

CONNECT CHURCH VISION GUIDE

**CONNECT TO GOD.
CONNECT TO PEOPLE.
CONNECT TO THE WORLD.**

**VISION NIGHT — SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
TARGET GRAND OPENING: JANUARY 2027**



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WHAT IS THE VISION?

EVERYTHING STARTS WITH WHAT GOD IS LEADING.

Theme Scripture: “Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities. Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated. You will forget the shame of your youth and remember no more the reproach of your widowhood.”
– Isaiah 54:2-4

We believe that God has called us to plant a new campus of Connect Church in the Dawsonville area. This is not another church, but rather an extension of the vision and mission of Connect Church in a new community. The purpose will be to reach the North Georgia counties such as Dawson, Lumpkin, Hall, and even North Forsyth.

Data has shown us that roughly 42% of people attending a church plant in the U.S. in the last 15 years were previously unchurched.

We believe there are opportunities to spread the Gospel of Jesus in a new community. We believe there is a desperate need for discipleship and church community. We believe the next generation matters and there is a need for children, students and young adults to have healthy influence through the local church. This is why we believe God is calling us to step out in faith and obedience to plant a North Campus of Connect Church.



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WHY NORTH? WHY NOW? WHY US?



This vision has been prayed and fasted over for several years since it's initial inception. We feel there is no better time than now to respond in faith and obedience to who/what God is calling Connect Church to reach in North Georgia. We are a movement that is on a mission to expand God's Kingdom for more impact for His glory.

We believe God is opening a door for Connect Church to expand our reach and establish a life-giving church presence in the Dawsonville community. This isn't simply about adding another service location, it's about reaching more people:

- More families finding community.
- More kids discovering Jesus.
- More students being discipled.
- More people finding freedom and purpose.
- More opportunities to serve our community.
- More people connected to the local church.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." - Matthew 28:19



Our heart is to carry the same mission, culture, values, and DNA of Connect Church into North Georgia while building a campus that genuinely serves the people who call this community home. We aren't launching another church. We're expanding the reach of Connect Church.

WE ARE ONE MOVEMENT - TWO CAMPUSES.

Our current campus will become Connect Church South, while the new campus will become Connect Church North.

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WHERE? NORTH GEORGIA

DAWSON COUNTY AREA



As of 2026, Dawson County is the 2nd fastest growing county in Georgia with approximately 75% being age 55 or younger. There is roughly 50 churches in this county but next to no spirit-filled communities.

Nearly 52% of Dawson County is unchurched. This is why we believe, with God's guidance, we can step into this space and reach the lost like never before.

Within the next 5 years, Dawson County is expected to grow by at least 37% in population.



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LOCATION? REGAL DAWSON THEATER



Proposed Launch Location: Regal Dawson Theater, Dawsonville, Georgia
A movie theater gives us an incredible opportunity to establish a portable campus with spaces for:

- Main worship experience
- Connect Kids environments
- Guest experience and Next Steps
- Lobby/community spaces
- Volunteer central
- Production and AVL
- Storage and portable ministry equipment



We have been prayerfully exploring properties and feel this is the best starting place for our new campus as we continue the search for something permanent!

CAMPUS VISIBILITY IS GOING TO BE VERY IMPORTANT!

- Exterior: Directional flags • Parking Team • Welcome signage (visibility on 53 and on 400)
- Interior: LOBBY → WELCOME → | CONNECT KIDS → | WORSHIP EXPERIENCE → AUDITORIUM BRANDING

Short-term Goal:

- When someone walks into the theater on Sunday morning, it shouldn't feel like they walked into a movie theater being borrowed by a church. It should feel like they walked into Connect Church.
- That means intentional: Exterior signage, Connect flags, Directional signage, Lobby branding, Kids check-in environments, Pipe-and-drape environments, Stage design, Lighting, Digital displays, Welcome areas, Connect/Next Steps areas, Portable doesn't have to feel temporary.

Long-term Goal:

- Our leadership is actively searching for a permanent place for the North Campus to gather. Either an existing property with facilities that have the ability to be retrofitted or purchase acreage and build a new facility.
- We are full of faith that God will provide the right permanent space at the right time to continue the growth of Connect Church North.

