



JESUS BUILDS HIS CHURCH



highrock
church

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WHO WE ARE

Our vision is to be a church of authentic people who live out the message of Jesus in such a real way that others would experience His love and mercy. At High Rock, we believe that Jesus wants His church to be a place where you can be real, loved right where you are, and confident of what you will become. We see this playing out in several key ways in the midst of the local church. The first is bringing people to Jesus. As Christians, we are constantly inviting people to come and hear truth from the Bible. As people come into the church, our hope is that the truth from the Bible would impact them in such a way that their whole life would be devoted to Jesus and that it would play out in the midst of the local church. So far at High Rock, we have watched Jesus save many people and transform many more. We are excited that this is just the start of what Jesus has planned.

As a church we see great value in inviting people to membership and providing a place where Christians can live out their beliefs. We do not want to be a Sunday morning only church, but instead desire to be a group of Christians who live to do the will of God every day of the week. As people live out their devotion, we learn how to serve God and to serve others. There are currently over 100 individuals that serve on teams at High Rock so that everything can run smoothly. We see this as a great stepping stone to learning how to serve our community and impact others for Jesus. In the future, this heart of service will be displayed at High Rock when we send out church plants to other cities.

Knowing and being devoted to Jesus is so much more than just serving Him. He is real and He is alive. As a church, we get to experience His presence when we seek Him. For this reason we strongly believe in teaching people to worship Jesus and to experience His presence in a real, "non-hyped" way. We regularly experience the Holy Spirit's presence in the midst of Sunday services and small groups, and are thankful that He is a God who cares for His people and draws near. We see these values emphasized throughout the Bible and are thankful for the grace Jesus has given us. We look forward to the future with great excitement to watch as Jesus builds His church.



WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM

In 2007, Scott Joseph was a staff pastor at Vine Church in Carbondale, IL. He and his wife Stacy had long felt the call to plant a church and knew it was just a matter of God leading in the right timing and the right location. After visiting a few other cities throughout the country, they decided to visit Bloomington, IN. During that first visit, they knew that Bloomington was home. In November, 2007 the plans to send a church-planting team to Bloomington were announced to Vine Church and people began feeling God call them to this mission of reaching this city and the IU community. During the spring of 2008 a church-planting team of 25 people began to come together to pray and prepare for the move to plant a new church. By June all 25 had moved here and began to find jobs while getting ready to serve the people that Jesus would bring to this baby church.

High Rock Church began services in September 2008, doubling in size on our first Sunday. The 25 became 50 and began to grow from there. On that first Sunday, some came to faith in Jesus for the first time and were baptized a short time later. We have continued to watch Jesus save people and have now baptized over 60 adults in our 5 years here.

We have watched Jesus build his church in health and in numbers. Healthy churches grow. We have never focused solely on numerical growth but rather on simply obeying Jesus' command to make disciples. If we obey Him, He will lead and build His church in a healthy manner. Growth in numbers will follow, but the spiritual growth of individuals and the community is more important. While we've watched the church grow ten-fold in these 5 years, it's more exciting to recognize that these numbers represent individual people who are all growing closer to Jesus through their participation in His church. The first 5 years and the growth of the first 250 people have been exciting to watch. We don't want to stop.



WHERE WE ARE GOING

Local Church

We understand the local church to be Jesus' primary vehicle for carrying out His mission of making disciples for Himself. We also believe that the models found in the New Testament for the local church are simple and functional. Doing church is not something for which we need a ton of creativity. We aim for functional church structures with real people and relationships where God is worshiped, the Bible is clearly preached, leadership is developed, new believers come to Jesus, maturing disciples are trained and equipped in small groups, and new churches are planted.

Church Planting

A major part of our vision at High Rock Church is church planting. Local churches should be continually giving themselves away through sending well prepared church planters and teams to start new churches in other cities. Long before we plant the first church out of High Rock, we are already committed to doing whatever Jesus asks to see that healthy, growing churches are started near universities all over the Midwest of the United States and, in the future, in other countries. Church planting is the most effective way forward in making disciples for Jesus; it is simply an essential part of the greater mission that Jesus would be known and glorified.

Our Network

High Rock Church is part of a small network of church-planting churches that strive to obey Jesus' mission to make disciples in each of their cities; we are like-minded in doctrine and style, yet not a denomination. We are friends who support and encourage each other, start new churches, and follow Jesus together. There are currently 10 churches in this small network, which include High Rock Church (Bloomington, IN), Vine Church (Carbondale, IL), Blue Sky Church (Bellevue, WA), City Lights Church (St. Louis, MO), Clear River Church (West Lafayette, IN), Clear View Church (Bloomington, IL), Brookfield Church (Athens, OH), Hills Church (Pullman, WA), Cedar Heights Church (State College, PA), and Rock Hills Church (Bowling Green, KY).

