

PASS THE BATON TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

Psalm 145:1-4

*I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ² Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. ³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. ⁴ **One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.***

1) Where have we been?

Three major events in the life of our church

- Move from Australian avenue to Okeechobee Blvd (1986).
- Student & Children Center to current Worship Center (broke ground in 1999 and completed in 2001).
- Gym (2005).
- Transition: 3 years without a senior pastor.

2) Where are we?

- Reaching people.
- 70-80% rule.
- Parking.
- Educational space for Sunday morning classes.
- Grace Students growth.
- Grace Kids growth.

3) What do we need to do now?

- Add a 3rd service to make room for more people.

Starting Sunday, January 27, 2019!

- 8:30 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m.

- Dedicated children's ministry area for the next generation.

4) Why?

- The Great Commission.
- Societal pressure on students and children to turn away from Jesus Christ.
- Churches failing to reach the Next Generation.

"Between 6,000 and 10,000 churches in the U.S. are dying each year. That means around 100-200 churches will close this week." – Thom Rainer¹

- Growing population in Palm Beach County.
- West Palm Beach: Highest percentage of "Never-churched" population in the country.

5) How do we get there?

- Add a 3rd service.
- Generous Legacy Christmas Offering to kickoff the drive for our site development.

Psalm 71:17-18

O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. ¹⁸ *So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.*

- Keep the main thing the main thing.

Thomas A Kempis: "Let nothing you do, then, seem great, nothing precious or wonderful, nothing worthy of esteem, nothing high, nothing truly commendable or desirable except what is eternal."²

¹ Thom Rainer, "Hope for Dying Churches," *Facts & Trends*, January 16, 2018, <https://factsandtrends.net/2018/01/16/hope-for-dying-churches/>.

² Thomas A' Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*, Hal M. Helms, ed. (Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 1982), 94-95.