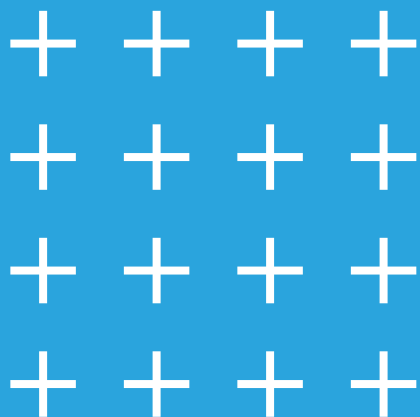




CHURCH  
**GROWTH**  
INCUBATOR



**CHURCH GROWTH  
INCUBATOR  
IN-PERSON RETREAT**

October 16th & 17th, 2024

**Conexus Church, Orillia, Ontario**

# What is the In-Person Retreat?

The Church Growth Incubator retreat is an immersive two-day event designed for members committed to enhancing their church's growth and invite culture.

This retreat provides a blend of fresh training sessions, LAB experiences with best practices from rapidly growing churches, and the launch of a new, ready-to-use resource. Our focus is on equipping you with tools to inspire your congregation to extend invitations and grow your church community.



Beyond the educational content, this retreat emphasizes the importance of face-to-face connections with leaders from other churches. The Hot Seat sessions offer collaborative problem-solving, and you'll receive personal guidance from our guest coach, Chris Vacher, who brings over 20 years of experience in church leadership and strategic planning.

This holistic approach ensures that participants leave with practical strategies, stronger community ties, and renewed motivation to advance their church's mission.





# >>> Designed to Fuel Your Church's Growth

These retreats are more than just a time to gain new information—they're a pivotal opportunity for church leaders to step away from their daily responsibilities and focus deeply on the challenges and opportunities in their ministries.

By gathering with like-minded leaders, participants cannot only share experiences and insights but also build a network of support that extends beyond the retreat itself. The structured yet relational environment fosters innovative thinking and collaborative



problem-solving, which are crucial for overcoming the barriers to church growth. Limiting participation to just two people per church ensures that the focus remains sharp and the insights gained can be directly applied to your context, making the retreat a catalyst for real, actionable change in your church.



