

MAKING ROOM FOR OTHERS

LIFE CHURCH



17 YEARS

### A SOLID HISTORY

- of Changed Lives
- of Faithfulness and Sacrifice
- of Strong Leadership
- of Impact in Our Community
- of Financial Integrity and Generosity
- of Continuous Growth Each Year
- of Relevant Ministry that Reaches People

## **AN UNWAVERING MISSION**

Life Church is dedicated to: Following Christ and Impacting the World

## PREPARED FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

- Currently over 50 people serving each weekend in all 3 services at Life Church
- A Leadership model that prepares and releases leaders for increased involvement in the lives of others
- A strong team of existing staff who understand what we do and fully participate in the mission
- Armed with historical data that allows us to effectively plan for future activities
- A core team that has been together for years, not months



#### **OUR CHALLENGE**

- Provide the financial resources to underwrite the capital project that will assist in implementing God's vision for our church
- To achieve the EXPAND campaign, we invite you to join us at any time on this spiritual journey of selfsacrifice, risk-taking, and a whole new level of trusting God
- We must effectively cast a compelling vision that will capture the heart of every person so that we can raise the leaders and the resources (\$1.2-1.8M) to see this dream of making room for others become a reality

#### A LARGER SANCTUARY AND EXPANDED MINISTRY SPACE WILL

- Make room for the growing number of people who can benefit eternally from expanding the ministry, outreach, and impact of Life Church locally, regionally, and globally
- Provide expanded space for the Nursery and Preschool to continue to grow
- Provide expanded space for Life Kids, our elementary age children, to continue to grow
- Provide space for G3, our Middle School, High School, and College outreach to grow

## WHAT GOD CAN ACCOMPLISH THROUGH US

- 1,000 in weekly attendance by 2016 (end of campaign)
- Hundreds of people (adults and children) who say YES! to Christ for the first time
- Hundreds water-baptized and filled with the Spirit
- Thousands of young and old whose lives are changed forever
- Everyone connected in relationship through small groups
- Training and equipping the next generation
- Investments into our local communities with the practical love of Christ
- Thriving mission outreaches
- Training and equipping through conferences, outreach events, and our ministries



As we navigate through the EXPAND Campaign at Life Church, there will be many questions as to what we are doing and why. Here are the FAQs and our best answers.

#### WHAT IS EXPAND?

EXPAND is a 2 year journey we have embarked on, with a goal of relocating to a permanent and adequate facility that will become the hub for Life Church. Yes, EXPAND is a capital campaign. Yes, we are rallying the troops to give generously, sacrificially, and with a high level of faith and expectation to see what God will do through an army of willing people. This 2 year campaign will be much more than a prolonged fundraiser; it will be a spiritual journey, a movement, a growing of our faith and vision that will impact thousands of people, nations throughout the world, and our friends and families for generations to come.

## WHY DO WE NEED A BIGGER BUILDING?

Our primary vehicle to reach people who are far from God has always been our weekend services. As of 2014, our weekend attendance (3 services) is around 770 people. There are roughly 1,000 people who call Life Church their home church and attend with some regularity. With those kinds of numbers our optimal service time is at times more than 80% capacity in the sanctuary, and full or overfull in our children's facilities. So in order to reach more people and fulfill God's vision, it should be obvious to all of us that we truly need a new home. With all that said, if you still feel like our facilities are working fine for you, here's the big idea—it's not about you; it's about the thousands of lives that will be impacted forever as we continue to step out in faith and build His Kingdom.

#### ISN'T OUR CHURCH BIG ENOUGH ALREADY?

Our church has always been about reaching people that are far from God and providing a place where they can grow in their knowledge of Christ and experience the presence of God. As long as God entrusts us with more hungry and hurting people, our church will always plan for growth. To embrace the misconception that our church is already big enough is to abandon the potential of thousands coming to Christ in the future, and we are not willing to do that.

People will always find a home in the presence of God, and no matter how many gather on the weekend, we will continue to grow deeper and healthier through small groups, discipleship, and relationships. This is the New Testament pattern and our mandate.

## HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST? HOW MUCH \$\$\$ DO WE PLAN TO RAISE?

The building we are currently interested in will cost \$2.3 million and will require an additional \$1.2-1.8 million to remodel for our purposes, for a total cost of \$3.5-4.1 million. We will be looking to sell our current building, which we own, and proceeds from the sale will contribute to the capital campaign. Although \$4.1 million is a daunting figure, it is not unreachable with the partnership of all of us. Our goal will be to raise \$1-1.5 million over the 2 year campaign.

Our goal is to purchase and remodel a building that accurately represents the greatness, provision, and excellence of the God we serve. The new building will be a great tool to reveal God to our community and region, so we are trying not to overspend on unnecessary things, while at the same time we are definitely not trying to see how cheaply we can build a house for the glory of God. Once again, the issue here is not really dollar amounts, but the faith and obedience of God's people.

#### WHY NOW?

First of all, this is God's time and God's timing. After several years of prayer, planning, growing, and walking by faith, we find ourselves standing at this moment of opportunity. Throughout all of history God has chosen to work powerfully in challenging times. Some of the greatest churches, colleges, and ministries were built during the Great Depression.

Secondly, this is the most opportune time to buy, purchase materials, and pay construction costs.

# WHAT ABOUT OUR GIVING TO THE POOR AND TO MISSIONS? WILL WE CONTINUE TO BE GENEROUS OR WILL WE NEED IT ALL FOR THE NEW BUILDING?

