

March 29, 2022

Dear Church Family,

This past Sunday, I shared that our church's leadership is proposing to bring our church family in two locations under one name: Cross Church. North Richland Hills Baptist Church has a rich history and has had a strong name recognition in our community for the past 65 years. The Lord has truly blessed us as a point of ministry in our community for all these decades. It is difficult for all of us to consider altering such an important name because our church has such a rich spiritual legacy.

Currently, our church is called both North Richland Hills Baptist Church and Cross Church. Our church's leadership has been meeting for more than a year on the topic of our church's name. With the beginning of our North Fort Worth location along 287, the geographic specific name of North Richland Hills Baptist Church no longer serves both locations. We are in a continual confusing spot as we communicate how NRHBC began Cross Church and we are connected together despite the different names. The part of our original name geographically limits us to North Richland Hills only, and we believe the Lord wants both locations to remain together as one body for years to come.

After prayerful consideration and numerous discussions over the past year, we believe our entire church body should discuss and pray about consolidating the name of our church to Cross Church. We need one name for our website. We need one name for our worship guides. We need one name for our church signs. One name needs to unite us so that everyone immediately knows we are one church meeting in two locations.

I recognize that this is a sensitive issue for many of you. It is challenging to me personally as well. So many of you have a rich legacy with our church family. I ask that each of us prayerfully consider this proposal by being a part of one of five listening sessions in the coming weeks. You will hear more the rationale behind this decision and you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

There is child care available to all sessions except at the Saturday session. Bible Fellowship Groups are encouraged to attend together. All discussion of the proposed name change will happen in the listening sessions, not during worship services.

I pray that the Lord leads us to a unified decision as we consider this proposal. Because we are a Baptist church, we will vote as we affirm the Bible's teaching on the Priesthood of all Believers (1 Peter 2:9). Each one of us has the responsibility of seeking the Holy Spirit's direction on this in the coming days. Be listening for the proposed business meeting date in the listening sessions as well. I am grateful to God to be your pastor

Sincerely,

Scott Maze