



## Frequently Asked Questions

We know you've got some questions. This is a transparent process with a lot of details. Below is a list of questions we anticipate. If you have any other questions, please join us at the *Reaching Further* info sessions on August 2 & 9 at 12:45 pm in the Ministry Center South.

**Q.** *Is Emergence becoming a church plant?*

**A.** Not at all. Emergence began as a multi-site venue of the Chapel and it is the desire of the Chapel leadership to keep that relationship. Through multi-site, we have seen all of the sites benefit each other. We have seen Jacksonville Chapel as a whole grow through the strategy. Last, but first in importance, we have seen the Kingdom of God grow and God glorified through multi-site.

In a multi-site model, each site has staff that is specific to that campus; however, resources, budget, mission, vision, strategy, and elder board are all shared. This allows the reach of the Chapel, and consequently your investment to touch more people in more places.

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**Q.** *Why are we investing so much in a smaller part of the congregation?*

**A.** Though Emergence and the Spanish Ministry may seem like a relatively small part of the Chapel, most likely because of their recent launch, these sites account for an increasingly larger percentage of Chapel attendance. Currently, over 40% of Jacksonville Chapel worships at a venue other than the Lincoln Park Campus. This percentage continues to grow.

Chapel leadership is committed to investing where God is at work. To invest in Emergence or multi-site *is* to invest in the Chapel.

**Q.** *Why not more services for Emergence? Fridays? Saturdays?*

**A.** After three years, Emergence now has four services. While another service is an option before the relocation, to add more would mean more teams, more volunteer workers, possibly more staff, and increasing drain on the infrastructure in place. In the end, it would only be a band-aid. Studies continue to show that the highest point of growth, especially of visitors, is on Sunday mornings. Finding a place for Emergence to grow Sunday morning capacity is of high-importance.

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**Q.** *Why not expand the Ministry Center South?*

**A.** While expanding the MCS could possibly allow for more Sunday morning attendance, it would actually make some of our problems even worse. For instance, parking, which is already at a premium, would become an even tougher situation.

In addition, the Ministry Center South was not designed to be expanded. The structural limitations would not allow us to expand upward, and the footprint is not ideal to move outward.

Student Ministries at the Lincoln Park Campus are greatly in need of the space. By relocating Emergence, the MCS is completely available for Student Ministry use.

The vision of Emergence as a cultural arm in the community would be much better realized away from a church property. A visible place near a main intersection is, of course, preferred to add value to the investment and reach the community.

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**Q.** *Is Emergence ready to move?*

**A.** Emergence is poised to relocate. With nearly 700 people, two full-time pastors, a ministry assistant, and a children's ministry director in the works, Emergence leadership is strong. In addition, there are strong teams in service

all through the multi-site: greeting teams, tech teams, worship teams, café teams, setup teams and small group leadership teams are already present.

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**Q.** *Is Emergence self-sustaining?*

**A.** At the moment, Emergence is theoretically financially self-sustaining. While the annual giving at Emergence is not in direct proportion to attendance, the giving is strong—and growing. Currently, giving at Emergence is projected to come in at somewhere around \$550,000 for 2009. This covers the lease, site-specific staff salaries, benefits, and ministry budget. This is a praise—and a confirmation that multi-site can work in our context.

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**Q.** *How does moving Emergence help the Chapel?*

**A.** First and foremost, moving Emergence allows for immediate Chapel growth. It will allow for growth both at the Emergence multi-site and at the Lincoln Park campus, as parking will be more readily available and the possibility of another venue inside the Ministry Center South could add to the growth picture. This frees up a completely new building for our Student Ministry to utilize on Sunday—affording us the opportunity to start a High School ministry on Sunday mornings!

With Emergence in a visible place, the Chapel will have a huge new presence in the community. The extra visibility should also bring more Lincoln Park campus growth as people get to know the different styles/languages of the Chapel.

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**Q.** *How will the move of Emergence impact families where some people go to Emergence and some go to Lincoln Park Campus?*

**A.** Jacksonville Chapel is no stranger to tough choices in worship style and times. When Emergence moves off site, some families will need to make a choice to attend Emergence or the Lincoln Park campus. Emergence will launch with a children's Sunday School ministry in place through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, so families with children will certainly have more options when choosing which services to

attend at the Chapel. There is some discussion in the works about the possibility of running a shuttle from the new campus to Lincoln Park—allowing students to attend Lincoln Park ministries, even if parents attend Emergence.

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**Q.** *How does the move of Emergence affect Student Ministries?*

**A.** The relocation of Emergence opens up an exciting opportunity for Student Ministry at the Lincoln Park Campus! Nothing will change when it comes to Student Ministries—except that now there will be a brand new space available in the Ministry Center South for Sunday morning ministry!

It has long been a desire to launch a Sunday AM ministry for High School students. Up to now, Emergence has been where many of those students have attended. While some may choose to still attend Emergence, there will be a new option—an exciting, dynamic High School service.

