

CHURCH PLANTING IN AMELIA, VA

PICTURE THIS...

Making disciples in one of the most neglected mission fields—rural America.

About 60 million people, or one in five Americans, live in rural areas that make up 97% of America’s land mass.

Studies show that rural counties are some of the least churched places in the United States. Small towns are seeing churches close when they need the witness of the Gospel through the planting of new multiplying churches.

2010 US Census population: 12,690

2020 US Census population: 13,084

Average household size: 2.6

Average home price: \$262,500

(Virginia: \$293,818; US: \$259,906)



Average Family Income

Local:		\$76,243
National:		\$93,707

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS:

Anglo.....	74%
African American.....	20%
Hispanic.....	3%
Asian.....	1%
Native American/other.....	2%

AGE DEMOGRAPHICS:

Median Age: 45	
Under 18.....	21%
19-38.....	22%
39-59.....	28%
Over 60.....	29%

Amelia County is a strong rural community located just 41 miles southwest of Richmond, the State Capitol of Virginia and rich in American history. Covering 359 square miles, 69% of the population live and work in the area. Over the last decade the county’s population has increased by 14.8%. It is expected to grow another 2.4% by 2025 as the population of Metro Richmond expands towards it.

Amelia County residents enjoy many opportunities for hunting and fishing and local dining establishments. In addition, you live within proximity to metro-Richmond area retail shops, entertainment, fine dining, museums and other cultural attractions as well as the best doctors and hospitals along the east coast.



Young Life is active in the high school and effective in reaching kids. (Photo: summer camp)

Amelia County Schools	Students	Students/Teacher
High School	507	16
Middle School	547	15
Elementary School	677	18
Amelia Academy	139	6

More students in Amelia county have graduated from high school than the national average, but fewer of them later go on to college. 46% of the county residents work in blue collar occupations.

COMMERCE/EMPLOYMENT:

Amelia County has the 5th lowest tax burden of any county in the nation within a top 50 metro area, thus making it an ideal place for a home or a business. The most common forms of employment are in health care, retail trade, construction, and manufacturing. The county also has a large agricultural presence which produces the 8th largest agricultural sales in Virginia. A 30-minute commute will bring you into the Richmond metropolitan area. High speed internet is being implemented enabling people to work remotely.



CHURCHES/PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Up to 26% of population report no faith involvement.
- Locals say only about 25% regularly attend church.
- Lots of very small churches; about 10 are fairly active.
- There is a desire for churches that provide programs for spiritual development.



NOW PICTURE THIS...

- Picture God actively calling people to himself from rural America to bless all of America.
- Picture a a gospel-saturated, missional church that speaks and extends God’s grace to all people.
- Picture a church that is an agent of reconciliation in the community, weaving together a tapestry that in its diversity gives praise to God.
- Picture a church that has a vision of God’s beauty for all creation and for all of life redeemed.

CAN YOU SEE IT?

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