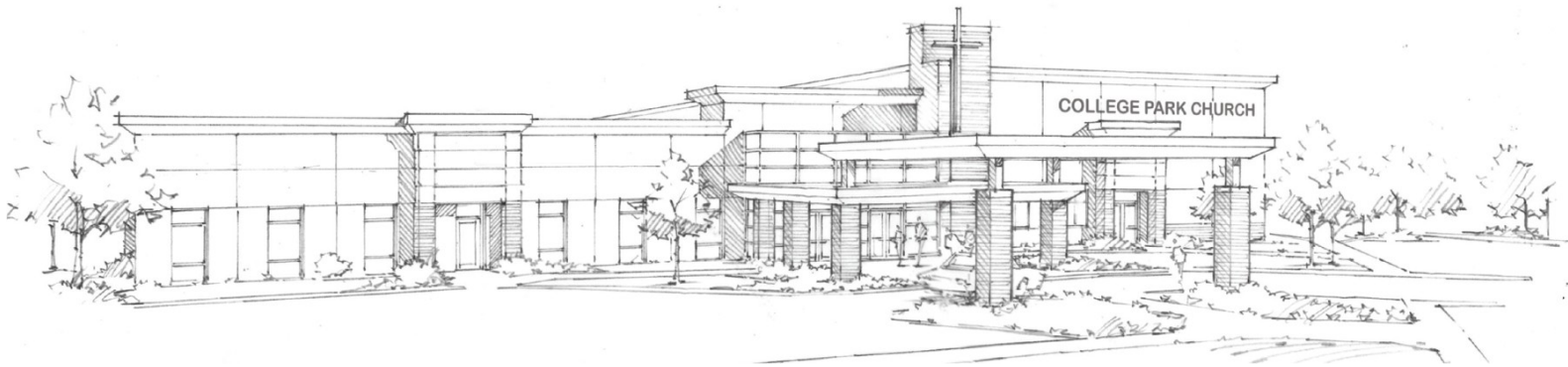


# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

May 2019 - College Park Church Fishers

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## IMPORTANT DATES

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### **MEETING Q&A**

May 19 after second service in the Student Ministries Room

### **MEETING TIME**

May 19 from 5 - 6 p.m. at Fall Creek Junior High Meeting in the Sanctuary

Learn more about these upcoming events at [fishers.yourchurch.com/events](http://fishers.yourchurch.com/events)

# VOTING MOTION 1

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## Name Change Proposal

***Motion 1:*** *The Elders of College Park Church Fishers propose to approve the renaming of our church to Pennington Park Church.*

### Proposed Name: Pennington Park Church

*Where we're going. | Where we're from.*

A name communicates a story, provides direction, and declares purpose. There is history and intentionality behind a name, and we feel the same about the proposed new name for our congregation: Pennington Park Church. Pennington Park Church conveys the story of our church. This name links the current location of our church (**Pennington** Road and 126<sup>th</sup> Street) and the history (College **Park** Church). It embodies the link between where we are and where we're from.

Pennington Park Church was the top selected name by a large margin in our congregational poll with over 50% of the people selecting this name out of 49 choices. In addition, over 70% of the total votes included some variation with Pennington in the name. This name resonates with our congregation because it honors the past and provides a vision for the future.

The name, Pennington Park Church, tells our story of beginning as an incubator out of College **Park** Church (Feb. - Aug. 2015), then launching into the Fishers community and growing in our temporary homes of Fall Creek Intermediate School and Fall Creek Jr. High (Sept. 2015 - Spring 2020) and finally landing at the corner of 126th and **Pennington Road** where we eagerly anticipate all the Lord will do in and through our church body for His glory and our good.

Selecting a name that includes **Pennington** demonstrates our desire to serve and love the surrounding community. Choosing a name with some variation including "Fishers" in it could potentially be less inviting to those that live in other communities, especially youth who attend other schools. Pennington strikes a nice balance of being unique and yet not dated or overly progressive.

Selecting a name that includes **park** honors the history, sending, and cherished relationship with College Park Church. The name creates a natural bridge to explain from where we came and the ongoing connection we have with the family of College Park planted churches.

**Park** also has a double-meaning because it refers to the nature of our church land. It helps communicate to our neighbors that we recognize the beauty of the property with its mature trees, open field, and pastoral white fence. **Park** helps to appreciate the value of creation and the benefit of such spaces.

While there is no perfect name for a church, Pennington Park Church expresses the DNA and mission of our church. By connecting our past with our future, this name is a reminder of God's kindness and His desire to glorify His Name through our unified congregation. We firmly believe that the name does not make the church; rather, the church makes the name.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

*Why isn't the name more directly "Christian?"*

While some people have expressed a desire for the name to include a more theological or traditional word in the name (ex: Bible, fellowship, covenant, community, Christian, etc.), there are five main reasons we are not recommending this.

