

A Citylight in Allentown, PA

With the Diaz Family

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A merger, a graduation, and a new building! These are just some of the exciting things that we would like to share with you about what the Lord is doing here in our east Allentown church plant.

In June 2022, the Lighthouse Bible Fellowship Church merged with Allentown Bible Church and became the Citylight Bible Church—a BFC plant. Merging is like blending two families together, and was a process that took about 9 months to formally confirm and commence. Since June, we have been working toward graduating as a mission church to become a particular church at BFC Conference in April 2023.

Praise the Lord, Citylight is moving from our Bingo Hall to a Beauty School! Our combined attendance of 80+ was too big for our former Genesee Street church building. As such, we meet and rent from the East Side Youth Center Social Hall (aka Bingo Hall.) This location has been a blessing but also has several drawbacks including very limited mid-week availability and little visibility for people to find us. Therefore, we asked the Lord to provide a 24-7 building to better



pursue our mission. God did many big things to allow us to find a great location at 1921 Union Boulevard. We are excited and humbled by this awesome resource. Praise the Lord for the down payment. Pray for the Lord's continued provision for funds for renovations, furnishings, etc.

As exciting as a new church building is we all know that a church is ultimately not a building. The real church is the people. As such, praise and pray for God's continued blessings, wisdom, and grace for this church plant. We believe, by God's grace, that we are already seeing fruit and growth, but pray that we can continue to grow together as disciples in godly fellowship including the recent launch of Life Groups along with youth, women, and men's groups.



We are the Citylight Bible Church
(Formerly Lighthouse BFC)
A Bible Fellowship Church-Plant in East Allentown.
Our mission is to follow Christ in grace and truth
in the City of Allentown and beyond.

Last but not least, pray for the mission and witness of Citylight. Pray as we plan a launch for our new location. May we take every opportunity to share Christ's love with family, friends, and neighbors. Pray for compassion, boldness, and grace in our day-to-day opportunities and also our forward planning as a body of Christ to reach the broken yet beautiful people of East Allentown and beyond.

Matthew 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in hea

GRADUATION: Lord willing, Citylight Bible Church will graduate from Church Extension at BFC Conference in April 2023. At that time, we will be recognized as a particular church. Church Extension has three requirements for graduation: at least two qualified laymen who are able to serve as elders, at least 20 committed participants, and the ability to be financially self-supporting. Director David Gundrum and some Church Extension Board members recently assessed our elder candidates and they have been approved. We have many more than 20 committed participants who were assessed through our merging process to make sure that each one holds to the Articles of Faith of the BFC and are committed to Citylight Bible Church. For now, because of our building purchase process and because of the challenges which come with being an urban church plant, Church Extension will continue to assist financially. There is a plan in place for us to increasingly take on more financial responsibility.

FAMILY UPDATES: Thank you for keeping not just our ministry, but also our family in your prayers. We all are involved in these exciting days for our church. We enjoy fellowshiping and serving with each other and with all our old and new brothers and sisters in Christ. In addition to Sunday worship, Angelica and I help with our mid-week Youth Group and monthly Life Group. Angelica continues as a part-time cafeteria worker at a public elementary school. Our oldest son, Josh, is a business major at Lehigh Carbon Community College. Jacob is a senior at Salem Christian School. Pray as he looks forward to graduating. Danny is in 8th grade at Salem and is enjoying playing basketball. Pray we can continue to grow as faithful disciples and witnesses for Christ.



Rick Dobrowolski (right) and I recently met with fellow church planter Los Morales. We are all church planting in an urban context.

Praise and Prayer

1. PRAISE the Lord for all that He has been doing here including our merger and now His providing a church building for us.
2. PRAY as the Lord provides toward the purchase closing, renovations, launching, etc.
3. PRAY for our two staff ministers, Rick Dobrowolski and I, and our other lay leaders form our new Elders Team.
4. PRAY as all our people use their gifts to continue to better worship and witness Christ in the City of Allentown and beyond.
5. PRAISE for all the ministries that are making disciples of men, women, and children including our Student Ministries, which Angelica and I are especially involved with.
6. PRAY for our young people to keep knowing, growing, and showing Christ in their lives and world.
7. PRAISE & PRAY for all the opportunities and needs of Citylight Bible.
8. PRAY for our support needs.