

WIDEN THE CIRCLE

frequently asked questions

How can our church “widen the circle” of influence within our community? We believe it’s by enlarging our capacity for weekend ministry while continuing to work hard to have dynamic and effective ministries throughout the week. With this in mind, we are excited to shift to a multiple service format so that we can include more friends, family, neighbors and co-workers in the Kingdom of God!

Why are we making this change? *As a church, we are committed to doing our part to build the Kingdom of God by sharing His love with Flushing and the surrounding communities. We have currently exhausted effective children’s ministry space and are nearing our capacity in the gym for adult worship. We must be proactive to continue the mission God has given us.*

What will our service times be? *Beginning Sunday, March 16, our first service will begin at 9:30 AM. We are planning a 65 minute service with a 25 minute transition. Our second service will begin at 11:00 AM.*

What should I expect will be different on March 16? *By creating two services, we have to expect that it will “feel” like there will be less people attending the church. However, we will be finding ways to communicate and celebrate our continued growth.*

How long will this continue? *We have established a 4-month review process to make sure this format is accomplishing our objectives. After 4-months, if we aren’t seeing relief in our children’s department and overall church-wide growth, we will consider our best options.*

Will both services be the same for children? *Our children’s ministries will function exactly as they do now (full nursery, toddler, Kid City and Club 56) at each service. You will continue to check in and check out your child at the Children’s Welcome Center. We believe that offering smaller groups for our children will only improve our ability to effectively teach them about God’s love and His purpose for their lives.*

Will the worship service in the gym be any different? *Our worship services will be planned exactly the same. There will be occasional differences based on time constraints and special ceremonies (dedications, testimonies, baptisms, etc). We are looking at ways for both services to celebrate those special moments together.*

Did we consider other options? *Pastor Terry met with several Pastors who have gone through similar growth patterns so we could learn from their experiences. After thorough discussion, we have concluded this is the best first step. Other options remain.*

Is it possible to serve at one service and worship at the other? *Absolutely it is and we hope many of you will do that. It’s a perfect combination!*

Could we expand our current facility to accommodate our growth? *Over the past few months, various members of our leadership have met with several “design/build” companies to explore many expansion options. With our current debt (\$560,000), we feel that adding to that debt would be irresponsible. However, we are continuing to look at expansion ideas by developing a Property Master Plan. At the same time, we are forming a team to consider ways we need to raise enough capital to pay for any expansions while also paying down our debt.*

Can I go to a different service each week? *Yes you can. Depending on your family dynamics, we would anticipate this being a great way to stay in touch with the entire church. You may also discover that having different service times will give you greater flexibility in scheduling your personal Sunday agenda.*

What if I don’t like it? *We are asking that we all give this some time. If you have strong feelings about the change, Pastor Terry is very open to discussing them with you. Please schedule a time to sit down with him during the week to do so. He might even buy your coffee!*

How can I get involved? *There are two significant ways you can be involved. **First**, join us in **praying** for our church over the coming weeks. Beginning Ash Wednesday (March 5) we will be offering a special 40 Days of Prayer emphasis that will guide us through all of Lent, this transition, and prepare our hearts for Easter (April 20).*

***Secondly**, consider who can **invite** to “widen your circle” of impact. Making more room for friends will only be an important step if you remain intentional about inviting those you care about to experience God’s love.*

***Finally**, we need you to **volunteer!** Below is a list of items we currently see as needs for you to consider. Contact the leader in charge and be a blessing today!*

Children’s Welcome Center.....Erica Hammond
Children’s Worker (various ages, needs)..... Darcy Smith
Children’s Teacher (5-6 grade) Darcy Smith
First Touch (Front Door).....Pat Stewart
Greeter (Gym Doors with bulletins) Rozanna Pavia
Worship Host (inside the gym)..... Mary Ann Korte
Welcome CenterLaura Baragwanath
Coffee Bar (will be open before each service)..... Rick Brandt
Set Up/Tear Down Teams Terry Bate