



I'M
IN Ownership
GUIDEBOOK

“Everyone, no matter where they put themselves on the spiritual spectrum, can chose to take a healthy next step. And every healthy step moves us toward Jesus.”

- *Todd King*

WELCOME





Todd King, Lead Vision Pastor

Why Ownership?

In 2015, the elders of CTK began to wrestle with what to do about membership. We considered giving it up all together, but came to the conclusion that there's something special—and biblical—about challenging people to commit to a preferred future.

We believe that membership calls for a minimum benchmark of commitment, so we developed the principle and process of ownership. The purpose? To form a dedicated core of believers who've made themselves available to Jesus so he can create a powerful movement that will impact our city, our region, and our world. This core is critical for the health of the church.

You've heard the saying, "*ownership has its privileges.*" If you choose to buy in—if you choose to own the mission of this church—you'll reap the benefits. Here are some obvious ones:

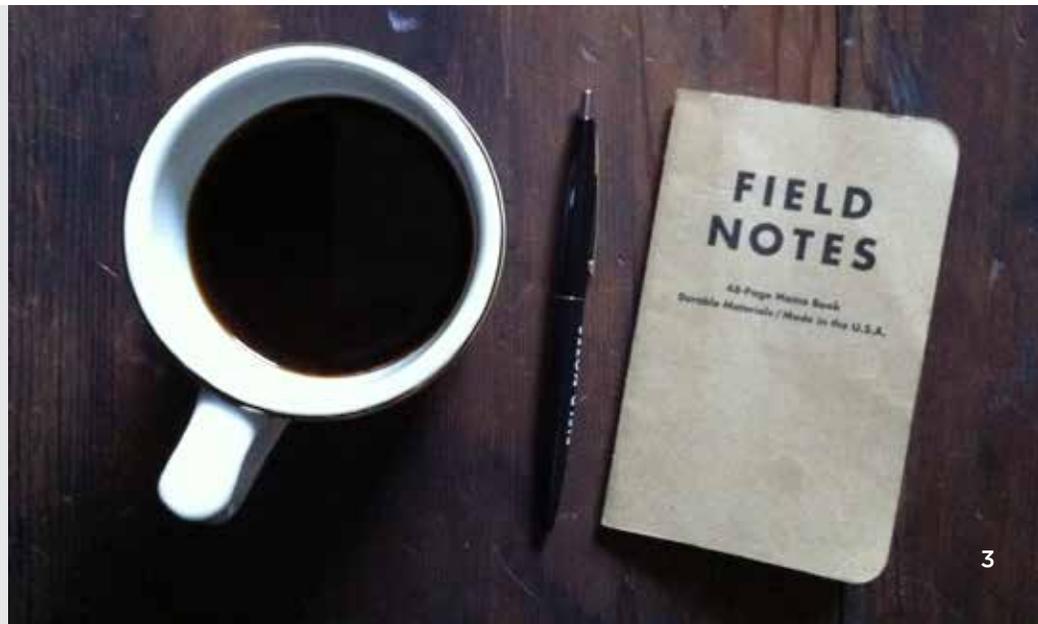
1. You get to join a system of mutual accountability that helps you mature spiritually
2. You'll experience a deeper sense of belonging
3. You have voting rights for congregational decisions and certain leadership roles
4. You have a chance to offer feedback and input to the elders by participating in events such as Leadership Advance
5. You're eligible to be on special committees, to give feedback for certain specific vision steps, or even to help implement special projects or events

Ownership is not just about embracing the mission of the church. It's not just about access and belonging to this church, because from the day you show up we want you to belong. Ultimately, ownership means that you are functioning as a vital member of the body of Christ. And that is something you cannot put a value on. It is simply the best life possible.

Blessings,
Todd

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

-2 Corinthians 1:21-22



A photograph of autumn leaves on water. The top half shows a close-up of orange and yellow leaves floating on the surface. The bottom half shows a reflection of a forest with tall trees and a blue sky, with a large, vibrant pink leaf in the foreground.

MILESTONES

A Brief History of Christ the King Church

In 1988, a congregation of 54 people invited a new pastor to lead their church. Together, they agreed to form a new church founded on three commitments:

1. We will devote ourselves to worshipping God—not just in church, but as a lifestyle.
2. We will dedicate ourselves to the mission of reaching people who do not know Christ as their Savior.
3. We will determine to obey the one-another commands of scripture through the ministry of small groups.

