


Architectural drawings of a church building, including elevations and sections, with various annotations and labels. The drawings are in blue ink on a light background. The main title is overlaid in white text.

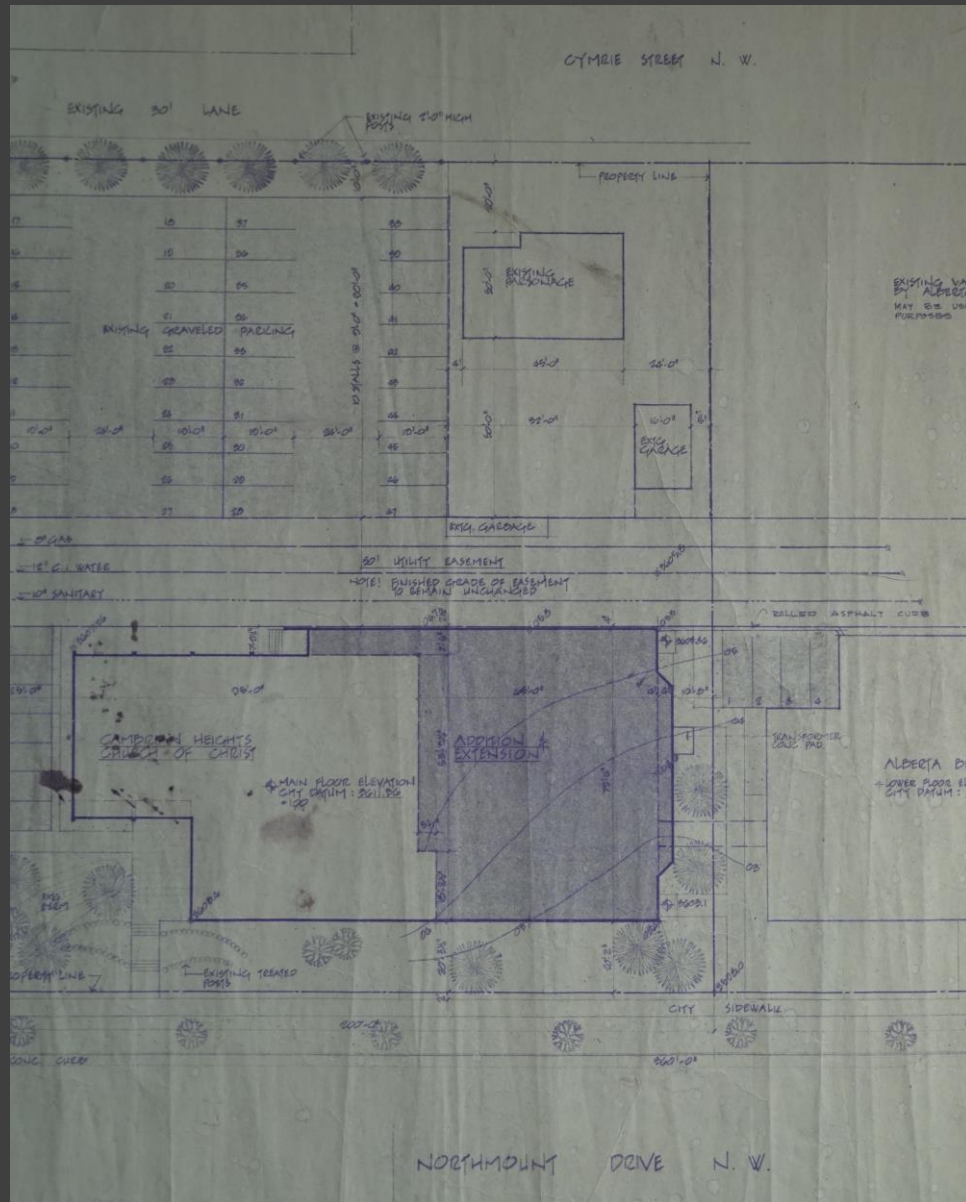
What Loving God, Loving People Means In 2022

Pastor Douglas Walker



"LOVING GOD, LOVING PEOPLE" - CAN WE DO MORE OF THIS?

- 80% of all Churches in North America are under 200 people.
- We are 300 plus and that puts us in the 90% zone of all churches in North America
- You can't impose small/beginning on a church culture without stagnating it. You can challenge the church to move up a notch by integrating a larger size-culture.



WHAT A LARGER CHURCH IS NOT!

- A larger church is **not** simply a larger version of a smaller church. The differences in communication, fellowship, formation of ministry and social groups **AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE DECENTRALIZING OF MINISTRY AND DECISION MAKING** are so great that the leadership skill set are almost of a completely different order.
(Lyle Schaller)



LET'S EXPAND AND GROW!!

Breaking growth barriers are not numerical concerns. Breaking the growth barrier of 200/400/600 is not so much of a numerical obstacle as much as these are general sizes that a church will come up against when certain patterns and systems need to change if a church is going to meaningfully care for more souls.



CHANGE AND THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE.

- Don't spiritualize what is a "way" of doing things.
 - Changed ways of communication is often one of the changes that have the most volatility around it.
- "The larger the church the less people have in common. The congregation experiences a greater diversity in age, family status, socioeconomic scale, etc., and thus a church of 400 needs four to five times as many programs then when it had 200 members in it (not two times more, as one would naturally project)."

(Lyle Schaller)

**IF GROWTH IS GOD'S PLAN - IF GROWTH
REQUIRES CHANGE - WHY IS IT SO HARD TO
CHANGE?**

- People don't resist change they mourn and resent loss. Change requires loss, loss of control, loss of access, loss of position.
- Every level of growth requires change. People don't mind change so much as they don't like the process of change. That is why it is on the onset of change people will push back.
- There is always sacrifice involved in growth. Either we are going to sacrifice and change or we are not going to change and sacrifice by NOT growing.