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WHEN? GRAND OPENING JAN 2027



SEPTEMBER VISION + MOBILIZATION



September 13 — Connect Church Vision Night

- Cast the vision.
- Begin building the team.
- Begin giving and serving commitments.



OCTOBER OUTREACH + COMMUNITY



Sunday, October 11th – Dawsonville Community Vision Night

- Hosted at Because Coffee
- Invite Dawsonville families, friends, leaders, and community members to hear the vision and become part of the Grand Opening.

Sunday, October 25th – North Campus Kingdom Builders Highlight



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WHEN? GRAND OPENING JAN 2027



OCTOBER-NOVEMBER BUILD + PREPARE

Finalize portable church systems:

- Recruit volunteers
- Purchase equipment
- Develop ministry teams
- Train leaders
- Build Sunday schedules
- Continue permanent-location search



DECEMBER PRACTICE + PREPARE

Full-team training:

- Portable setup rehearsals
- AVL rehearsals
- Kids ministry walkthroughs
- Guest experience training
- Mock Sunday experiences



**JANUARY 2027 - GRAND OPENING SUNDAY
CONNECT CHURCH NORTH**

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HOW? OUR STRATEGY

1 MOVEMENT. 2 COMMUNITIES.

Our goal is not to create two separate churches. We want to operate as one church family expressed in two communities. This is not an “us” and “them”, but rather this is a collective mission of making the name of Jesus known through Connect Church beyond Forsyth County alone.



ONE MISSION.

Everything begins with the mission of Connect Church.
The North Campus will carry the same heart, values, discipleship philosophy, and ministry standards as our existing campus.



ONE CULTURE.

Culture doesn't happen accidentally. We will intentionally reproduce the hospitality, excellence, generosity, worship, discipleship, leadership development, and community that define Connect Church.



LOCAL MINISTRY.

While our mission remains unified, The North Campus will develop ministry relationships specific to its community. We want to become a church that North Georgia doesn't simply attend—but a church that makes that area genuinely better because we're there.



MULTIPLICATION.

This campus represents something bigger than another location. It represents our willingness to: Multiply leaders. Multiply volunteers. Multiply ministry. Multiply disciples. Multiply opportunities for people to encounter Jesus.

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NOBODY IS LEAVING.

WE ARE SENDING LEADERS ON MISSION

Our vision goal is to build a Launch Team of 50 consistent and committed leaders to serve the county of Dawson and beyond week in and week out. This includes creating spaces for people to experience the Holy Spirit and the presence of God in weekly Sunday services. This will require dedication within a number of teams and positions needed to set up the North Campus for Kingdom impact.



WORSHIP + AVL

Help create an excellent and distraction-free worship experience.

Team Needs: Worship leaders, Vocalists, Musicians, Audio, Lighting, ProPresenter/slides, Video, Production, Stage preparation.



SET UP + TEAR DOWN

Build the church before the church arrives. Every Sunday, our portable environments will need to be transformed and then reset.

Team Needs: Trailer unloading/loading, Exterior signage, Lobby setup, Auditorium setup, Kids environments, Pipe and drape, AVL equipment, Post-service teardown



FIRST IMPRESSIONS

People decide how a place feels before the service ever begins. This team creates an environment where every person knows: We're glad you're here.

Team Needs: Parking, Exterior greeting, Doors, Lobby hosts, Ushers, Connect/Next Steps, New family assistance, Auditorium hosts



CONNECT KIDS

We're building the next generation.

Our Kids Team will create safe, fun, engaging environments where children can encounter Jesus. There is no jr. Holy Spirit!

