You may be asking why now is right time to introduce a building expansion for Mt. Gilead Church. For the last several years, it has been evident that our facilities are stifling ministry opportunities for Mt. Gilead. We have hit a plateau at around 1200 people and we will not exceed that ceiling without making room for more people to hear the gospel in Morgan County.

Top ten reasons for expansion here at Mt. Gilead

1. A larger worship space would allow us to have two services that are both in the high traffic time frame. When most people, who don’t yet attend church, think about going to church they move toward 10am on Sunday morning. If making room for more people at Mt. Gilead was as simple as adding service times we could have them all day long, but the reality is that the majority of our guests and most of our members choose to gather mid-morning on Sunday. The middle service is definitely in the sweet spot time frame. It is generally full and the first and third services rarely overflow except on special days. We have had success moving those two services closer to the middle but time restraints don’t allow us to move any further. Two larger services would remedy that.

2. One of the greatest reasons for expanding is to provide room for Children’s Ministry to grow and expand – especially in Children’s Worship. Our most recent Starting Point experience had 39 new people and 10 of them were children. Our current worship space could be utilized, at least in part, for our crowded Children’s Ministry, which is an indispensable part of a growing church. We are also one of the few churches in the area with a comprehensive youth program. There are many families who will consider our church for this reason. We have a coordinated intentional approach as we design programming for all of our youth, from birth through high school, and we want to provide space for that.

3. Another issue is creating more transition times between services. Our current turnaround time is only 12-15 minutes and we regularly hear stories of people who turned around and left when they saw the congestion between services. More room and time also encourages folks to stay and converse and connect between services instead of making them feel like they need to get out and create space for someone else.

4. A larger gathering space also allows for slightly extended services to adequately accomplish what needs to happen in the assembly. Often we are rushed and pressured to beat the clock when decisions need to be made, communion needs to be savored and communication needs to take place. This extra cushion would create space for experiences like we’ve had recently with more meaningful communion services and tangible participatory activities like the shredding of our fears, special prayer times, and other interactive worship experiences.

5. In a culture where large churches are growing and medium size churches are stagnating, it allows Mt. Gilead with our clear message of New Testament Christianity to be a leader in our region and a must see option for seekers. When someone moves into our community or looks for a church we want to be on their shortlist as they seek God.

6. Building utilizes and implements our decades long expectation of our original vision, promise and plan for expansion on this campus at a time when interest rates are low etc.

7. An expanded ministry here gives Mt. Gilead a greater voice and influence in our community and around the brotherhood to influence our world for Jesus. And it ultimately increases and adds to our capacity to overcome plateaus and grow the Kingdom here and increase our sending power in other parts of the world.

8. A larger auditorium also provides a large gathering space for occasional needs in the Mooresville Community.

9. Growing to the next level may help set the stage for future church planting and expansion beyond this campus.

10. This initiative responds to the years of prayer and seeking God’s will and the unique positioning, momentum and potential that for some reason God has given Mt. Gilead for such a time as this. Let’s do this for the glory of God and for the sake of those who don’t yet know Him and the gathering of people for Him.

For more information about the project, visit mgchurch.org/itstime
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Jeff Faull
Senior Minister

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