

GROWING in faith

Youth Edition

04.29.18

On April 29th, we will celebrate many things - God's faithfulness in the past, His faithfulness today, and the vision and opportunities God has given us to fulfill our mission of Transforming Lives through Jesus Christ. This event is scheduled to be the culminating event of the active phase of the campaign. We continue to ask you to be in prayer about how God would want you to respond to this Kingdom Invitation.

Interview with a child...

Avielle - Age 4

Q: Why do you go to church?

A: To learn about God and the Bible

Q: Who do you learn about?

A: Abraham, Joseph, God, and Jesus

Q: Do you think everyone should go to church?

A: Yes. God always wants them to.

Q: What's something you wish you could do at church?

A: Sing up front on stage



The last page of this newsletter is really a coloring page! Please encourage your child to color it and turn it into Brandon Hewitt. They will be displayed at the church!

A note from Pastor Corey Miller...

When I first started at Waterdam Church in 2013, I remember walking into my first Youth Sunday School class and there were three students in the room. I introduced myself and waited for the rest of students to arrive, only to discover that these were the only students in class that day. Almost five years later, we now have two separate Jr. High and Sr. High Sunday School classes, both averaging about ten students. We have seen a similar pattern of growth in our midweek gatherings. It has been encouraging to see how God is blessing our Youth Ministry. As Illuminate Youth Ministries continues to grow, I can see many great opportunities coming alongside of our new building. I would like to share with you the main ones:

Connection To The Church

Currently, all our Wednesday Night gatherings take place in “The Workshop”. For those who are unaware, The Workshop is the small building across the street and next door to the Church Offices. It has been great to have a place for the Youth to call their own, but the physical distance from The Workshop and the Church Building can create a metaphorical distance in our congregation. Being able to meet in the same building as the rest of our ministries will bridge that gap and bring us together under the overall ministry of Waterdam Church.

Increase Ministry Opportunities

With the creation of a Fellowship Hall/Multi-Purpose Room, the Youth Ministry will be able to have more diverse types of events. This would include but is not limited to events centered around games, music, food, and sports. This provides an ability to reach teens of different demographics and backgrounds, all of which have a wide array of interests.

Becoming The “Third Place”

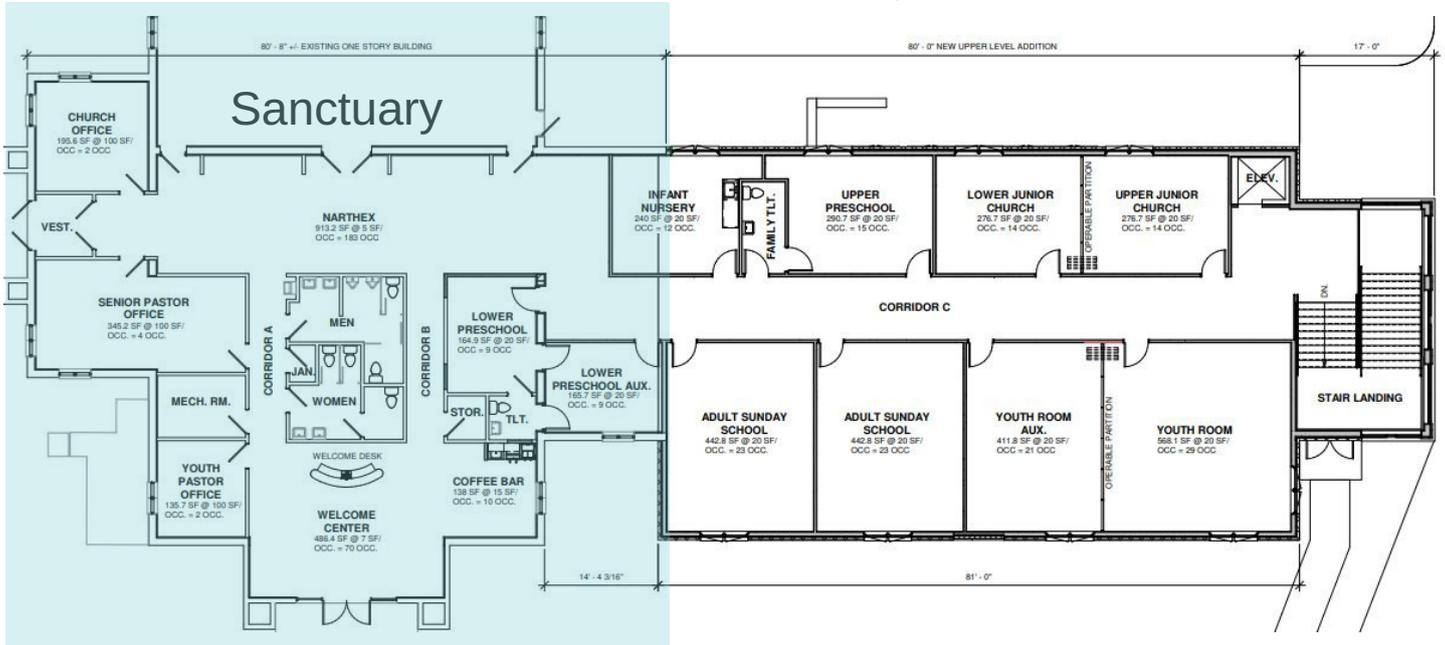
Most people have three places that they attend on a regular basis. Those three places are their home, their work/school, and then another of their choosing that is usually for leisure. For many this is a place like Starbucks, the mall, or the gym. My goal is for Waterdam Church to become that third place for our youth. Whether it is coming to do homework, to play games, or just relax, Waterdam Church can become the place for teenagers to come and spend their “off time”.

More Comfort

I believe this point is the most relatable. We all like to be comfortable, whether it is from the temperature, space, or other various factors. This new building will provide a place for our teenagers to not only feel comfortable through the means of a nice place to sit or hangout, but will also provide an area of the church that they can call their own. It not only provides “elbow room” for our growing youth ministry, but places teenagers in an environment that is more suited to their needs.

Illuminate Youth Ministries derive their name from Matthew 5:14-16. We are all called to be “the light of the world” and as this Church Building expands, so will our ability and opportunity to do so. - Corey

Upper Level Schematic Drawings (Educational Space)



The above drawing shows the most recent layout of the upper level of the expansion project. The current church structure is shown in blue. This rendering also includes the offices and youth group being moved back to the church rather than across the street.



Note: Full schematic drawings will be made available and shown at the Town Hall meeting on April 8th!

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Waterdam Church