

ANCC Church Renaming FAQ

1. Why change our church name?

Our church is building upon the great work of the past, yet it is changing in so many ways that we are essentially becoming a new church. Just look at all the new things that have occurred in the past 10 months alone:

- New senior pastor
- New church mission
- New church vision
- New church values
- New denomination (TBD)
- New view of women as equal to men in leadership and calling
- New move to be a multiethnic church
- New leadership culture, structure, and office
- New DNA of seeking justice as a tangible expression of the Gospel

We may return to our church in the coming months, but we will not be the same church we were before. To convey these and future revitalizing changes, ANCC will be officially “relaunching” in 2021. Renaming our church is an essential part of the relaunch because it will convey the new direction and demographic distinction of our bright future.

2. Isn't All Nations Community Church (ANCC) an ideal name since we are moving towards a multiethnic church?

No, and here is the reason why. Today, ANCC is composed almost exclusively of Asian Americans. Based on the results of other similar monoethnic churches that have intentionally become multiethnic, we can expect our best effort to result in a demographic of about 75% Asian and 25% non-Asian. For us, that would be a huge shift from the current composition. However, for a new, non-Asian at ANCC, a church that is still 75% Asian would not feel like “All Nations,” especially when the vast majority of those Asians are from “one nation”—South Korea. Having a church name that is ethnically “neutral” would best serve the demographic distinction of our church even as we seek to become more diverse.

3. What will be the timeline and procedure for choosing the new church name?

- **Dec 20-Jan 3:** All attenders submit one new church name idea to newname@anccbellevue.org. If you attend ANCC, then you can throw in a name. **Limit one name per person.** Ends on Jan. 3 (Sun) @ 12:00 PM.

- **Jan 3-10:** Members vote for their three most favorite names via SurveyMonkey from among all the suggestions submitted by the attenders.
- **Jan 10-15:** LC takes the top names from the SurveyMonkey results and chooses the final name.
- **Jan 17:** New church name revealed

4. What happens if the church name I submit gets picked?

Well, first, you get to brag about it for the rest of your life! Also, the person who submits the winning name will be rewarded with a \$100 gift card.

5. What are some tips for suggesting a church name?

- **Make it clear and concise**
Keep the name short, simple, and easy to spell and pronounce. A name with 2-3 words in it is ideal.
- **Avoid acronyms**
An acronym means that the name is already too long. Also, the full name will be unknown to church outsiders and will require explaining what the letters stand for.
- **Make it meaningful**
The name should express the new values of our church and the new direction of making disciples who love Jesus, live like Jesus, and lead others to Jesus.
- **Keep the unchurched in mind**
Avoid words that the unchurched may not understand or find offensive or too religious.