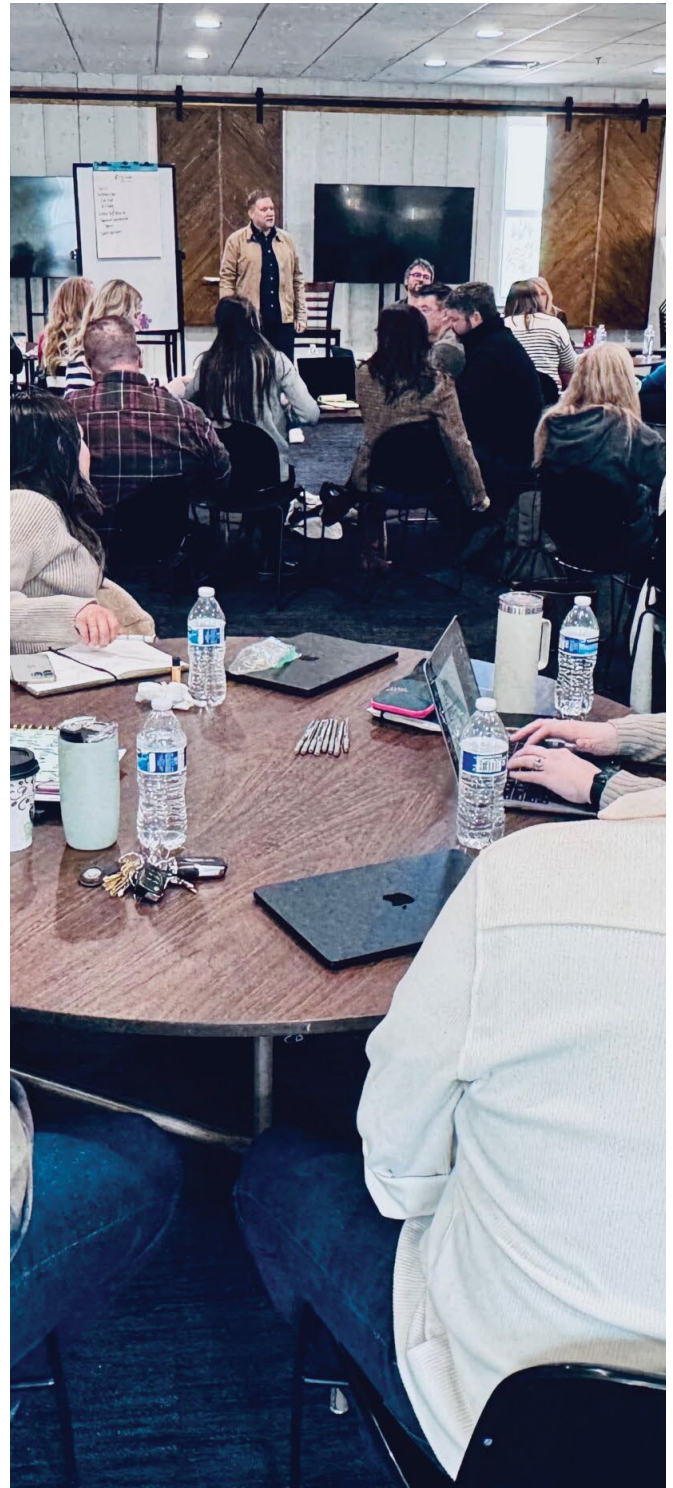


## Chris Vacher

Chris Vacher is dedicated to helping pastors equip and inspire leaders to faithfully accomplish their church's God-given vision. With over 20 years of leadership experience, Chris has served as an Executive Pastor at a multisite church, as well as in Worship, Creative Arts, and Multisite positions. He has led teams in developing leaders and launching new church sites, and he has been an Executive Producer on two Praise & Worship Album of the Year recordings.

Chris also brings a wealth of experience in strategic planning, having navigated significant changes within churches and connecting future visions to present-day actions and accountability. He holds a Master's degree in Leadership and is certified in coaching, making him a highly effective guide for pastors and church leaders seeking to advance their ministries.

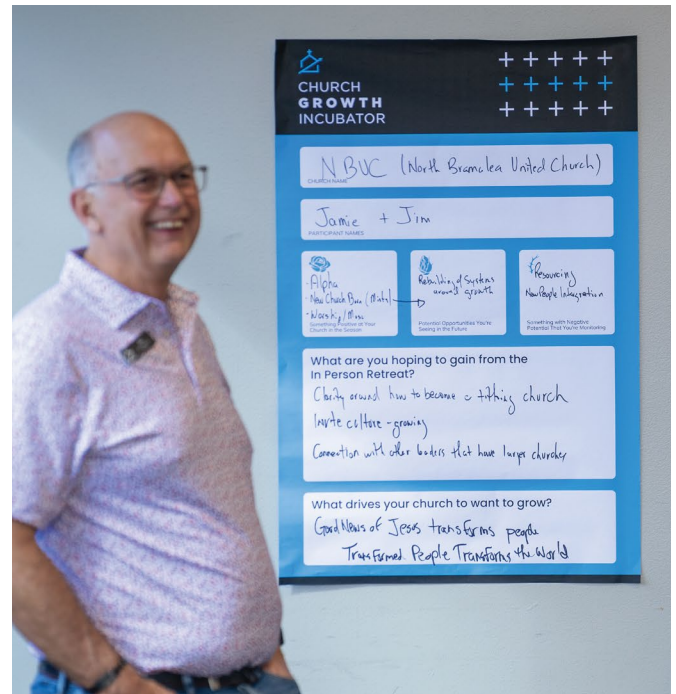
Chris lives just outside Toronto with his wife, Sonya, their four children, two large dogs, and a selectively affectionate cat in a 50-year-old A-frame house.



# Retreat Ingredients

This two-day experience, hosted by church growth coach Rich Birch, includes:

- **LABS:** Dive into LABS sessions to uncover new research on the practices of fast-growing churches. Gain actionable insights to catalyze your congregation's growth through evidence-based strategies and innovative approaches.
- **Hot Seat Sessions:** Transform challenges into opportunities with our Hot Seat discussions. Bring your church's pressing issues, and let our community of peers and experts offer constructive feedback, solutions, and support.
- **Beyond the Learning:** Experience more than just growth strategies. Enjoy meals, share in fun activities, and create lasting memories with fellow church leaders.



