



February 22, 2023

MERGE OF THE SAN JOSE AND SARATOGA CAMPUSES

Dear Fellow Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We remain focused on our mission to help people find and follow Jesus.

After several months of discernment, we have undertaken the difficult decision to merge the San Jose and Saratoga campuses. We started this work with Scott Palmbush, as our interim head of staff, prayerfully discerning with church building experts, working with the rest of the Leadership Team and Campus Pastors, and thoughtfully analyzing our post-COVID church attendance with giving trends, while balancing our needs to steward our resources for future ministry. We consolidated to the Saratoga location because we own the property, the campus is strategically located next to Saratoga High School and the campus layout is conducive to a community focused site.

We are confident that this restructuring is what we need to build health into our church. Consolidating campuses enables the critical mass (two services, greater number of volunteers, better use of central support) to enable any given site to thrive.

The elders and Leadership Team have been praying and remain hopeful that congregants at both campuses will join forces together at a vibrant, newly launched campus in Saratoga. We are excited about new ministry opportunities that we have not been able to pursue. The Saratoga campus is located across the street from Saratoga High School, giving us a unique opportunity to serve the school, teachers and reach the students. It will also enable us to invest in the site and technology to further community engagement and ministry that hopefully will encourage all to gather after services or at on campus events.

As Phil preached in his first sermon series, we need both renewal and revival. We humbly ask that we continue our faithfulness in Him and trust that He uses all for the good of those who love Him.

In Him,

MENLO CHURCH ELDERS