Today, those three commitments remain the foundation of our ministry at Christ the King Community Church. Though the methods and styles of fulfilling them have changed, we are still focused on loving God, loving each other, and loving others to God.

A. CTK began as County Christian Center in the Viking Twin Theater

B. A handful of the original 54 members of CTK

- 1988 Laurel Campus (original 54 members)
- 1995 Horton Road Campus expansion
- 1996 CTK Food Bank Opens
- 1998 Cordata Place (Phase 1)
- 1999 CTK Mount Vernon church plant*
- 2001 North County CTK church plant (Lynden)
- 2003 North Bay CTK church plant (Birch Bay)
- 2003 Cordata Place (Phase 2)
- 2003 Grant Fishbook becomes Senior Pastor
- 2004 1st Annual CTK Blessing Fund
- 2007 Redeemer Church Plant (Bellingham)
- 2009 CTK Ferndale campus launch
- 2012 CTK Downtown campus launch
- 2012 CTK Sudden Valley campus launch
- 2016 CTK North Bay rejoins the CTK Network

* CTK Mount Vernon began launching their own network of churches throughout Skagit County, the US and internationally in 2001 with several locations.



OUR ROAD MAP



Our Mission *Why Do We Exist?*

Our mission is to create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people, in love, acceptance and forgiveness, so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.

Our Vision *What is Our Preferred Future?*

Our vision is to become a healthy, sending church movement that carries the hope of Jesus to individuals, communities, and nations.

Our Values *What's Important To Us?*

- **Authenticity:** We choose to be real with God, real with others, and real with ourselves. We will not live false, idealistic, or hidden lives.
- **Simplicity:** We choose the least complicated approach to our beliefs, decision-making, ministry processes, language, and engaging people. We will not make access to truth, knowledge, leading or serving difficult.
- **Empowerment:** We choose to give away responsibility and authority, deploying all believers in the ministry. We will not reserve meaningful roles for professional staff only.
- **Relationally Driven:** We choose a relational approach to ministry and decision-making.
- **Outward Focus:** We care as much about those who are outside the family of God as those who are in it.

Our Work *What Do We Do?*

- **Healthy Leadership:** We create sustainable growth by identifying, deploying, training and supporting healthy leaders. These leaders take personal responsibility for their spiritual, relational, emotional, and financial health.
- **Evangelism:** We love people who are far from God, tell our story and God's story to others, and bring our whole selves (including our faith) into every environment.
- **Discipleship:** We make disciples through worship (loving God), community (loving others), and outreach (loving others to God).
- **Serving Other:** We meet practical needs in our community and beyond through individual efforts, ministry partnerships, and church-wide partnerships.

Our Beliefs *What Biblical Truths Anchor Us?*

- Christ the King Church's full doctrinal statement is included on the Ownership Application and can also be found online at www.ctk.church/beliefs.

“Visions are holy commodities — treat them with the utmost respect.”

— Bill Hybels



6 CORE COMMITMENTS OF CTK OWNERS



To be an owner at Christ the King Church means actively participating in six practices that have defined Christians since the Church began in the first century. We refer to these as the six core commitments of ownership.

The more people at CTK who are committed to these six practices, the healthier our church will be.

1. Consistently cultivating a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ

- Jesus taught us what this looks like when he said: “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.” Likewise, we are called to personally own the work of the gospel in our own lives (John 4:34).
- As an owner you are responsible for your own devotional life.
- While there are many spiritual pathways, reading the Bible and prayer are the most foundational of these spiritual disciplines. Of course there are many other components of personal worship such as fasting, silence, solitude, music, and journaling.

“As owners, our commitment to a vibrant relationship with Jesus is really a commitment to a deep friendship; one that sustains us, sharpens us, encourages us, and brings joy to us—and to Jesus—for a lifetime.”

