



## Austin Bible Chapel

Round Rock, Texas

Austin Bible Chapel established in 1964, mainly ministered to transitory Bergstrom Air Force base cadets and met in a Women’s Club. By 1991, it consisted of a young convert, Billy Tweddell, and the Murah family. Billy was the bridge between the first generation of Austin Bible Chapel believers and the current congregation. Robin and Tammy Fuller moved to Austin and, under Robin and Billy’s leadership, the chapel met in homes averaging at about 4 families for almost 10 years.

The second generation of believers grew with the help of two brothers Jacob Zachariah and Johns Daniel who were employed in the emerging tech industry of Austin. Given that the church operated out of homes, the focus was on maintaining great fellowship and being a family to University of Texas (UT) students. The great fellowship became contagious and word got around. UT graduates stayed in Austin and the church grew enough to outgrow houses. We then rented a series of buildings from other churches and Christian schools.

As the third generation of believers formed, consisting of about 35 people, we moved into an office building under the leadership of Jacob Zachariah and Robin Fuller. Given that most of the congregation was employed by the rather volatile tech industry, we were sensitive to folks moving out due to job changes or layoffs, but wel-

comed the additional influx of families. By this time, Jacob retired leaving Robin to encourage Johns Daniel to share in the leadership. Johns brought a focus to accommo-



date the growing congregation and spearheaded the incorporation process which occurred in May 2019.

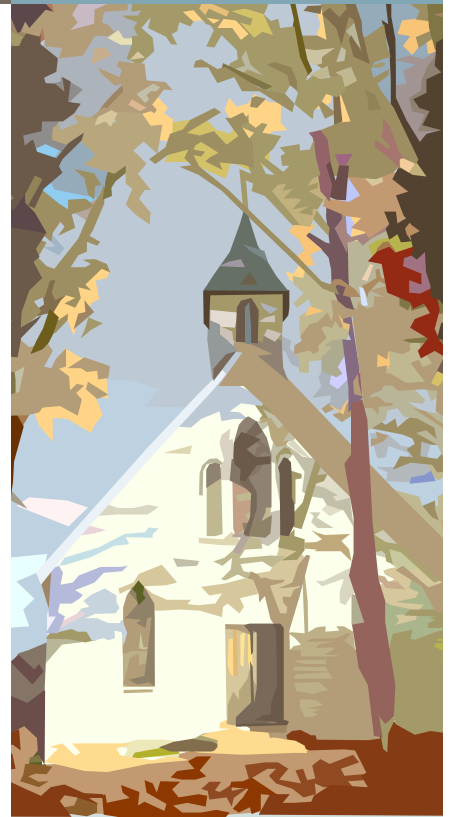
It was quickly realized that the office space could not support the current size of the church and we needed to move to a more permanent location. But with the booming Austin market and with the many families spread throughout Austin, finding a central location at an affordable price point

*“We were and still are amazed at God’s perfect timing”*

seemed impossible—especially as COVID-19 cases were starting to rise in the nation. But with God all things are possible!

The need was presented to the congregation by the elders to improve giving, so we could accommodate

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# *I CORINTHIANS 4:2, “IT IS REQUIRED*

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the needs of the local church and meet the local city ordinances for a gathering place during the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. The congregation responded and shared the burden of growth with the desire to maintain and grow the fellowship.

After much prayer and searching, an office building that was remodeled from a previous church came into the picture. The price was too high but, since it was a great property, we placed a lower offer. It was quickly rejected as an accounting firm agreed to pay the full asking price. Months went by in the continued search and the church had to stop meeting in person due to the COVID-19 crisis.

When all hope seemed lost, God provided the same building back as the previous accounting firm backed out of the offer due to the uncertain market that COVID-19 had created. God had also provided by this time, through the hearts of the congregation, more than enough for a down payment. With the help and urging of the Holy Spirit, and with the assistance of Stewards Foundation, we were able to procure the building at a much lower offer than the asking price—and even less than our previous offer!

We were, and still are, amazed at God’s perfect timing and miracle of orchestrating this small dip in the nation’s hottest commercial real estate market during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stewards Foundation proved to be more than an amazing lender; their services as a resource were invaluable. In addition to being easily available, they assisted in providing advice through the various steps of the purchase process, protected the interests of the church, and provided us with the tools and staff to make the purchase successful without a hitch.

Next, we had the daunting task of restoring the office building back to being usable again for church services. God again provided for us; a great contractor who was able to help us navigate through a re-energized post-COVID-19 real estate market in which the supply of good labor and material was scarce.

We obtained a Certificate of Occupancy and started meeting in our new home via hybrid meetings in March 2021. We are so thankful to God for His miraculous provision, in His perfect time, and for the invaluable service of Stewards Foundation. We look forward to continued times of fellowship and service to the community till He comes again.

