



God Provides *Abundantly*

One of the most difficult challenges for any church plant is finding a space to meet for regular worship. Along with this challenge is the difficulty of finding a place that is affordable. Many church plants find their budgets strapped and struggle to find a facility that meets their needs. However, 2 Corinthians 9:8 reminds us, “And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work” (HCSB).

Church planter Jacob Jackson has witnessed the fulfillment of this promise in an abundant way. Jackson and a core team launched **Covenant Life Church** in the Lakeside area of Richmond, VA in April of 2021. After driving through the area with Pastor Jim Booth of **Staples Mill Road Baptist Church** (Glen Allen), Jackson felt a strong sense of calling to the Lakeside area of Richmond. He remembers the drive very well, “Pastor Booth pulled in to turn around, but God told me to stay.”

In the meantime, Pastor Booth had encouraged Pastor Jackson to talk to a local business owner who owns several buildings. The

business owner, a local mechanic who is also a Christian, was very receptive to Covenant Life meeting in one of his buildings. In fact, he does not charge the church rent or utilities for the use of a building that’s right on the main road with convenient parking. An additional blessing is that Covenant Life is able to leave its equipment in place from week to week and doesn’t have to set up or tear down weekly like most church plants do. The church is thrilled at the abundance of God’s blessing!

And the provision of God doesn’t stop there. Pastor Jackson connected with Pastor Celso Henriquez, another SBC of Virginia church planter, and learned that Pastor Henriquez also needed a place for his church (**Iglesia Bautista De Las Naciones**) to meet in that area. So, Pastor Jackson met with the business owner again, who graciously agreed to welcome De Las Naciones in the same location, also rent and utilities free.

Pastor Jackson and Pastor Henriquez give all the glory to God for His faithful provision through this generous and faithful brother in Christ! ■