– Dan McEvoy, Campus Pastor
CTK North Bay



2. Consistently participating in biblical community

- Small groups are our vehicle for biblical community. This is where we share our lives, mutually care for each other, discuss the Bible, and go deeper with other Christians who are pursuing God.
- Why? We believe discipleship primarily happens in smaller settings. We believe the Great Commission is a mandate. We believe that obeying God in all aspects of our lives really does matter.
- See Acts 5:42, John 13:34-35, Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Timothy 2:22



“You cannot fully grow and mature as a follower of Jesus outside of authentic Christian community or relationships. It’s just not possible.”

– Rich Warriner, Campus Pastor
CTK Ferndale



3. Consistently reaching out to people who are far from God

- We are an outward-focused church. We don't just think about, plan for and serve those who are already here. We are here for those who are *about to come*.
- Jesus' proclamation—*I have come to seek and save the lost*—still matters. His passion is our passion (Luke 19:10).

“If we truly believe that the single greatest gift we can give another person is to introduce them to Jesus Christ, let's do all we can to remove the man-made barriers that make this unnecessarily harder for those who don't know Jesus yet.”

– Melonie Kemp,
Community Life Pastor
CTK Bellingham



4. Consistently serving in a CTK ministry or another ministry that aligns with our mission, vision and values

- The church isn't a building; the church is the Body of Christ—it's people.
- The Scriptures demonstrate over and over that the church is made of many people who share with one another the spiritual gifts that God has given them. As we serve one another, the body of Christ is built up and strengthened (Galatians 5:13, 1 Peter 4:10, Ephesians 6:7)
- Jesus modeled service as a core function of ministry (Mark 10:45).
- With all the gifting God has given us, some of us will serve within the building and programs of CTK, while others will serve outside our ministry environment for the glory of God in our community.

"We believe that not only did God give this church to you, but he gave you to this church. You have spiritual gifts, talents, abilities, passions, and experiences that enable you to fill a unique role in this church."

*- Angel Finsrud
Family Ministry Director
CTK Bellingham*



5. Consistently stewarding personal resources to finance the ministry of CTK

- God wants *every part* of us. When we are generous with our financial resources, this helps create a generous heart in every area of our lives.
- We believe that tithing is our minimum benchmark—that as owners, we would all tithe so the ministry of Jesus Christ could advance here in Whatcom County.
- Paul says the point is this: “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
– 2 Corinthians 6-7

“There is no greater giver than God himself. He’s the most radically generous giver there is, and he’s made us in his own image. We were made to give. We were made for radical generosity.”

– Rob Rogers, Campus Pastor
CTK Downtown





A weekend worship service at our Bellingham campus

6. Consistently attending corporate worship gatherings

- The Book of Acts describes the early church meeting in the temple courts and from house to house. For us today, the weekend service is our “temple court” gathering.
- “Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing...”
– Hebrews 10:24-25
- When we gather in corporate worship, we believe the body is built up for the glory of Jesus Christ. To have a consistent practice of learning and worshipping together is truly good for the soul.

“It’s through your faithful and consistent attendance that the body at Christ the King Church can support, encourage, build each other up, and convene with the living God who desires and deserves our active worship.”

– Jason Manning, Campus Pastor
CTK Sudden Valley



CTK Downtown Campus Pastor, Rob Rogers

NEXT STEPS

At the core of every healthy church is a committed group of people who...

love Jesus more than anything...

love others who love Jesus more than anything...

reach out to people who are far from God...

steward their resources in a way that proves they love Jesus more than anything...

are committed to living in biblical community...

serve people the way that Jesus served — with humility and passion.



Opportunities for CTK Owners

There are a growing number of ways we are involving more of our owners and key volunteers in our planning and development:

1. **Leadership Advance**—the elders invite a few owners from each major ministry area in the church to give their feedback and input regarding specific topics (e.g. state of the church, small groups at CTK).
2. **Leadership Initiatives**—there are specific parts of our church that need focused development, and we call on people for their support.

I'm in! How do I become an owner?

1. You've taken the first step by attending this Ownership Class.
2. Next, fill out an ownership application and return it to your campus office (or campus pastor if your location does not have a permanent office).
3. We will review your application and an ownership team member from your campus will contact you.



To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

— 1 Peter 5:1-4

OUR VISION

to become a
HEALTHY, SENDING
church MOVEMENT
that carries
THE HOPE OF JESUS
to individuals,
communities,
and nations