## Commended Workers

Craig and Nancy Rolinger

God brought us together at Emmaus Bible School with a desire to serve Him. We had no idea what adventures lay ahead, but God directed us step by step through many years for His glory. Married in 1976, we moved to Rock Island, Illinois to help Nancy’s parents, Ray and Laura Routley, begin an assembly in Milan, Illinois. Craig worked a day job, but our energy went into serving the Lord and His people. In 1986, the saints at Oak Ridge Bible Chapel commended us to full-time work for the Lord. God filled our hands: Craig spoke in the assembly, we both taught Bible studies, did discipling and children’s ministries.



In addition to serving in our assembly, we traveled to encourage assemblies in the Midwest and ministered at women’s conferences around the globe. Summers were full with kid’s camps across the United States. We both spoke at girls’ camps; at boys’ camps Nancy ministered in one-on-one conversations. What a joy to see children come to the Lord Jesus.

After Nancy’s dad went home to glory, our new ministry was caring for Laura, seeking to give her an abundant exit as she awaited her abundant entrance. As we reduced traveling to put our efforts into Laura’s care, a new ministry was opened for us. God brought a family to the assembly from Karen (kuh-REHN). This refugee family with six children was fleeing from persecution in Burma. While it appeared that

# *IN STEWARDS THAT A MAN BE FOUND FAITHFUL*

World Relief brought them to our community, it was God bringing a people group across the globe to meet His Son, and He let us be part of this ministry.

Seeing an opportunity for the gospel, Craig asked the high school student in the family if he wanted to have a Bible study. Hay Seet, a star player on his high school soccer team, brought teammates and other Karen teens to our house for Bible study. While Nancy cared for her mom and prayed, Craig fed the kids and taught them the Bible. Hungry for the truth, one by one these kids started getting saved!

To give Nancy a break, Craig cared for Laura at night, then reached out to help families in the Karen community during the day. He helped them understand living in America, taught them how to shop and make doctor's appointments, all with a view of pointing them to Christ. When Laura went to glory in 2013, Nancy dove into the work with Craig.

*“The joy is seeing these turn into opportunities for the Lord.”*

As more Karen families came to the assembly, God started saving people, young and old. One Sunday Craig used pictures on PowerPoint to explain the gospel. After talking with the parents of a Buddhist family about the lesson, Hay Seet called Craig to say they had gotten saved. Craig was skeptical since they were Buddhists and spoke very little English. But from talking with them through a translator it was clear they were saved; a reminder that salvation is of the Lord!

When the first family came in 2012, we had no idea how long the door would remain open, but God continues to do an amazing work. Year after year new students have come to the high school Bible study bringing new opportunities with families, and some being saved. Mothers have been saved through a Bible study. One of them disciplined by a senior saint in the meeting on how to teach the preschool Sunday school class, continues that work today. The first student saved in Nancy's class as a boy is now in college and using his gifts in the assem-

bly. The young men lead the assembly in worshipping the Lord Jesus at the weekly breaking of bread and in prayer at the prayer meeting.

Presently, we are discipling numerous individuals and holding group Bible studies. Sunday nights we have a young adult Bible study in our home. After the kids leave, and the house looks like a bomb hit, we recount the goodness of God that we are allowed to be part His work. Our life is filled with endless projects and errands all with a view to sharing the gospel. The joy is seeing these turn into opportunities for the Lord.

The Lord is our Jehovah Jireh. “Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.” *2 Corinthians 9:10* God promises physical provision to promote the spiritual work. Stewards Foundation's annual healthcare contribution has helped our assembly fund our healthcare expenses. We are grateful to the Lord and Stewards Foundation as a channel for His blessing.

“For he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.” *Hebrews 11:10* As we serve the Lord, we are looking for that city. Watching what God is building here gets us even more excited to see what He has built there. Every day the coming of the Lord is closer and our hearts are ready!

Psalms 126:3, “The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad”

## News You Can Use

Spring 2021

### Supporting Stewards Foundation with a Charitable Gift Annuity

Stewards Foundation offers several options for the Lord’s people to support our work. One of these is a planned giving arrangement known as a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).

A CGA can be created with cash, securities, or other assets. Several payout options are available. An individual giver may choose a fixed-income stream for themselves or another person for life. A couple may choose a fixed-income stream paid until the last spouse passes away.

A CGA also offers tax advantages through a partial tax deduction on the gift, and a portion of each payment received during your life being tax-exempt. You benefit while supporting the work of the Lord through Stewards Foundation.

CGAs have increased in popularity over the past year because they offer a fixed rate of return, meaning, despite market fluctuations, your payment will not change.

If you have a desire to support the work of Stewards Foundation through a CGA, please call us. Or, go to our website, [www.stewardsfoundation.org](http://www.stewardsfoundation.org) for more information including a Planned Giving Calculator.



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