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**Q.** *Is the Changebridge site a done deal?*

**A.** Nothing is definite until something is in writing. Because of our by-laws, this step requires a vote of the congregation. Until that vote is complete, there is still a chance that Changebridge will not work out. Even after the vote, there are issues to sort out with the town and the site owners.

Changebridge is our best option. We are prayerfully pursuing it, trusting God to work out any final details. We believe that there is no reason not to pursue the site at this point—and that chances are very good it will be the next site of the Chapel.

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**Q.** *How much money needs to be on hand before signing a lease at Changebridge?*

**A.** As part of our lease negotiations, there has been some discussion of a grace period for payments between the signing of the lease and possession of the building. Depending upon the final terms, the lease may be able to be signed

quickly. Given some up-front donations and some generous and creative lease terms, we could begin work in the facility immediately upon a vote. In the worst-case scenario, we may need to wait to sign the lease until a good portion of campaign finances arrive. If that is the reality, we may also choose to engage some short-term financing options with the intention to pay it back quickly upon receipt of donations in order to fund renovations.

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**Q.** *Why are we leasing and not purchasing a facility?*

**A.** Given the growth of the Emergence venue and the much higher cost of a purchase, Chapel leadership has determined that a lease is the best option. The lease we pursue would contain a set period of time—most likely five years—with the option of multiple extensions. Depending upon the movement of God in all of this, we may appreciate the flexibility of a lease when all is said and done. We can already appreciate the difference in cash flow necessary to launch the site.

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**Q.** *Why should I give when I don't go to that venue?*

**A.** This is a question that we hope to not hear at all. We are called to the mission of Christ, and we are all the body of Christ. Let us rejoice together as we see God do things across all the venues of Jacksonville Chapel!

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**Q.** *What was the rationale for choosing the projects for the campaign?*

**A.** The Emergence relocation has been something that Chapel leadership has expressed the need for over the past few years. In the context of this campaign, the relocation was a given.

The Spanish Ministry has been steadily growing for a number of years now. Their needs in the Sunday School program have become an increasing pain point, as the space at Crossroads was not really designed for the kind of classroom space they need. In addition, the ministries at Crossroads have a

growing need for transportation to and from retreats, mission trips, and even to help people with no vehicle make it to services each weekend.

Student Ministries at the Lincoln Park Campus has been expanding their programming and Sunday morning reach for a long time now. EDGE X was introduced a couple of years ago as a monthly event, and now has become a weekly worship gathering for Junior High students. Given the space limitations at the campus, there is no room to further expand. *Reaching Further* allows Student Ministries the opportunity to provide the same worship option for Senior High that Junior High has come to enjoy.

Rwanda is a country that has been ravaged by genocide and violence. Through God's work in the hearts of a number of Chapel people, a ministry was formed to bring restoration to this hurting nation. Hope for a Thousand Hills was started by Chapel people in conjunction with Rwandan nationals. Our partnership with them in the work of restoring a once-thriving coffee plantation will bring jobs, purpose, money, and the Gospel back to a place that desperately needs it. We wanted to include a portion of the campaign that would remind us that North Jersey has been blessed in order to bless others. Our partnership with Rwanda does exactly that.

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**Q.** *What would we do if we don't raise enough?*

**A.** First of all, we can do this! Our leadership firmly believes that this number is attainable for the Chapel and where we are today.

In the event that the full amount is not raised in the allotted time, Chapel leadership would determine the best use of the funds as well as decide whether or not to extend the campaign.

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**Q.** *If I give, will my name be seen anywhere?*

**A.** No.

**Q.** *If we don't raise \$1.5M, how is that money dispersed between the projects?*

**A.** Given the time-sensitive needs for the build-out of the new facility, much of the up front funding must go toward the relocation. However, giving toward the Changebridge facility from the campaign is capped at \$1.1M. Even if the new building cost is above that number, those funds would not come out of the campaign, leaving anything collected above that number to go to other projects.

We certainly don't foresee being unable to raise \$1.5M. Foundation for the Future (our last campaign in '06-'07) raised more than the needed \$1.2M for the parking lot and other projects. Given the missional nature of this project and the momentum of extending the reach of the Chapel beyond our walls once again, raising slightly more than Foundation for the Future should not be a problem for the Chapel family.

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**Q.** *How can we start a campaign during an economic downturn?*

**A.** Based on the mission we are given, how can we not? Based on history, studies show that churches are in some way immune to economic fluctuations. God's mission is bigger than a recession, and we look forward to giving Him even more glory for working, even through this time!

In order to get this project done in 18 months, it could be accomplished in any number of ways. If every Chapel family gave only \$1400 toward *Reaching Further*, the entire project would be paid for. In reality, we know that is not the way goals are realized. We have included a more realistic breakdown of giving in the campaign materials. Given our history of giving, this goal is absolutely attainable.

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**Q.** *Are there more multi-sites in the Chapel's future?*

**A.** As shared earlier, we always want to be open to where God is leading. If that is in future multi-sites, we should be willing to take that step, knowing God will provide for the mission.