HOW WE GET THERE

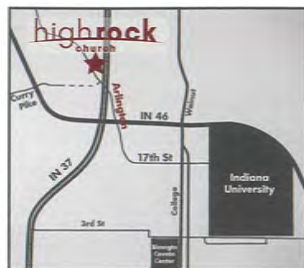
Our current facility situation lacks what is needed to continue in what Jesus has called us to be as a church. We remain committed to doing whatever is necessary to accommodate those who would come to Jesus. What He has done so far in growing us from a team of 25 people to a church of 250 in a rented facility makes us hopeful for what the future holds in a permanent building. By the grace of God, we expect that High Rock will continue to grow to a church of 1,500 or more to effectively carry out our mission of disciple making and church planting.

We firmly believe that God is now directing us to purchase a building and transform it into a facility that will adequately support the growth He intends to bring. While we are thankful for the temporary home that we currently have, we must make more room for the disciples He has yet to bring.



Location

The solution that God has provided really does an amazing job of meeting our current needs while allowing for future expansion. The location will have great visibility in the community since it will be located right on what will be Interstate 69. It is also close to campus and easy for students to navigate since it will just be 5 minutes west of the stadiums staying on one street. The possibilities for future expansion are exciting as well since there is a lot of surrounding acreage that will be suitable for adding up to 20,000 more square feet to the current building. We believe that this building represents the generous provision of our God. You can read the components of our purchase and renovation below and can take a close look at the following pages which show a conceptual plan of what the new facility will look like.



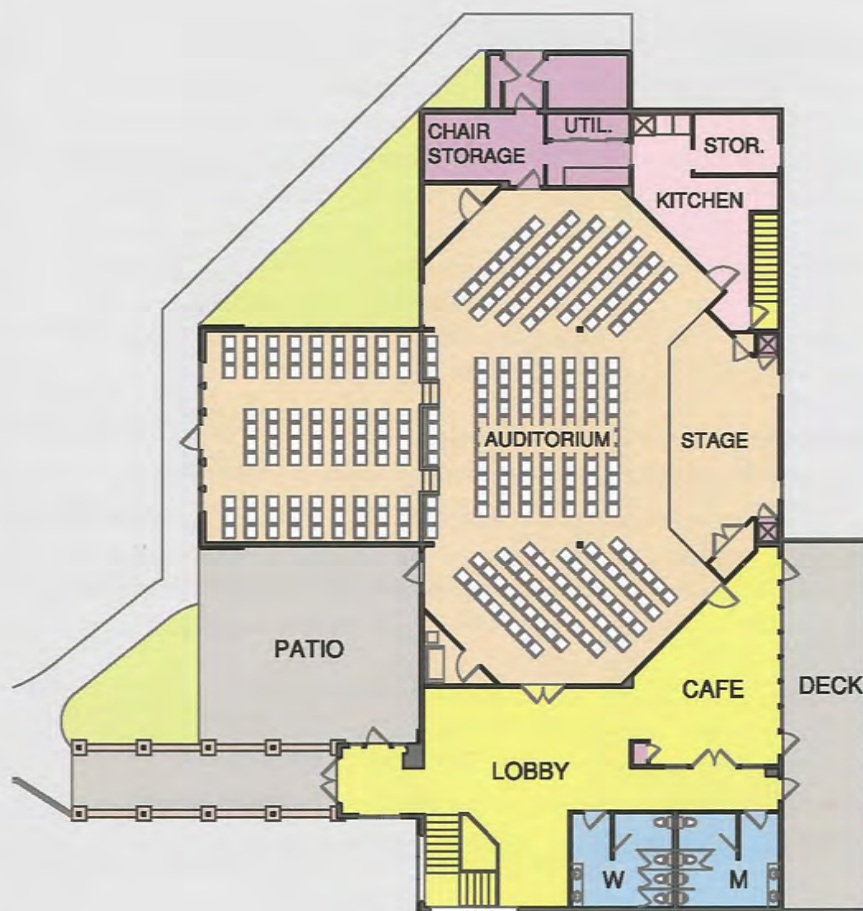
Lobby

Because of the importance of knowing each other and building meaningful relationships, the lobby will be an attractive first impression for guests and a great spot for all of us to connect with each other. The lobby will be clearly marked with permanent signage that will allow our guests coming in to have a sense of where they are and where to go for important things like the auditorium, kids program, and bathrooms. There will be a Welcome Center staffed by friendly, helpful people and an aesthetically pleasing permanent display for small group cards and other information. There will also be a cafe area with coffee and couches connected to a nice outdoor deck. All of these touches will represent significant upgrades from the tables set up in our current lobby/auditorium and will help to facilitate the building of relationships.

