



## JENNERVILLE WORSHIP CENTER EXPANSION

# KEY QUESTIONS

### **Why is this needed now?**

Our regular attenders at Jennersville know why: Because we're out of space! In the five years since our adoption of Living Faith Community Church—which became Willowdale Jennersville—we have grown immensely, regularly topping 300 worshipers just in the main services (not counting children). Even in off-peak seasons we are usually filled to capacity, especially in the first service. In order to accommodate continued growth and provide much-needed updates to our AVL systems and lobby, we are compelled to do this work.

### **What is the scope of the project?**

1. We will expand seating capacity by about 50% to seat approximately 300 people per service. This will be accomplished by taking out the side walls (expanding into the current kitchen and office areas) and bumping out the stage beyond the current exterior wall.
2. We will install all new AVL systems (audio, visual, and lighting) as well as a baptistery.
3. We will renovate the lobby and bathrooms, and relocate the café.
4. We will move the offices to the old conference/classroom section in the middle of the building.

### **Are we thinking big enough?**

Questions have been raised about whether this expansion will be adequate. We believe it will be; and taking all factors into consideration, we're confident this is the wisest and best use of our resources.

1. Our vision is for more small and mid-size churches throughout our region rather than larger regional campuses. We think this best meets people's needs and best advances our disciple-making mission. There's intimacy, ownership, and fuller engagement. We believe this is the future not just for us but for the church in America: a network of slightly smaller, more local church communities rather than larger regional campuses.
2. This plan will empower us to double in size to 700 or more, including children and youth, without adding services. Of course, we can add services at either campus (many churches hold more than two each weekend). Large venues are convenient for holding more people, but they entail a kind of wastefulness: cavernous spaces used only two hours a week. We think it's better stewardship, and better for the mission, to add services as need and opportunity arise, rather than add facility space.
3. We are able to do this construction under our existing land development plan and building permit. We don't have to spend years of time or millions of dollars more in pursuit of a bigger building.

### **Is this a Jennersville-only campaign?**

The entire church body at both campuses is being invited into the project. Some Kennett people have already shared their intention to give, including the entire elder team. But that being said, the emphasis will be on Jennersville taking the lead. We know the body there has the capacity to fund this work—it already gave nearly this amount in the first phase of *Ripple Effects*, our previous campaign. And we believe this is a step of solidarity, ownership, and discipleship for Jennersville. “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” We’re also sensitive to the body at Kennett which has been through three multi-million dollar capital campaigns in the last dozen or so years. They have invested millions in both campuses, so while some Kennett folks will give even more, this is a Jennersville-driven initiative.

### **How do we make commitments?**

Visit our website—Our Church/Capital Fund—to make a pledge for the next 18 months or to give a gift. We will also have paper commitment cards available. However, please keep in mind that these capital gifts should be over-and-above your regular giving. We still have lots of ministry to do every week!

### **When will construction begin?**

If we receive the needed pledges, we will begin as soon as possible on good faith that the funds will come in. We hope to commence construction this fall.

### **How will this disrupt operations at Jennersville?**

That is yet to be determined, but for the most part the worship center will be usable on Sundays, although we’ll certainly need to say “excuse our dust.” If there are any times we cannot use it, we will make alternate plans. Overall, the inconveniences of a construction project are far outweighed by the excitement of seeing it happen.

### **Can you show us more of what the finished product will look like?**

Of course!

