

Radical Generosity 2025: "Wide-Open Door" - A Letter from Pastor Adrian

Dear C3 Family & Friends,

We are living in a unique Gospel moment. Our nation has not seen God's Spirit move this way in generations. It's a moment to capture – a window of opportunity God is giving us.

Generation Z (ages 13-28) is awakening to God in a way unseen by any generation alive today. As one young author put it, "Something drastic is shifting in the spiritual atmosphere of the Western world. Surprised whispers of a 'quiet revival' are swirling in and around the church. Pastors and pollsters, pagans and podcasters are taking note. Shockingly, it's the young folk of my generation."

"A Generational Reversal," says the media. Secular news outlets are trying to understand what's going on. The headlines are not letting up: "Why are Gen Z men turning to religion?" – "Gen Z is leading a modern day spiritual 'revival.'" – "Gen Z has been known as the 'least religious generation,' but new numbers show a surprising reversal." – "Gen Z embraces the Bible in unexpected global spiritual awakening." – "Bible sales jumped 22% in 2024."

At C3 Tri-Cities, we are seeing this unfold before our eyes. Young adults are attending our services in record numbers. In 2025 alone, we baptized 65 Gen Z'ers!

There is a wide-open door in front of us!

Scripture speaks about the Holy Spirit giving the church "open doors." The Apostle Paul wrote about reaching lost souls: "There is a <u>wide-open door</u> for a great work here" (1 Cor. 16:9 NLT). Luke the physician recounted, "They gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had <u>opened a door of faith</u> to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27 NIV).

At C3 Tri-Cities, we believe God has given us a creative vision to walk through a wide-open door: To create *an amazing outreach environment on the second floor of our church* – designed to attract the unbelieving college-age and young adults of the Tri-Cities, to an atmosphere that cultivates relationships with Christian peers and stirs their awareness and openness to Jesus Christ.

We have drawn up plans to create a ministry center, study commons and café upstairs, in the space above the current lobby and coffee bar. Collaborating with interior designers, contractors, businesses, and local Gen Z'ers, we will create what will be the most sought-out destination in the Tri-Cities for young adults to gather.

If you've not seen the space, it's a *marvelous 14,000-sq-ft venue* with Columbia River views to the north, and mountains to the south. It already features a beautiful outdoor patio, elevator access, a large staircase going up, and a main entrance behind our building with abundant parking. It is an ideal setting for outreach to the younger generation.

God has given us a wide-open door! It is now ours to open it...

Did you know: There are **more than 47,000 Gen Z'ers** in the Tri-Cities who have graduated high school. That is 15% of the entire population. We are home to nearly 10,000 students at WSU Tri-Cities, Columbia Basin College (CBC), and other small colleges. This number swells during holiday and summer breaks, when thousands of other college students come home to family in the Tri.



College-age students love to stay up late at night, but there are very few wholesome environments in our region for late-night study and hangout. Young adults in our region are searching for a spot to come together, build relationships, and have meaningful conversations.

Imagine with me: **14,000** square-feet brimming with young people, seven nights a week. Open from 4:00pm until 2:00am – offering specialty coffees/drinks, light appetizers, and study nooks galore. And all of it is saturated with "breadcrumbs" leading to Jesus:

- Bibles near every table
- Soul-stirring messages at every turn
- Answered prayers celebrated in the corners
- Christian young adults hosting the space, alongside Young Adult and Outreach Pastors

A landscape of "capital T Truth" at every turn.

Imagine the possibilities for ministry such as:

- Christian worldview sessions
- Presentations on Christian apologetics
- Q&A panels discussing cultural topics specific to young adults
- Thought-provoking resources speaking truth to the controversial subjects of our age
- Training for the next generation of young ministers
- Expanding ministry internship programs
- Satellite location of a ministry training school

Hundreds of young people will one day look back at the second floor of C3 and remember: "That's where I found my purpose in life." – "That's where I finally believed that God truly exists." – "That's where I realized my identity is not in my sexuality." – "That's where God called me into ministry, and where I first trained to lead people." The upstairs of C3 Tri-Cities will be a place where *light penetrates the darkness*, where the veil over minds is lifted, and where deception is displaced with Truth.

In addition, this space will double as an open door for fellowship on Sunday mornings. Families eating lunches together upstairs, the **C3 church body mingling** between services, space for conversation and getting to know one another. Plans also include a **C3 bookstore**, offering life-giving resources and merchandise.

Can you see the wide-open door?

There is one challenge with the space: It is entirely unfinished. And it is entirely unfurnished.

<u>The estimated cost of completing and readying the space is \$650,000</u>. Fortunately, we do have "seed money"! A few years ago (2022), some members of the C3 family contributed \$63,880 for the vision of an upstairs café. We have kept those gifts in a designated fund, waiting for this moment. Thanks be to God, and to those generous givers three years ago.

I believe we can fully fund this project **by the end of 2025**. C3 has a track record of "Radical Generosity" initiatives at year's end. In the past, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been given in one offering for various ministry efforts. Some people have given \$50 or \$100; many have given \$5,000, \$10,000, and even more.

We are encouraged on this path by remarkable giving from our own C3 young adults. As some have learned about this outreach, they are committing thousands of their own hard-earned dollars to see the space materialize. **One 19-year-old girl wrote a check to C3 for \$6,200.00!** What an inspiration!

On Sunday, December 14th, we are holding a "Wide-Open Door" Sunday. We have a church-wide goal to see <u>750 households</u> <u>participate</u> in making a sacrificial financial gift on that day. This would be a record-breaking offering at C3 Tri-Cities, surpassing participation in any giving initiative we've ever done.

Will you stand with me and walk through this wide-open door together?

We're providing special giving envelopes at our services and with this letter. Please tape your envelope to the refrigerator, or mirror, or somewhere strategic where it can be seen, so that you'll be reminded to pray about how God might lead you and your family to sacrificially give to this offering. On <u>December 14, 2025</u>, we will receive the special "Wide-Open Door" offering during all our services in a time of celebration. We are encouraging everyone to come prepared to sacrificially give on that day in a unified celebration! More details will follow at our services throughout the next few weeks.

If you're going to be out of town on the December 14 weekend, or if you'd like to go ahead and donate now, you can do that online. It's safe, secure and simple to use. Go to the giving link c3tricities.com/GiveOpenDoor and prayerfully enter the amount you want to give. On the other hand, if you plan on attending but prefer to give online because it is more convenient, feel free to do that as well. Then at services on December 14, simply note on your giving envelope what you gave online, participating with us in the sacred giving moment.

<u>Please take special note that this offering does not take the place of your normal tithes and giving</u>. Rather, it is a sacrificial, one-time giving amount, above and beyond your normal giving, that God is leading you to, in support of the young adult outreach.

Every one of us can jump in and do something! Regardless of age, we can all take part. For Joyce and me, we are making one of the most significant financial gifts we've ever made. **Every one of our six kids are jumping in**, whether it's a few weeks of allowance (our 9-year-old!), or using summer earnings (our college kids!). We will make up the first seven of the 750+ participants!

Will you join us? God has given us, C3 Tri-Cities, a great mission. He is moving powerfully in and through us! You and I are simply joining Him where He has already revealed Himself as powerfully at work. Exciting times! What an honor to join Him in reaching the Tri-Cities for Jesus! Let's do this!

Believing for Great Things! Pastor Adrian

"When I came to the city ... to preach the Good News of Christ, the Lord **opened a door** of opportunity..." (2 Cor. 2:12 NLT)

"Pray also for us, that God may **open to us a door** for the word..." (Col. 4:3 ESV)