1. It was not in the top two names (which were overwhelmingly favored by our congregation).
2. There was no one word that seemed to resonate with our people (such as Bible), as a handful of words each received some votes rather than one word standing out.
3. Many strong and faithful churches with geographical names do not include a word like this, such as College Park Church.
4. Many of these names may directly or indirectly draw connotations to specific denominations for people (examples: covenant = Presbyterian; Christian = Christian Church).
5. While this is not our primary rationale, we believe a more neutral name is more inviting to unbelievers and the unchurched.

*Why didn't we use an outside agency to help with a name?*

We wanted our congregation to largely lead this process. Results of the congregational Poll on Names overwhelmingly pointed to the desire for a geographical focus (with Pennington and Fishers being in the top five names). We recognize that agencies might have been able to develop some names more progressive in nature or that reflected more of our values (though many of these are taken already by local churches), but these kinds of names were not selected by our church in the poll. Rather than spending significant time and energy towards coming up with additional names, and since it felt like there was a clear "winner" in our church's eyes, we thought it best to move forward and direct time, attention, and finances towards other things.

*Why is only one name being voted on as opposed to the congregation choosing more than one?*

There are two reasons:

1. The congregation has been involved in the entire process of the name change beginning with a focus group consisting of several diverse members, a call-out for name suggestions from the congregation, followed by a church poll including all names submissions.
2. With the church poll bringing forth a clear favorite in the eyes of the congregation, as well as affirmation from our leadership regarding this name (Elders and Staff), we believe it appropriate to bring forth this name to the congregation for a vote.

## *Name Change Proposal Cont.*

### *What are the next steps if the congregation affirms Pennington Park Church?*

Upon congregational approval at the May 19 member meeting, new branding will be developed for our church centered around this new name, which will include a new website domain name, signage, communications materials, staff email, and overall branding. The new name and brand will be introduced to the public and implemented upon the opening of our church building in early 2020. In the meantime, we will maintain the name College Park Church Fishers.

### *Why are we changing our church name?*

In November 2018, all congregations within the College Park family of churches voted and affirmed our congregation as a fully, self-governed church. One aspect of becoming our own legal entity, is changing the name. Furthermore, the decision for the name change involved four main reasons.

1. Retaining the College Park name could hinder self-governance and healthy autonomy. Keeping the name would require ongoing approval from College Park Church across our ministries and communication channels.
2. Changing our name provides legal separation and further protects our church per our legal counsel.
3. The Next Door Mission, the church planting, adoption and revitalization ministry of College Park Church, has requested that each new congregation choose a name. For example, the church that College Park recently launched in the Pike Township YMCA is named One Fellowship Church. College Park Castleton and Greenwood will also be changing their names as they become self-governing.
4. A name change enables us to fully contextualize our ministry with absolute freedom. Our doctrine and ministry distinctives are not changing, however, a name change enables us to form our own identity and express gospel-centered ministry most appropriate to our context.

# VOTING MOTIONS 2 & 3

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## Pastoral Candidates

**Motion 2:** *The Elders of College Park Church Fishers propose to approve Dustin Crowe for the role of Pastor.*

**Motion 3:** *The Elders of College Park Church Fishers propose to approve Tim Lukasiewicz for the role of Pastor.*



DUSTIN CROWE

Dustin Crowe has been on staff at College Park Fishers for four years and currently serves as the Assistant Pastor of Discipleship. Before coming to College Park Fishers, Dustin served at the College Park North Indy congregation in the areas of Local Outreach and the Next Door Mission. Dustin earned his B.A. in Historical Theology from the Moody Bible Institute as well as a M.A. in Theological Studies from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He and his wife, Melissa have been married for six years and currently live in Noblesville with their daughter, Lily. Dustin writes at [www.indycrowe.com](http://www.indycrowe.com) and has also been a contributor for [thegospelcoalition.org](http://thegospelcoalition.org). You can follow him on Twitter or Instagram [@indycrowe](https://www.instagram.com/indycrowe).



TIM LUKASIEWICZ

Tim Lukasiewicz has been on staff at College Park Church Fishers for four years and currently serves as the Assistant Pastor of Worship and Global Outreach. Before coming to College Park Fishers, Tim served for four years as the Director of Worship Arts at Far Hill Community Church in Dayton, OH. Tim earned his B.A. in Worship from Cedarville University and his M.A. in Christian Ministries from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Chloe has been married for six years and currently live in Fishers with their daughter, Everly.

# VOTING MOTION 4

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## New Members

***Motion 4:*** *The Elders of College Park Church Fishers propose to approve the following individuals for membership.*

- Gabrielle Cox
- DeAnn Farthing
- Kevin Johnson
- Claire Johnson
- Brad Keffer
- Karen Keffer
- Erin Sills
- Jamison Sills
- Marilyn Watson
- David Quiring