

# Openchurch, Copenhagen - Denmark



## Why Church?

The Church is the hope of the world. It is “Plan A” and the only plan that Jesus put in motion almost 2000 years ago. From the very beginning, Christian fellowship was inclusive and filled with invitations to become a part of His Family.

The Church became the extended family with God as father and human kind as brothers and sisters. The Christian community breaks culture, language and social barriers between people and creates a common standpoint. A standpoint that is all about releasing heavens culture on Earth. Our experience is that if Church works as Jesus intended it will take care of of all the issues facing mankind.

## About Openchurch

Openchurch is a meeting place for people with a wide variety of backgrounds. For us, "church" is a community of people who are discovering life. We do not think there is a better place to discover life than God, the creators of life. Whether you are single or married, with or without children, young or old, student, employee or self-employed, there is a high likelihood that you will meet people similar to you at Openchurch.

Openchurch is now 10 years old and now gathering about 500 people in Herning, 10<sup>th</sup> largest city in Denmark, Europe. In January 2018 we launched Openchurch, Ndola, Zambia. This church-plant was birthed out of relationship and former Youth pastor Malene Vejnoe moved to Zambia with Her Family and is now leading the church there.

**“Planting new churches is the most effective evangelistic methodology known under heaven.”**

*-C. Peter Wagner*



Openchurch is zooming in on Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark. A city with less than 0,7% going to church on a Sunday in a City of 1.308.893 people(2018). Like Zambia this church-plant is birthed out of relationship as one of the four founding pastors couples of Openchurch, Herning. Christina & Thomas Christensen will head up the plant in Copenhagen, together with a great team.

## **About Copenhagen, Denmark**

Copenhagen(CPH) is growing. Since 1995 there is become 28% more people, and population growth is expected to continue towards 2030. CPH is a young city with a large proportion of young people citizens and has Denmark’s lowest average age of 35.9 years.

CPH is on the shortlist every year as one of the worlds most liveable cities and also Denmark is named every year as one of the happiest nations in the world. Even with all this “good news” Denmark is becoming more and more secular and godless. The message of hope is needed more than ever, with almost 1 in 6 people on antidepressants and so many who live in distress and depression. The gospel need to be reintroduced to Denmark and CPH.

With Openchurch, Herning already winning Danes who are far from God, the DNA for a soul-winning Church reaching Danes is already established and we are ready to launch in more Danish cities and Europe. Starting in the youngest and fastest growth areas in the our Nation.



## MEET THE TEAM

### *Lead pastors*

#### *Christina & Thomas Christensen*

Have been pastoring for 15 years. The last two years Thomas has been helping planting churches in Albania, as well as doing ministry around the world. Both native to Copenhagen and have a burning desire to see the City won for Jesus.



#### *Keizia & Eik Bidstrup*

After pastoring for more than 20 years. Eik is now working in politics and is currently mayor of one of the cities of CPH. Burns with a passion for Church planting and entrepreneurship.

#### *Celine Kjær & Simon Hrivňák*

After two years of bible college they are moving to Copenhagen and have a vision and heart to reach the next generation. Both are also very skilled musicians.



Beside the three couples there is further more five other couples and some young single people that will make up the Leadership- and Core-team. We aim at a leadership team of about 8 people and Core-team made up of about 30 people. Before we are ready to Launch we need a critical mass of 50 people to join our launch-team.



## God-Centered

Christ is the Centre of the Church – His bride, whom He died for. As a Church our focus is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and the Word of God the foundation for teaching and life. We desire to reflect the hope found in Christ, restore children back to the Father’s love, and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our services are a celebration of the life we have in God as we corporately come together to worship and feed from the Word. All members are encouraged to walk in discipleship and a lifestyle of worship. “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.” Genesis 28:17

## Purpose-Driven

The church by design is missional in its purpose; we are to bring the lost home into a loving family. As a church body we are united in a Kingdom purpose to reach and influence people in our community, in our nation, and to the ends of the world.

Leadership exists to train and equip people to reach their full potential, to discover, grow and use their gifts for the expansion of the Kingdom. We want to be outward focused in everything we do – without compromising our devotion to God. We want to express relevance, creativity and excellence.