Auditorium

The largest single area of the new facility will be the auditorium. It will seat approximately 250 people in a setting more appropriate to our size. The auditorium in the Convention Center is too large and actually is a hindrance, rather than a help, to our growth because of the first impression that it makes. We hope to outgrow our new auditorium soon after we move in! This will allow us to go to two services and make room for 250 more people! We feel that we will be able to grow to 700-800 people in multiple services before we expand the facility and build a larger auditorium. The acoustics in the room will be designed for our style of worship. The auditorium will be equipped with professional lighting and state of the art audio-visual equipment. The style and finishes (furniture, fixtures, flooring, walls, etc.) will continue to remain simple and uncluttered, yet aesthetically pleasing.

UPPER LEVEL



LOWER LEVEL

Kids' Space

Because family is so important to the life of the community, all of our Kids Space (Nursery-5th Grade) will be upgraded to have a look and feel that will feel fun for the kids and safe for the parents. All the different rooms will be located in a single area set apart from the main auditorium. The new Kids Space is one of the areas we are most excited about. It simply isn't possible to set up an attractive, fun, high-quality Kids Space in a temporary facility. The things we will be able to do in our own space will represent a dramatic improvement and will have a great impact on families at High Rock. We believe this space, coupled with the youth room, will allow us to reach families better than we ever have before.

Youth Room

It has been fun to see God create a new youth group from nothing! Our youth group has literally just begun and went from 0 to 15 kids in the first few weeks. We are so excited for the youth group to have a space to call home where it can grow and continue to flourish. The youth room will be designed with youth in mind and will grow and shift and transform along with the youth that will be using it.

Offices

The chance to have our staff offices in the same physical location as our Sunday service space will be a significant help to the functioning of the church both during the work week and weekend service. We are excited for the opportunities this space will provide for the expansion of our staff and internship program.



FAQ

What is the time frame for the building project?

We have an agreement in place to purchase the facility that would have us closing on it at the end of the year. Once that happens we will own the building and can begin construction work on the renovation. We will continue to meet in the Convention Center as much as possible during the spring and hope to be able to meet in our new space by Easter Sunday.

What will the future weekend service schedule be?

We will likely grow to the place of needing two Sunday morning services at 9:30am and 11:15am. We know that people appreciate different time options, and we desire to accommodate varying schedules and preferences. As God continues to bring more people to His church, we will add more services.

How much will the project cost?

The purchase of the building (13,700 square feet) will cost \$750,000 with an additional \$250,000 for the renovation and remodel. The cost of the completed project will be approximately \$1 million. While the cost sounds high, it is very reasonable considering prices with good location and proximity to campus in Bloomington. The value of the property we intend to purchase recently appraised for \$400,000 more than our purchase price, meaning we are getting an exceptionally great deal and gaining that much instant equity. This newly expanded facility will enable us to grow and invite more people to Jesus in Bloomington and the surrounding area so the cost is worth every penny.

How will we pay for the facility purchase and renovation?

We plan to pay for a substantial portion of the total cost through the offering that we will collect from the church. The goal is for the church to sacrificially give over and above their current tithes when the offering is collected on October 13. There will also be an opportunity for people to make a 2-year commitment of giving over and above their tithes through commitment cards which will be available beginning on September 15. Whatever is not collected from the offering will be financed through a mortgage. We need to reach a minimum of \$250,000 up front (not including pledges) to proceed as planned.

How will we afford monthly payments?

We currently rent about 15,000 square feet from the Convention Center, though not all of that space is used or necessary. We also lease 1,200 square feet of office space. The monthly cost of our current Sunday rent and office lease will likely be very similar to our future mortgage payments. Our future payments may actually be lower depending on the amount financed and the interest rate. Even if the payment is larger, it won't be much larger. We have always been able to pay all our bills. As the church grows, due in part to God's provision of a better meeting space, the larger church will easily be able to afford monthly payments. We will be getting an appropriately sized facility, in an ideal location, at a great deal, with payments roughly equal to, and perhaps even lower than, our current facility expenses.



FAQ

What is our philosophy regarding debt?

