

Church Growth Phases

Phase 1

(FAQ) Frequently Asked Questions:

What is our theme for this expansion?

1 Thessalonians 5:24

But we must start with verse 23...

23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

Our task is to be the Holy people God has called us to be, and to be a people that He has set apart for Holy service, as we are obedient, as we respond to His calling, He will be faithful, and He will DO IT!

Does the cost of Phase 1 (\$57,949) include the cost of additional chairs?

No, the cost is only for the removal of the walls, to allow for an open versatile worship and gym area. Additional chairs will be purchased immediately as we are financially able.

Does the cost of Phase 1 (\$57,949) include the cost of different lighting for the gym that can be dimmed with the rest of the sanctuary?

No, to add the lighting would cost an additional \$16, 648. They will split off the banks of lights in the gym so that we can control the lighting feel in that area when we are all worshipping together.

Does the cost of Phase 1 (\$57,949) include additional sound equipment?

No, we believe we will have enough with what we currently are using, and will try to utilize our current sound to prevent the cost from growing further.

Does the cost of Phase 1 (\$57,949) include additional video projection equipment?

No, there is budgeted money for additional equipment already worked into the church budget and as such, and with the cost of equipment dropping drastically, we will incur that cost separate from the special funds we are seeking from the congregation to complete this project.

Can we borrow the money for Phase 1?

No, we would like to raise this money and finance this without paying interest. We currently have 2.28 million in indebtedness, and would utilize this expansion to provide additional worship and financial growth, while not putting us in a financial bind.

Can we conduct all phases at once?

No, Phase 1 will be conducted initially to allow for additional growth, and income, so that we can then proceed to Phase 2, and then provide a more permanent worship center in Phase 3.

What is the timetable?

Phase 1 would begin immediately as money is raised and as congregation approves.

Phase 2 is projected to begin in 2 years.

Phase 3 is projected to begin in 4 years.

Could we complete the Phases Sooner?

Yes! As the Lord provides financially, we will begin each phase on the Lord's timetable.

We will be obedient to His direction!

Why is there a need to do this?

Phase 1: As noted, in the church growth phases document, special functions are already at maximum capacity. Additionally, in December of 2009, we averaged more in that month (579) than we did in all of 2005, 2006, 2007, & 2008. For the month of January we were just four lower (566) than the highest of those years (570 in 2008). We believe that God is sending us new souls to add to the Kingdom, and as such we are preparing for the harvest, and allowing our church to further minister in His name. Our annual membership growth since our church began 80 years ago is 1.2%. This fiscal year, it looks like God has blessed us with a membership growth of 51. (Almost one new member a week!)

Why is there a need to do this?

Phase 2: We believe that Upward and the School will continue to grow, and as such we need to make a commitment to the evangelistic opportunities that they provide. The extra practice space for Upward and additional classrooms will assist us in reaching more for the cause of Christ than before.

What is the attendance goal of our church?

There is no numerical goal! We are preparing for the Lord's harvest as He sees fit. We will be a Missional People, that will everyday, learn and develop our own discipleship, and hone our Spiritual Gifts to glorify God by making Christ-like disciples of others in every facet of our lives. If categorically we continue to do this, these Phases are only the beginning, and God will bless our work in ways we cannot imagine. Our task is to be process oriented so we may achieve the goal to which He is calling us: Making Christ-like Disciples! As we make it our mission to excel in discipleship, the results take care of themselves.

What would change in relation to worship services after Phase 1 is complete?

Currently our worship service schedule would remain identical with two modifications.

- 1. We would have roughly 150 additional seats available in each service, as we utilize the space in the hallway.*
- 2. We would worship TOGETHER as a church every 5th Sunday. Those Sundays would be called Celebration Sunday's and as such, we would Celebrate together as a church all that God is doing. There would be no Connection Groups on those days, as we would worship the Lord together in one heart and voice.*

Additionally, we would have the overflow space needed for special functions immediately. School programs, special church functions, would not be limited by the size of the room. Upward Awards, and events could all be conducted on our grounds.

What about Parking?

A lower cost gravel solution is being considered, that would provide additional space. We also will be providing shuttle service for our people during Tragedy into Triumph, that shuttle service could continue as we continue to grow, until we could financially pave more parking slots on site.

Where would the coat racks go?

The coat racks would be removed, as there would be no space for them in any existing hallway. Rolling coat racks would be purchased and placed in gym when dividing curtain is down for worship, or placed in Room 106 when utilizing both areas. (Gym & Sanctuary).

Was the church board unanimous in approving these Phases?

Yes!

Can I go ahead and give toward Phase 1?

Absolutely, some already have! As God directs you, be faithful, to Him! Remember our theme verse... "The One who calls you is faithful and He will do it!"

Our Mission: To Glorify God by making Christ-like Disciples...