“The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The Church is Christ’s body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.” Ephesians 1:22-23 (MSG)

## People-Focused

Church is a family of all ages, where generations come together in unity. The church family is a safe place where broken lives are being restored and brought into fullness. All believers are on an ongoing journey towards maturity; always growing in our love for God and people. This journey is done in loving community with other believers. Our communication and style is lively, relaxed and contemporary marked by a strong sense of personal belonging.



## MISSION STATEMENT

Therefore we want to be so **generous** that we add value to society, so **compassionate**, that we touch every single person, so **vibrant** that we make sense in our time, so **authentic** that we put God first, so **courageous** that we make room for diversity and help people find their God given purpose in life.

We want to build an untraditional church that is fun and easy to be a part of, where people flourish in their gifting and calling. A creative environment that inspires excellence and innovation.

## The church that we see

We want a church where the lost find a home and are welcomed into a loving family of believers, where people grow in authentic community as a natural part of everyday life.

We want a church led by men and women, who will lead with a servant heart and lay their lives down to equip ordinary people to live extraordinary lives, and influence all spheres of society.



We want to create worship that reflects God at work in our world today. People joining in joyful praise and reverent worship that glorifies our King.

We want a church of diversity. Different cultures and people groups equally valued and loved. People freely expressing their devotion to God and growing in a personal relationship with Him.

We want to communicate a clear message of hope through Jesus Christ. A church built on unalterable values, but always in beat with the current culture in how to present the gospel.

We will be devoted to prayer, releasing heaven on earth. A church so dependent on the Holy Spirit that nothing will stop it or be able to stand against it; a church where the supernatural is natural.

We want to be a resourceful church marked by generosity and integrity. A church intentional about the Great Commission, and setting new standards for social and spiritual work in the society.



We will gather generations under a clear vision. A church that comes alongside parents to raise, train and equip the next generation as devoted followers of Christ.

## Get involved

You are reading this because we need your help to launch a church in Copenhagen. First and foremost we need prayer partners. We have already seen God do wonderful things, but we need Him more and more everyday. So thank you for lifting us in prayers. See prayer topics below. Secondly Copenhagen is a expensive city to plant a Church, so we need financial partners to help us with establishing the church. We expect to be totally self-reliant within 3 years (see the budget below.) Lastly we need a strong launch team and if you want to become a church-planter intern or know somebody moving to Copenhagen let us know. Help at Openchurch, CPH by investing your time, talents, and treasures.

## Pray

For the people of Copenhagen.

That 99,3% would come to know that God loves them.

For our leadership-, core- and launch-team.

For the doors to open and the road made smooth.

For protection and unity.

For strong and healthy families.

For the finances that God will provide what we need, when we need it.

## Give

-Consider giving a one time gift for startup cost.

-Consider giving a monthly gift for a year or two/three years commitment.

-Our goal is to be self sustaining by year 3

## Strategic Partners reference

We believe the best way to reach people far from God is through the local Church. Its our desire to plant churches where God opens the door through friends and ministry-partners. We have know Christina and Thomas for about 13 years and I'm thrilled to partner with them to plant a new church in Copenhagen.

**Openchurch, Herning, DK**

Senior Pastor, Lars Bo Olesen

## Our Desire

We will expect to be self-reliant within three years of the pre-launch, We already have most of the soundgear, almost free offices and a midtweek gathering-place. Also most of the saleries are covered by the leadership-team. We will aim at being self-reliant in 2020 and in 2018 we will be able to cover 33% of the expenses within the leadership team. in 2019 we should be able to cover 66% of the overall cost.

## Openchurch, Copenhagen

Budget 2018 (33% self-reliant)

Budget 2019 (66% self-reliant)

Budget 2020 (90% self-reliant)

INCOME	
Tithing (leadership team)	14.000 \$
Gifts (launch team)	2.000 \$
Outside Fundraising	15.000 \$
Support from other churches	11.500 \$
<b>ALL INCOME</b>	<b>42.500 \$</b>