When we take scripture at face value, we find that generally debt is not considered a good thing. It can be constraining and make one subject to those that are lending the money. We are conservative regarding debt and up to this point have not borrowed for planting High Rock.

While it would be ideal to raise enough money (in cash and pledges) through our offering to pay for the entire project upon completion, our expectation is that we will need to borrow additional funds to complete what is needed. Our desire is to incur as little debt as possible. Given historically low interest rates, and depending on the amount we can put down, the potential exists that our mortgage payment will be lower than our current monthly rent.

Why spend money on buildings and facilities instead of people?

Our vision is to be a church of authentic people who live out the message of Jesus and the Bible in such a real way that others would experience the love and mercy of Jesus: Bringing People to Jesus, Inviting to Membership, Equipping for Service, Teaching to Worship.

In order to do these things we must have the means to do it. In other words, an upgraded facility is one of the "tools" that enable us to serve the people God has entrusted to us. The facility purchase does not signal any change in High Rock's long standing mission and priorities, merely an expansion of our capacity to do the very same things we have been doing since we began. We are not spending on a building instead of people but for people.

Are we more committed to beauty or functionality?

High Rock's values will not change. We have never been, nor will we ever be, interested in building something gaudy or extravagant. We continue to highly value being real and not presumptuous in all that we do. Consequently, the style and finishes in the new facility (furniture, fixtures, floor, wall coverings, etc.) will continue to remain simple.

On the other hand, we desire that our facilities be attractive to guests and approachable. We want the new facility to enhance our goal of making new disciples and planting new churches. So while our emphasis is on being real, our new facility will have an upgraded appearance that fits our style in reaching this community. As always, we'll try to do this in a low-cost, budget-conscious way.

What would a successful building offering look like?

The primary measure of success in a building offering won't be in dollar amounts but in spiritual growth in discipleship taking place in people. Every person who prays for direction considering what to give, then hears God and gives obediently, sacrificially, and cheerfully, trusting God to come through, will personally experience a very successful building offering. With that said, a successful offering (financially speaking) would result in \$500,000 total (up front plus 2 year commitments), allowing us to finance a smaller amount and save money each month for other ministry opportunities. A hugely successful offering would result in the full \$1 million, allowing us to go forward without the need to incur any debt. The minimum amount required to move forward is \$250,000, cash in hand.

What should I give toward the facility purchase and renovation?

We want individuals to give freely and not under any pressure. The Bible teaches that "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8). There are two very different approaches in determining what you should give. One approach would be to look at your checkbook or monthly budget and ask, "What can I/we afford?" This approach simply calculates existing resources and does not require prayer, faith, or God's help. A second approach is to simply ask God what He wants you to give. This requires willingness to risk, listen to God, and then trust Him to provide as you step out in faith and obedience. We recommend this second approach.

After collecting the offering, we don't simply want to have reached a certain amount of money. If that is all we have done, we have failed. We hope for more.

- We want each individual and family to experience the thrill of hearing
- God, and then risk in obedience in a way that causes you to grow.
- We want you to have your vision and faith expanded.
- We want you to experience how God faithfully provides for your needs.
- We want to experience God's power, and, as a result, love Him more.

We believe that this project is a huge spiritual adventure that has the potential to deepen our faith and grow us as disciples in order to experience His Kingdom more fully than ever before!

FAQ

Are there giving guidelines?

Many people have asked for guidelines in praying and discerning God's will as this offering is collected.

STEP 1: Acknowledge that God is the owner of everything on the earth (Psalm 24:1, 50:1-2) and we are the managers of what He has given us. As such, we don't own anything. Everything we have – our time, talents, natural abilities, possessions, financial resources, families, health, the places we live and so forth – are essentially on loan from God. It's our responsibility to manage these things wisely, at His instruction, for His purposes.

STEP 2: We want to affirm that God's financial plan for His people (in both Old and New Testament times) includes giving of tithes and offerings. Consequently, we want to encourage those who call High Rock "home" but are not yet tithing to the church to begin doing so. Tithing is when we voluntarily and regularly give to the church. That is, followers of Jesus are to give the first 10% of all of our income to God (Proverbs 3:9, Malachi 3:6-12). Tithe means "a tenth part."

STEP 3: Once church members are faithful to give their tithe, then they are prepared to take the next step of obedience by giving an offering – in this case, in the form of a gift or pledge to the building offering.

Biblically speaking, an offering is any voluntary donation that is given with God's leading beyond your tithe.

