



What is your vision for Living Word - as it relates to a new building?

This is an appropriate question given the fact that we are just beginning our fund raising effort for a new building. Below are some thoughts I shared at our Celebration Dinner, as well as lots of thoughts others had when I "passed the question around."

One vision I have is to be able to walk down the streets of New London and give a definite answer when someone asks (as someone almost always does) "When are you going to start building?" Another thing I envision is sitting down with a young couple planning their wedding and be able to answer "Yes, we have plenty of room to have your wedding in OUR sanctuary." I have the same vision when it comes to planning funerals with people, "Yes. We will have no problem seating that many people - and serving them lunch afterward."

Here are some answers to my question, "What will a new building do for Living Word - how will it enable us to better help people to know Jesus.?"

- A building of our own will give us credibility. We have the truth of God's Word to share and having our own building will give more weight to our message than proclaiming it from a rented facility.
- A building of our own will give us stability - and send the message to our community that we are here for the long haul.
- A building of our own will mean less limitations on what we can do e.g . We were not able to put up a sign outside the school building telling people that we were holding the "40 Days of Purpose."
- A building of our own will enable us to have separate rooms for our Sunday School classes, so they don't have to meet in hallways or open areas where people are constantly passing through.
- A building of our own will enable us to host a lot more people for worship.
- A building of our own can be a visible reminder of the hope we have in Christ for all who drive by. We'll be able to once again place a cross on our property.
- A building of our own will enable us to feel more "at home." Right now, when we invite someone to come to Living Word it feels like we are inviting them to come visit us at our neighbor's house. We don't feel "at home" and so neither do they.
- A building of our own will be fully dedicated to our task of making disciples.
- A building of our own will make many people more "at home" worshipping Jesus than they are in a classroom.
- A building of our own will bring more people to us, and in turn that will enable us to do things we can't do with smaller numbers.
- A building of our own will keep us from being limited by the schedules of all the other tenants of the school building.
- A building of our own will enable us to have our own kitchen!
- A building of our own will help people to know where to find Living Word. "Living Word... let's see. A couple years ago they were "here." Last year they were "there." Where they are this year, I'm not sure."

All great visions of why having our own building will enhance our ability to accomplish our mission of "Making Disciples."

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net