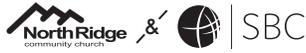


Better TOGETHER



NORTH RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH ELDER BOARD SUMMARY & FAQ FOR NRCC MEMBERS AND CONGREGATION

Thank you for your kind and earnest attention to all the information that's been presented. We look forward to your inquiries to understand the reasons for our unanimous recommendation to merge with Scottsdale Bible Church. We encourage you to read the "Better Together" brochure that will answer many of the questions that may immediately come to mind as you consider the proposed merger.

Our Board also wishes to share some additional information that we believe specifically pertains to your considerations as fellow members of North Ridge Community Church. In between the lines, we hope you will also sense our shared heartfelt love for this church and its ministry.

Overview

The leadership of North Ridge Community Church (NRCC) and Scottsdale Bible Church (SBC) believe God is guiding us to an exciting new future! After several months of conversation, prayer and deep consideration of the mission, vision and direction of both churches, the Senior Pastors and Elder Boards of both churches believe God is leading us to join together as one church. We have come to believe that this is the best way for our individual communities to more effectively reach the people of Scottsdale and Cave Creek with the love and hope of Jesus Christ, and that God is opening a door for us to move into the future together. Consequently, on Sunday, July 22, 2018, the NRCC Elder Board (which includes Pastor Mike Burnidge) voted unanimously in favor of recommending to the NRCC congregation that they approve the merger between NRCC and SBC.

How did this merger idea come about?

One of the duties of the Elder Board is to develop and implement a succession plan for key employees of NRCC. In light of that responsibility, for several years the Board has recognized and discussed the significance of the eventual retirement of our two beloved and long-serving pastors, Senior Pastor Mike Burnidge and Executive Pastor, Dan King. In January 2017, we began more specific discussions about their intentions to retire, and additional discussions were held throughout 2017 at various Elder meetings.

In January 2018, Pastor Mike provided the Elder Board with his retirement step-away date of June/July 2021, and we began active succession planning. At that time, both he and our Board were totally unaware that SBC was considering a

satellite campus north of Highway 101 in the Cave Creek—North Scottsdale area. Then, in late February, SBC came to us with an unsolicited proposal for a possible merger as a starting point for effective dialogue. Following the receipt of the proposal, our Board held two executive sessions to consider two different strategies for succession planning: 1) a traditional nationwide executive search and 2) the proposed merger with SBC.

Why are we considering a merger?

In the beginning of our deliberations, the traditional option of a national search was discussed at some length. The one factor that weighed significantly into our considerations was that successful pastoral transitions involving beloved, long-tenured leaders like Mike and Dan have historically been very challenging, even painful. We also knew that regardless of the pastoral succession plan we chose, our church family would encounter many of the same issues, risks, and concerns. After careful, prayerful deliberation, we chose to examine the merger proposal first before we felt we could seriously pursue the traditional search.

As we began investigating the merger option, it became clear that because of our shared heritage and our mutual understanding of mission and vision, a merger was a real possibility. While both churches are at different points in their history, both recognize they are "made for more." As we continued our investigation, the mutual advantages of the merger became increasingly apparent.

1. The merger would allow the two Bible-based churches to leverage their combined congregational strengths, talents, and locations to generate an exciting and dynamic Kingdom impact in this community that neither church could generate on its own.
2. It would allow NRCC to benefit from SBC's already effective pastoral and leadership team, as well as the infrastructure, policies, and procedures that they have developed for Kingdom growth.
3. It would also provide many families living in our area who currently call SBC home the option of attending a campus nearby, making it easier to invite their neighbors while at the same time alleviating the overcrowding at their Shea campus.

4. If there was no merger with NRCC, SBC would be pressed to create a separate campus in our area, and we believed the mutual goal of reaching more people for Christ would be done better together in a spirit of cooperation rather than in one of competition.
5. Last but not least, alongside these advantages, as our Board continued to discuss these opportunities together, we were continually encouraged by the humility and sincerity of the SBC leadership team.

In summary, we have chosen this proposal believing a merger with SBC with its capable pastoral staff and strong leadership team affords us the most promising transition to a vital witness for Christ in our next chapter of ministry.

ADDITIONAL FAQ NOT INCLUDED IN THE BETTER TOGETHER BROCHURE

Will our church have a new name and if so, what will it be?

The name of the church will be Scottsdale Bible Church – North Ridge Campus.

What will happen to the church board and committees?

Scottsdale Bible Church is governed by an Elder Board consisting of up to 18 church members and the Senior Pastor, Jamie Rasmussen. The Elder Board governs all campuses of SBC. Upon completion of the merger, North Ridge's Elder Board will be dissolved, however, Winn Sammons, current Chairman of the Board at North Ridge, will join the SBC Elder Board, and two to three other North Ridge Elders will join various committees of the SBC Elder Board.

What will happen to the North Ridge facilities?

Significant financial investments will be made to many areas of the church over the next six months, including sound, light and video improvements that will make it an ideal environment for a broadcast message (both ways), transformed children's spaces to reflect SBC Discovery Kids look and feel, and a refreshed Café among other things.

How will assets and finances be managed?

SBC will determine a consolidated annual income and expense budget which will include those of each campus. If the merger is approved, effective with the closing, all properties and facilities of NRCC will be transferred to SBC, and SBC has agreed to assume \$1.1 million in outstanding NRCC mortgage debt. In turn, NRCC will enjoy the benefits of all the SBC's properties, facilities and equipment, post-closing. Each campus of SBC is a separate Limited Liability Corporation, though it reports income and expenses as a combined entity. Its financial reports are available and closely monitored by the Elders and the Finance Council.

What will happen with current NRCC memberships?

Members from NRCC will be given the opportunity to transfer their membership to SBC. The transferred membership will be for one year. SBC requires annual membership renewal. SBC will offer its membership class a few times in September and October for any NRCC attendee or member who wishes to attend, although it is not required to transfer membership.

Who determines if this merger happens?

Though this is unanimously recommended by the Senior Pastor, Executive Pastor and Elder Board of North Ridge, the final decision will be determined by the congregational approval of the members of North Ridge Community Church on September 30. Scottsdale Bible Church does not require a membership vote to approve the merger, as its Elder Board has already unanimously approved it.

If the merger happens, what will change?

All of the core ministries of North Ridge will remain, though most will have a name that is consistent with how things are referred to at SBC and its current campuses. The campus will have a Campus Pastor and team that will be responsible for making sure the SBC mission and vision is carried out.

What is the timeline for this proposed merger?

Following the announcement of the proposed merger on August 26, town hall meetings are scheduled at NRCC on Wednesday, August 29; Sunday, September 9; and Sunday, September 16. The North Ridge membership will vote on Sunday, September 30. Approval of the merger requires 50% plus one of the voting NRCC members. SBC members do not need to vote to approve the merger. The first service as a SBC-North Ridge campus will take place on January 13, 2019. Between October 1 and January 13, physical improvements will be made in preparation for the first SBC-North Ridge service. Pastor Mike and the Elders will continue to lead NRCC through this transition season in cooperation with SBC, culminating on Christmas Eve. The grand opening on January 13, 2019 coincides with the 25th anniversary of NRCC being launched as a church plant of Scottsdale Bible Church.