



October 25, 2013

Dear Fellow Pastor:

Let me just get right to the point: My church's partnership with Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA) has enriched our congregational life and my own personal development as a pastor and disciple of Jesus.

When I think of the partnership, the lyrics of a children's song come to mind: *All God's critters got a place in the choir. Some sing lower. And some sing higher. Now, some sing out loud on the telephone wire And some just clap their hands... Or paws... Or anything they got.*

Children's songs often hold a lot of truth! We all have a place in the choir of God. We all have a part to sing, and we all have a role to play.

City Line Church is a small congregation in Philadelphia. And as such, we wrestled with how we could even *begin* to contribute to what God is doing in our world? How could we possibly have the resources or expertise or knowledge or wisdom or voice to be able to affect real change, to bring about justice in the world, in the nation, or even in our city? Effectively, in God's choir, all we can do is clap.

By developing a relationship with ESA, we have joined the choir, partnered with the organization to add our small part to accompany their strong voice. Where we don't have knowledge, ESA does. Where we lack expertise and experience, ESA thrives. Where we don't know how to think about an issue, to process really complex social and ecclesiastical problems through a gospel lens, they have not only thought deeply about it, but have also given us a way forward as well.

All of which is why our church partners with ESA, and would encourage you to consider such a partnership as well. At City Line, we pray for their work, we support them financially, and – equally important – we welcome their members into our community to love them, and to be loved by them. ESA is the kind of organization that God uses to grapple with national and global issues that a little church like ours can only have categories for, and that *alone* is reason enough to join our voice to theirs. But even *more* lovely is that the staff of ESA are the kind of individuals who bring God into our lives so that – together – we can grow in loving God, each other, and our neighbors.

I hope you will allow ESA to share these gifts with you, and that you will consider supporting them in return.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Hsu", written in a cursive style.

Jason Hsu
Lead Pastor