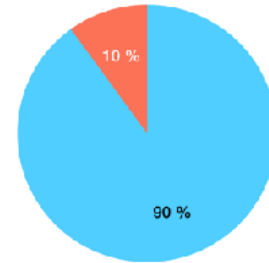
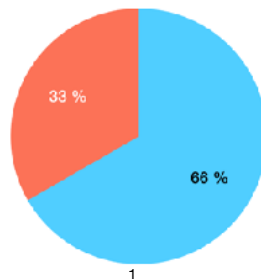
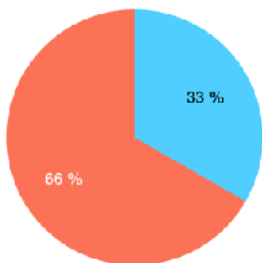
INCOME	
Tithing & Gifts	46.000 \$
Gifts (launch team)	16.000 \$
Outside Fundraising	14.000 \$
Support from other churches	10.000 \$
<b>ALL INCOME</b>	<b>86.000 \$</b>

INCOME	
Tithing & Gifts	83.000 \$
Outside Fundraising	8.000 \$
Support from other churches	5.000 \$
<b>ALL INCOME</b>	<b>96.000 \$</b>

EXPENSES	
Staff salaries	11.200 \$
Equipment	6.000 \$
Media and marketing	9.000 \$
Facilities	11.000 \$
Savings	4.810 \$
<b>ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>42.010 \$</b>

EXPENSES	
Staff salaries	27.000 \$
Equipment	12.000 \$
Media and marketing	14.000 \$
Facilities	18.000 \$
Savings	9.100 \$
<b>ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>80.100 \$</b>

EXPENSES	
Staff salaries	28.800 \$
Equipment	14.000 \$
Media and marketing	20.000 \$
Facilities	19.200 \$
Savings	9.600 \$
<b>ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>91.600 \$</b>



## Our Goal

The following will be a guiding principle in distribution a healthy distributing key for sustainable growth. We wish to be good stewards of what God gives. We will aim at using:

- 20% On Activities - 10% On Outreach
- 20% On Facilities - 10% On Savings
- 30% On Staff - 10% On Administration

## Our Need

Healthy things grows and this is true with churches as well. The launch-team consist of a mix of 6 veteran church-planters and a group of freshly young “out of bible college” people. This means that we will have a great mix of youthful drive and the backbone of experience and knowhow. Also the connection to the “mother church” and a 3 hour drive will give us the support system that is needed to succeed with a church plant in a secular and unreached city. We need to raise more prayer- and financial-support. The finances will go toward out-reach, media and for rent/facilities.



# Strategic Plan and milestones

## **Phase 1. (April-July 2018) - Planning Stage**

Develop Masterplan for Openchurch CPH

Recruit Leadership- and Core-team

Establish Openchurch as a entity in Copenhagen (adresse, contact info and so on)

Develop administration (bank account, offices)

Break the news - Making website and social media ready

Help with transition for team moving to Copenhagen

Establish and meet monthly with the leadership team (8 people)

Defining roles and responsibilities with-in the launch team.

## **Phase 2. (August - December 2018) Preparing for launch**

Office preparation

Find location for "Pulse" gatherings (vision) monthly

Monthly "Pulse" (vision-night)

Training life group leaders

Begin meeting with the core team (30 people)

## **Phase 3. (January-april 2019) Practise**

Continue Training of life group leaders

Take in 7 Interns to live and work fulltime in the church

Monthly services (high octane)

Continue Monthly "Pulse" (vision-night)

Monthly "Social" (outreach-night)

Lift Conference at Openchurch, Herning (15-16 march2019)

Easter Service (21.April.2019)

## **Phase 4. (April-august 2019) Launch Openchurch, Copenhagen**

Begin meeting with launch-team (50 people)

Launch bi-weekly life groups

Pentecost Sunday service (9.June.2019)

Launch weekly services

Recruit future Church planters

## **Phase 5. Repeat phase 1-4**

Launch church planting hub

Release and send the next team to plant another Church

## What we believe

### God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has existed from eternity as 3 persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This is what we call the Trinity; mutual equality, living in complete unity, and together one God. *Gen 1:1, 26, 27, 3:22, Psalm 90:2, Matt 28:19, 2. Cor. 13:14, 1. Pet. 1:2*

### Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God (*John 3:16*) He was born of the Virgin Mary. (*Is 7:14*) He lived a Sinless life (*2 Cor 5:21*) and gave himself as the perfect sacrifice atoning for the sin of all people by dying on the cross. (*Heb 10:1-14*) After 3 days he rose victoriously from the grave (*Luke 24:1-7*) and defeated sin and death for all eternity. He ascended to Heaven, sits at the right hand of God the Father and intercedes for us. (*Heb 7:25*) One day Jesus will return to earth to reign as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, *Matt 1:22-23, Isa. 9:6, John 1:1-5, 14:10-30, Acts 1:9-11, Rom. 1:3-4, 1. Cor. 15:3-4, 1. Tim 6:14-15, Tit. 2:13*

### The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equal to God the Father and God the Son. He is present in the world to draw People's attention to their need for salvation through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit lives in every believer from the moment, they become born again. (*Acts 2:38-39*) The Holy Spirit gives power, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance to live a godly life. (*Acts 1:8*) He gives every believer spiritual gifts for the edification, exhortation and comfort of the Church, which is the body of Christ (*1 Cor 12:4-11*) As Christians we pursue to daily life under His guidance, and can receive

the baptism of the Holy Spirit with signs following. (*Matt. 3:11*)(*Acts 2:4*) *John 16:7-13, 14:16-17, 2. Cor. 2:12, 3:16, 14:1, 17, Gal. 5:25, Ep. 1:13, 5:18*

### The Bible

The Bible is God's word to us. It was written by people under the divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It is the final authority for Christian faith and life. Because the Bible is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mistakes. *Psalm 12:6, 119:105,160, Prov. 30:5, Matt. 24:35, 2. Tim 1:13, 3:16-17, 2 Pet 1:20,21*

### Mankind

Man is created in the image of God, (*Gen 1:26,27*) and is the highest order in God's creation. Though everyone has great potential, we are all destroyed by disobedience towards God which is Called sin. (*Rom 3:10-12*)(*John 3:3*) Sin separates us from God, we are totally lost and hopeless Without him. We can only be restored to fellowship with God and fulfill our true potential through acknowledging our sin and receiving His gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. *Gen. 1:27, Psalm 8:3-6, Isa. 53:6a, Rom 3:23, Isa. 59:1-2*

### Salvation

Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we have to receive it. We can never do anything to cleanse Ourselves of sin, it is only by faith in Jesus Christ that we can receive God's gift of forgiveness and salvation from the power of sin. When we repent and turn to Jesus, we become "born again" and receive salvation. Eternal life begins the moment, we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. *John 1:12, 14:6, Rom. 6:23, Ep. 2:8-9, Tit. 3:5*

## Eternal Security

Because God gives us eternal life in Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in his salvation for eternity. If you have been truly saved, you cannot “loose” your salvation. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the effort of the Christian. *John 10:29, 2 Tim. 1:12, Heb. 7:25, 10:10, 14:1, 1 Pet. 1:3-5* It is God’s grace and sustaining power, that gives us this security. The Christian can only choose for himself to let go of that grace by turning away from faith in Jesus Christ and live as his disciple. *Gal. 5:4, 1 Tim. 6:10, 21, 2 Tim. 2:18, 2 Pet. 3:17, James 5:19-20, Jude 1:11*

## Eternity

Man was created to exist forever. We will either exist in eternity separated from God because of sin, or in eternity together with God because of His forgiveness and salvation. Heaven and hell are real places for eternal existence. Heaven is designed to be our home, a place of beauty and pure joy in fellowship with God forever. Hell is a place of eternal absence of God’s presence: His hope, peace and love. *Matt. 25:41, 46, John 3:16, 14:17, Rom 6:23, 8:17-18, 1 Cor. 2:7-9, 1 Thess. 4:14-17, 1 Pet. 1:3,4, Rev. 20:15*

## Water Baptism and the Lord’s Supper

Baptism is an act of obedience that symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A person, who has received Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior and indicates a commitment to follow him, shall be received for baptism by immersion in water. *Colossians 2:9-13, Matthew 3:7-16*. The Lord’s Supper is an act of obedience in which believers

remember and proclaim the death of Jesus Christ and anticipate His second coming through regular eating the bread and drinking from the cup. *Matthew 26:26-30, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

## Church Leadership

Church is the expression of Jesus to the world. God has called men and women to lead and serve His church, equipping believers to fulfil their God-given potential in life. *Ep. 4:11-3; 1 Tim. 3:1-13, Tit. 1:6-9, 2 Tim. 2:15, 1 Cor. 12:27-28*