The unanimous and unwavering commitment of our leadership team is to never back off from our commitment to missions, community outreach, and giving to the poor. This has been one of the top values of Life Church and this will not change. Because EXPAND is a sacrificial and faith commitment beyond our tithe and normal giving patterns, we do not anticipate or plan on wavering from our current budgets and giving goals. In fact, our initial October 12 EXPAND special offering is also our Big Give offering and 10% of the initial give will go the poor and our Big Give Outreach.

Something else to consider: when we were a church of 100 we were able to give and invest X amount of dollars per year into world missions and benevolence. When the church multiplied so did our capacity to give. Now you can see the progression. As we have continued to grow, so has our yearly missions and benevolence giving. So our new facility, while requiring a great investment, will actually allow us to far exceed anything we've ever done before... and this will happen!

#### HOW LONG BEFORE WE MOVE TO THE NEW BUILDING?

All things working miraculously, and God's people catching the vision and participating fully, we will take the remainder of 2014 to raise additional funds; complete all the building plans, the design phase, and the construction documents; and secure all needed permits. There are many factors that influence timing but we hope for 2015.

## HOW DOES MY COMMITMENT TO EXPAND AFFECT MY REGULAR GIVING?

Hopefully in a positive way! This is not a campaign where we are asking people to take God's tithe and their consistent giving and simply reallocate it. What we are stepping into is the radical faith realm of extreme generosity and sacrificial giving that is OVER AND ABOVE.

This will be the 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 principle and power at work in our lives and in our church.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound (have more than enough) for every good work."

## SO WHAT IS IT YOU WANT ME TO DO?

Glad you ask! You should feel no pressure, stress, manipulation, coercion, or worry throughout this journey. We are leaning heavily on the Holy Spirit to guide our entire church body through the days ahead. We want you to 1) Pray, "God, what do You want to do through me and my family?" 2) Position yourself to be available and willing to do what God asks you to commit to do, and 3) Fill out a Commitment Card in obedience to what God tells you to do and join us on this journey.

#### IS MY COMMITMENT A ONE-TIME GIFT OR MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS? HOW DOES THAT WORK?

After you have taken the preparation steps of faith and prayer, and arrive at a dollar amount that you are committed to invest over the next 12-24 months, the commitment can be paid however and whenever works for you. Of course the need will be immediate, but everyone will be giving as all the variables of their lives allow. So, monthly, one-time gifts up front, or multiple installments are all fine. We are also asking for an initial EXPAND offering to be brought in on or before October 12th. We are challenging people to give their largest offering to date.

## WHAT IF I CANNOT FULFILL MY COMMITMENT?

The statistics show that 80-90% of all the people who make commitments are able to, and actually do, pay them in full. That is amazing and encouraging. If for whatever reason you are unable to fulfill your commitment, there is no binding contract, and no shame or pressure from the office or leaders. This is simply between you and God regarding fulfilling your vows and commitments.

#### WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CURRENT LIFE CHURCH BUILDING?

We don't know for sure. The longrange goal would be to sell it to another life-giving church that is growing in our community.

# IF A MEMBER OF LC IS A TRADESMAN AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN THE ACTUAL BUILDING OF THE CHURCH CAN THEY?

We are going to contract with a local building company who will take the project all the way to the ribbon-cutting. They are responsible for the construction management and will handle all of the bids and contracting. They will undoubtedly be using local contractors.

If you would like to help, please indicate that on the Commitment Card.

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T RAISE ENOUGH MONEY?

Whatever resources are raised during the 2 year campaign will be used for completing our project and reducing the loan. We will be realistic and use wisdom as we move forward on design through construction, making decisions based on pledge amounts given. Although this is a practical question, we are moving forward in faith believing there will be more than enough to finish and that we will not be detoured or delayed!

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T LIVE IN THE WALLA WALLA VALLEY WITHIN THE NEXT 12-24 MONTHS? FOR EXAMPLE, WE'RE IN THE MILITARY AND MAY MOVE.

The EXPAND campaign is about seeking God and responding to how He leads you to be involved. The Lord knows your situation and what it may look like over the next 24 months. Continue to respond to Him and how He leads and you will be in the exact position you should be in 24 months from now. The Lord may ask you to continue to support the project even if you move away. This is between you and the Lord.

#### WHAT IF MY FINANCES CHANGE IN A MONTH OR YEAR FROM NOW... CAN I CHANGE MY PLEDGE?

Absolutely. We're not looking to put people into bondage. We do, however, believe that "God is able to make all grace abound to you" and we believe this will be the most prosperous season of your life in every way!

We are looking for what you intend to give but will not be asking for a binding commitment... life happens and we understand that pledges will adjust up and down over a 1-2 year campaign.





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## PRAYER POINTS

LIFE CHURCH

## PROJECT-SPECIFIC PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray for favor with the City of Walla Walla as we negotiate permits & contracts
- Pray that God would lead our building team and design company
- Pray that our general contractor would manage the project in such a way that we have no delays or unnecessary costs, and that they would, in turn, be blessed through being a part of our project
- Pray for favor with lenders so we can secure the right financing at the right time for the project

## PEOPLE-SPECIFIC PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that God would continue to draw the lost to our church in the time before the new facility is completed. Also, pray for thousands of people to come to know Christ through this new facility.
- Pray that our church would continue to give sacrificially our goal is not equal giving among all our churchgoers, but equal sacrifice
- Pray that 100% of our church would jump on board with the EXPAND Campaign

## FINALLY, PRAY THESE TWO OVERARCHING DETAILS FOR COMPLETION OF THE NEW FACILITY

- That we would collect all the funds needed during the EXPAND Campaign
- Continuation of faithful stewardship of God's blessing on our church finances to position us for the future!