## In-Person Retreat Schedule

>>>

Wednesday,  
October 16th

- Wednesday, October 16th
- 9:00 am - Mix & Mingle
- 9:30 am - Ready-to-Use Resource Launch
- 10:30 am - Coffee & Leg Stretch
- 11:00 am - Hot Seats #1
- 12:00 pm - Lunch
- 1:00 pm - Team Alignment & Clarity with Chris Vacher
- 2:30 pm - Culture Conversation
- 4:00 pm - Walk & Talk
- 5:30 pm-ish - Dinner & Evening Fun

>>>

Thursday,  
October 17th

- Thursday, October 17th
- 9:00 am - Hot Seats #2
- 10:30 am - Coffee & Leg Stretch
- 11:00 am - Hot Seats #3
- 12:00 pm - Lunch
- 1:00 pm - Parking Lot / Hot Seat Bonus Round
- 2:30 pm - Final Reflection
- 5:00 pm - Final Dinner (Optional)



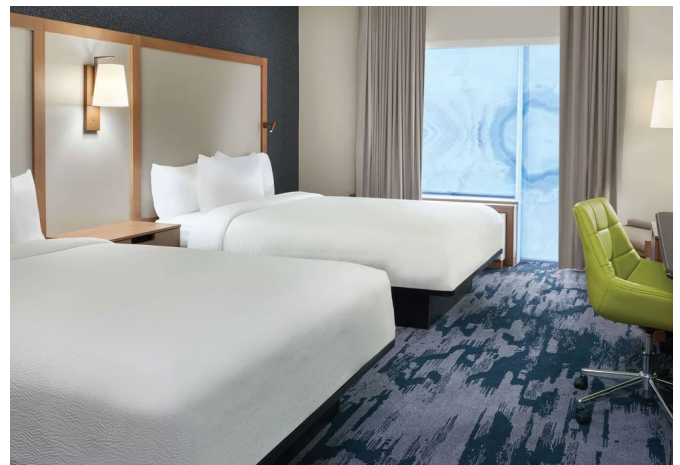
# Location & Accommodation

**Meeting Location:** [Conexus Orillia Campus](#), 4 King Street, Orillia, Ontario

We're excited to host the retreat at the brand-new Conexus Campus in Orillia which will have just celebrated its grand opening. This state-of-the-art facility offers a vibrant and modern space perfectly suited for our gathering. Located within walking distance of quaint downtown Orillia, the campus provides an inspiring environment for our sessions.

**Retreat Official Hotel:** Fairfield Inn & Suites Orillia  
8 Mulcahy Ct, Orillia, ON L3V 8B3  
[Link for official rates](#)

For your convenience, a special group rate has been arranged at the Fairfield Inn & Suites Orillia, available from October 15th to 18th, 2024, with rates ranging from \$134 CAD to \$143 CAD per night. The last day to book is September 20th, 2024. Guests can [book online using the provided reservation link](#) or call the hotel directly at 249.449.0368, quoting "Church Growth Incubator." For those booking by phone, it's recommended to press "0" to reach the front desk directly. A hot buffet breakfast is available each morning at the hotel or there a number of places between the hotel and the church for breakfast.





## FAQs

### **When does the event start and end?**

The retreat begins at 9:00 am on Wednesday, October 16th, and concludes with dinner on Thursday, October 17th.

### **Where is the official hotel for the event?**

The official hotel is [Fairfield Inn & Suites Orillia](#). We encourage you to stay here to maximize networking opportunities.

### **What is included in the registration?**

Lunch, dinner, and scheduled fun activities are included. You only need to take care of your travel and accommodation.

### **Is this event designed for individual or group participation?**

The retreat is designed for two people from each church, facilitating easier implementation of learned strategies at home.

### **Who can attend this retreat?**

While primarily for members of the Church Growth Incubator, we welcome a limited number of guests from invited churches.



## What Leaders Are Saying About Past Retreats

“Rich does an incredible job of making ministry solutions practical with easy steps to follow, while challenging you to live into who God is calling you and your church to be. While the practical tips and steps are one of a kind, the relationships developed and the access to world-class leaders are irreplaceable.” - Trevor Kennedy

“Rich has created an incredible resource for leaders! If you're looking for helpful and practical support coupled with meaningful connections, this is it!” - Jenni Catron

“Don't miss this opportunity to grow and learn from others — you'll come away with ideas that you can immediately implement!” - Josiah Wood

“The In-Person Retreat was a game changer for our church, since it provided the space to connect with other leaders from around North America in a relational environment.” - Evan Courtney

Rich Birch  
rb@unseminary.com  
Direct: (647) 221 3447

We're looking forward to you joining us.