH Initiative is about our search for a long term facility AND our ability to put down deep roots in the Manayunk/Roxborough community. God, in his infinite wisdom, used this unique combination to connect Citylight with Roxborough High School (RHS).

It was while searching for a long term facility, that Pastor Tim ended up on a call with the Vice Principal of RHS, during which a few needs of the school were mentioned. God used this conversation to open the door for a partnership with the school, one we never anticipated, and a new way to grow deep roots in our community.

After that initial conversation, I sat down with the Vice Principal and discussed a myriad of productive ways for Citylight to support the students. On September 11, Citylight Manayunk fulfilled the first goal developed through those meetings by holding a supply drive and donating hundreds of school and personal hygiene supplies to RHS’s “store”, where economically insecure students are able to pick out supplies they need.

In response to the school social worker’s office being filled with the supplies she said, “I was blown away by the generosity of your congregation. Your donations will allow us to better address the needs of our students and we are so grateful!” With 30-40 Roxborough High students being housing insecure at any given moment, these donations will meet a real need at the school.

TRAGEDY AND RESPONSE

On September 27, several gunmen opened fire on football players leaving the high school field after a scrimmage between RHS and neighboring high schools. A 14 year-old-boy who played for RHS was killed and four others were wounded. The evil perpetrated against these children is inconceivable, and all of our hearts break for the students and staff as they grieve and navigate the horrors of this reality.

In God’s wisdom, he positioned Citylight in such a way that we were able to offer support in the wake of this tragic event. In God’s perfect timing, Citylight has been able to continually offer physical and spiritual support to staff and students. Had this happened even six months ago, that would not have been the case. His ways truly are “mysterious as the pathway of the wind...”. We could never have orchestrated this partnership with RHS, but God could, and did so in his perfect timing. While we continue to mourn, to stand with RHS and pray for the grieving school, we can also understand God’s hand in guiding Citylight’s roots deeper into the commu-



EMILY RONCA
Compassion Ministries Director