



Church Family -

You are receiving this letter because you either call La Jolla Community Church (LJCC) or Grace City Church home or have worshiped with us at least once in the past six months.

As you may have already heard, amazing things are happening in the lives of both congregations! On Saturday (October 28, 2023) the LJCC congregation voted to support the board's recommendation that LJCC's UTC campus be transferred to Grace City Church. Beginning January 1, 2024, the combined congregations will come under the leadership and vision of Grace City and move forward in mission and ministry together as Pastor Steve Murray retires after decades of pastoring.

This is the culmination of an intentional journey of prayer and discernment for the board of LJCC and we could not be more enthusiastic about supporting Grace City's 8 years of ministry and mission to the University City and La Jolla area by providing them a campus that grounds and extends their capacity for ministry. We believe Grace City is the right church to succeed LJCC in thoughtful and contextual ministry to our neighbors and diverse community.

As senior pastors (Randall Tonini - Grace City / Steve Murray - LJCC), we want to share our enthusiasm, joy, and gratitude for all God has done bringing us together and provide insight into the pathway forward.

- First, we are developing an FAQ list that will live on both of our websites and be communicated to all of you when ready. Expect that in the next week or so.
- The preschool at LJCC will continue to operate just as it is today. Grace City is committed to the preschool and sees the profound ministry and contribution it makes to our community.
- Both congregations will continue to meet at their normal times and locations through the year-end. The first Sunday together, as Grace City, will be January 7, 2024.
- The staff of both churches will meet this month to develop a staffing plan for how the future needs of Grace City are best met. Please know, any LJCC staff not continuing forward have been provided for and this transition is happening with great trust, communication, and care.
- There will be at least one opportunity for both congregations to join together for a mid-week night of vision, prayer, and worship. This will happen at LJCC and be led by Pastor Randall Tonini. More to come on this soon!

UTC needs healthy and vital churches that can grow in service and care of this unique demographic and region of San Diego! This opportunity to combine resources, people, and property to make an even greater kingdom impact could not be more timely or exciting.

We also want to say thank-you to each of you! This moment would not be possible without the faithful engagement, support, and investment of both congregations. This moment is a profound page in God's eternal Kingdom story and we could not be more thrilled with how we see Him moving in, and through, both church communities.

In Christ -

Randall Tonini 

Steve Murray 