In the Old Testament, not only did the Israelites tithe but they also gave a number of offerings to God through the course of the year (sin offerings, freewill offerings, the first fruit offering, etc.). The New Testament also teaches that in addition to tithes, the early disciples frequently gave offerings for the purposes of ministering to the poor and advancing God's Kingdom in other parts of the world (see Acts 4:34-35; 11:29-30).

We believe that it is the responsibility of every person to ask for God's direction in participating in this exciting step for Jesus' church. Specifically, we desire every individual and family to prayerfully consider an offering to the new facility. In the book of Acts the early church lived out their faith by selling property and possessions, sacrificially giving and providing for the needs of the church. In order to pull off the vision God has given us, it will take an intense sacrificial effort from the church.

We believe God wants equal sacrifice, but not equal amounts.

For some, a one-time gift of \$1000 or a pledge of \$100 a month for the next two years will be extremely sacrificial. On the other hand, a significant number of people in our church family have been greatly blessed by God financially and can afford to give substantially more than that; for them, such an amount would not be sacrificial. The point is that God wants each one of us to give sacrificially, no matter what the actual amount may be. The entire church family now has the opportunity to experience the joy of sacrificial giving. Parents can use this time to teach their children financial stewardship and sacrificial giving.

How do I give?

At our Sunday service on October 13, 2013, you will have the opportunity to give a one-time gift and/or a two-year commitment to the building offering. A commitment card will be provided for you. You may choose to contribute to the building on a weekly basis, a monthly basis, or in some other way that is convenient for you.

Thanks for taking the time to read this brochure. We hope that it has done an adequate job of explaining what we feel God has called us to do. Please understand that we consider every one of you an important part of this adventure. If you have questions, please talk to one of our pastors, or you can contact one of our board members.

Board of Directors

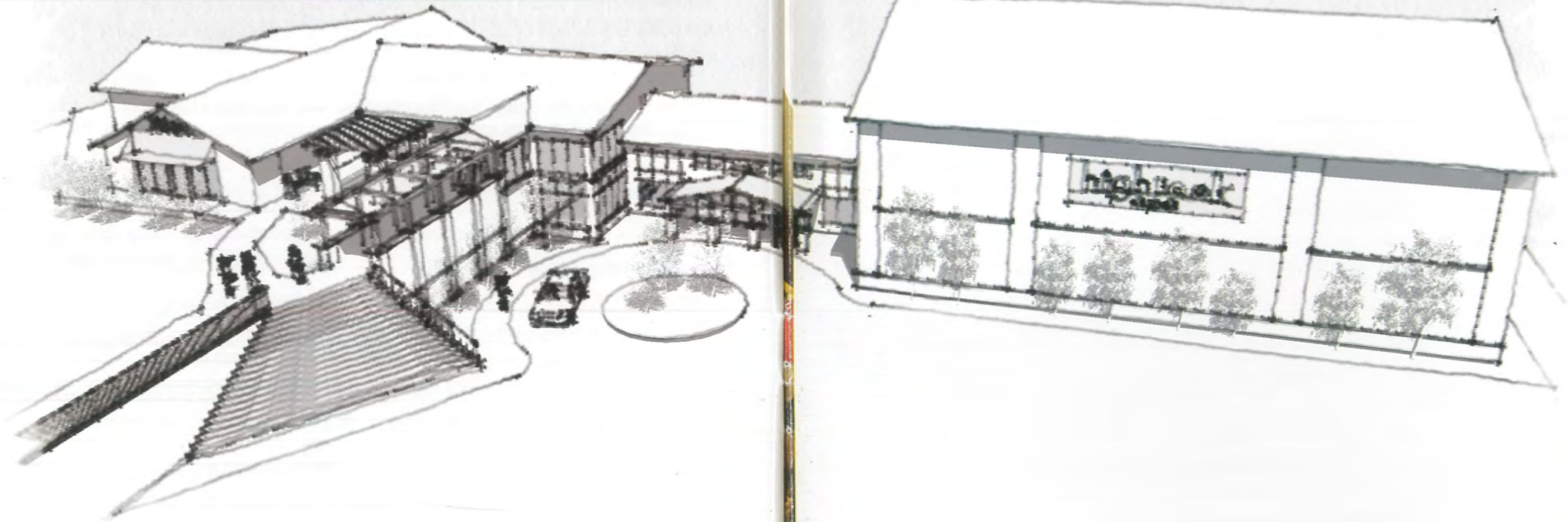
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FUTURE EXPANSION CONCEPT





LOVE GOD | LOVE PEOPLE | LIVE IT OUT

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