

Prevail NEXT: Building for the Future Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Prevail Next?

A: Prevail Next is a two-year faith journey at JCC, focusing on reaching more people with the hope of Jesus. It's a spiritual process of seeking God's will for our church's future and aligning our resources with that vision. We already have a space problem now, and it is critical to our future that we make room for children, teenagers, and adults who are searching for Jesus

Q: What are the goals of Prevail Next?

A: Prevail Next focuses on three key areas:

- **Plant Community Groups:** Launching community groups in surrounding areas to reach the next generation through outreach and potential church planting.
- Additional Staff: Expanding our pastoral team with a full-time Worship Pastor and Youth Pastor to better serve our growing congregation.
- **Expand our Campus:** Expanding our facility to accommodate current needs and position us for future growth.

Q: Why is JCC undertaking Prevail Next?

A: Our church has experienced significant growth. Our average weekly attendance has nearly doubled in the last three years, leading to overcrowding in our current facilities. In 2022, our average in-person attendance was 197. In 2025, we are averaging so far 360. Our current auditorium only holds 184 and we have already gone to three services. In Journey Kids, we have almost had to turn children away from coming. Additionally, the Town of Lawrence is rapidly growing, with new housing developments nearby. We are in the fastest growing area in northeast Wisconsin. We need to expand to meet current needs and prepare for future growth.

Q: What are the specific expansion plans?

A: We plan to add 17,000 square feet to our existing building, including:

- A new 400-person multi-purpose auditorium.
- Renovation of the current auditorium for youth and children's space.
- A new lobby with a fireplace, cafe, and seating.
- Four new Journey Kids classrooms.
- A new conference room and pastor's office.
- General updates, including a kitchen remodel.
- Increased parking capacity.
- Removal of the parsonage to increase parking.

Q: How much will the expansion cost?

A: The estimated total cost is \$4,800,000.

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Q: How will we fund the expansion?

A: We aim to raise \$2.5 million in pledges, which will enable us to secure a \$2.3 million loan.

Q: When will the expansion start and end?

A: Construction will begin once we have secured \$2.5 million in pledges. The Prevail Next campaign runs from June 1, 2025, to May 30, 2027.

Q: How will the operating budget be impacted?

A: We anticipate increased costs for HVAC, electricity, and cleaning. We are also likely to hire additional staff to manage the expanded facilities.

Q: Are we getting out of debt to go back into debt?

A: While being debt-free is a good goal, our primary mission is to proclaim the gospel and fulfill the Great Commission. We have shown to be good stewards of our finances and will continue to be good stewards of our finances.

Q: Why expand? I prefer a smaller church.

A: We want to honor God's potential for growth. We see God moving and reaching people through JCC, and we want to provide the space for that to continue. The heart of JCC, authentic community, will continue in growth groups. Who are we to tell God what size church He wants us to be?

Q: What will remain the same?

A: The core values of JCC, such as community and authentic relationships, will remain unchanged. Growth groups will be key to maintaining our close-knit feel.

Q: Why not plant a campus/church instead of expanding?

A: We see it as a "both/and" strategy. A healthy, growing church supports church planting. Church planting is to reach new communities, not to solve main campus congestion. Plus, we want to do it well and when the right leadership is in place.

Q: How will pledges work?

A: We will ask everyone to prayerfully consider their role in this vision. Pledge cards will be turned in on Sunday, May 4. Pledges are confidential.

For more Q & A scan the QR code



