

## Dayspring Church Short History

God's work in us is forming a beautiful mosaic of His kingdom. We have embraced the motto: "Dayspring...where the nations worship" because we have come to understand that God's kingdom is like a beautiful mosaic art where the many pieces, though unique in color, texture, and composition, are formed together by the mortar of God's Spirit to tell the beautiful story of God's reconciliation. We celebrate our community with its changing colors and cultures.

The diversity of our region has begun to flow into the beautiful complexion of our church fellowship. Not only do we see black and white worshiping together, but we are also reaching people from around the globe as they have settled into our community.

Dayspring Church, founded and incorporated in 1937, is affiliated with the Church of God of Anderson, Indiana. We have been at our current location for 35 years. Over the past ten years we have experienced a change in the complexion of our congregation. We are becoming ethnically diverse. We have put into place a diversity team to assist in evaluating and exploring the potential and possibilities that lie before us. Today our fellowship includes members who are Caucasian, African-American, and others who range from the far reaches of the globe such as Antigua, South Africa, Nigeria, Guatemala, Peru, Philippines, Ghana, India, Chile, and Costa Rica. We draw people from Greater Cincinnati, southeastern Indiana, and northern Kentucky areas. Currently, we are around 35% non-Caucasian in our weekly English-speaking Sunday service. In addition to this, we have reached into the Latino community. Our Spanish-

speaking fellowship runs around 80 members in their weekend services. We have also opened our ministry doors to an International fellowship that hosts weekend services as well.

Staffing of Dayspring includes Tim Kufeldt, lead pastor (Caucasian), Ercides Estrada, Latino pastor (Guatemala), John Johnston-Pande, International Fellowship pastor (Papau New Guinea), Andy Hoover, Youth pastor (Caucasian), Michael Thompson, Children's pastor (African American), David Wess, Director of Ministry Operations (African American).

Approximately 600 people call Dayspring their church home, with 400 average attendees each week.

The Mosaic model for our call to diversity includes:

- i. **EMPOWER DIVERSE LEADERSHIP** This speaks to credibility, from the nursery to the boardroom and at every station in between.
- ii. **DEVELOP CROSS-CULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS** To experience sincere and mutual respect across ethnic and economic divides, in order for the church to walk worthy of its calling beyond Sunday mornings.
- iii. **PURSUE CROSS-CULTURAL COMPETENCY** The understanding we need to be effective in a cross-cultural environment is gained through experience and interaction with other cultures different than our own.
- iv. **PROMOTE A SPIRIT OF INCLUSION AND ACCOMODATION** Integrating diverse cultural forms and expressions of faith into the corporate worship experience, as well as throughout other aspects of the church, is critical to building a healthy multi-ethnic church.
- v. **MOBILIZE FOR IMPACT** The goal is not merely unity for unity's sake. Rather, unique credibility and possibilities exist for the multi-ethnic church to express the love of God in pursuit of social justice and spiritual transformation.