Team Needs: Kids check-in, New family check-in, Nursery/preschool, Elementary, Small-group leaders, Kids worship, Security, Kids environment setup/teardown

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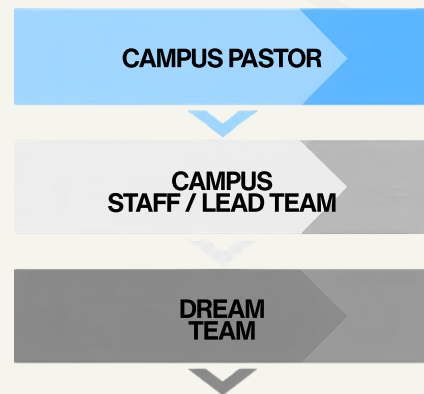
OUR CAMPUS MODEL

**PASTOR LED. STAFF -
DRIVEN. LAY EMPOWERED.**

The Connect Church North Campus operates under the spiritual covering, leadership, and governance of Connect Church, its Lead Pastor, and Board. The Campus Pastor will provide day-to-day leadership, preach weekly on-campus, carry the vision and culture of Connect Church, develop leaders, oversee ministry execution, and ensure the health and growth of the campus. All North Campus staff report directly to the Campus Pastor, while Dream Team leaders and volunteers are led and supported by their respective campus staff members including the Campus Pastor. Together, the campus functions as one church in multiple communities—unified in vision, values, systems, and accountability.

Connect Church is honored to name JP Skipper as the North Campus Pastor. JP has served as the Student, Young Adult and Next Gen Pastor at Connect Church for the last 5 years and various other roles for the last 11 years. He and his wife Halle, have a heart for the local church, seeing dedicated disciples be developed, leaders empowered, and the next generation thriving with Jesus.

Under the leadership and spiritual covering of Connect Church, our Lead Pastor, and Board, Pastor JP will provide primary leadership for the North Campus. He will preach weekly, carry and communicate the vision and culture of Connect Church, develop leaders, oversee campus staff and ministries, and shepherd the North Campus congregation. His leadership will help ensure the North Campus remains unified with Connect Church in vision, values, systems, and mission as we continue to be one church in multiple communities.



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IT TAKES A TEAM!

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU.

A portable church doesn't happen because of a building. It happens because people decide to build the church together.

Every Sunday will require an incredible team of people willing to arrive early, serve faithfully, create environments, love people, and prepare the way for someone else to experience Jesus.



INTERESTED IN BEING SENT?

QR CODE



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SEE NEXT PAGE

THE NORTH CAMPUS TEAM

WE'RE BUILDING BEFORE WE'RE LAUNCHING.

We aren't waiting until January to become a church in the North Georgia area. The mission begins now.

Our North Launch Team will help establish the culture, systems, relationships, and volunteer strength necessary to launch healthy.

Those a part of the launch team are committed to:

PRAY.

- Intentionally pray for the North GA counties, the overall launch team, the leadership, and the people we haven't met yet.

SERVE.

- Consider joining a Sunday volunteer team and helping build this campus.

INVITE.

- Intentionally invite people I know in Dawsonville and the surrounding communities.

GIVE.

- Prayerfully consider financially investing above my regular giving to help launch the campus.

BUILD.

- Take ownership of the vision and help establish Connect Church North.



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THE NORTH CAMPUS TEAM

WE'RE BUILDING BEFORE WE'RE OPENING.

NORTH CAMPUS SUNDAY SCHEDULE EXAMPLE:

6:30AM - Set-up Team Call Time
7AM - Band/Worship/AVL Team Call Time
7:30AM - Worship Team Rehearsal / Kids Ministry Teams Call Time
8:30AM - First Impressions Team Call Time
8:45AM - Full Team Huddle
9:25AM - 5 Min Countdown
9:30AM - Service Starts
10:45AM - Service Ends (AVL/Worship Breakdown Begins)
11:15AM - Full Breakdown Begins
12PM - Breakdown Ends

NORTH TEAM INITIAL GOAL: 50 PEOPLE:

- Worship + AVL: 8-10
- Setup + Teardown : 8-10
- First Impressions : 6-8
- Connect Kids : 10
- Leadership / Floaters: 4-6

We're not simply trying to fill positions. We're developing people who will carry the culture of Connect Church into a new community.



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INVEST IN THE VISION

OUR GRAND OPENING GIVING GOAL : \$250K

Launching a portable campus requires an upfront investment that allows us to create excellent ministry environments from Day One.

OUR INVESTMENT WILL HELP FUND:

- **Portable Church Infrastructure:** Trailer, carts, storage, cases, pipe and drape, signage and setup equipment
- **Worship + AVL:** Audio, lighting, video, stage equipment and production infrastructure
- **Connect Kids:** Check-in systems, classroom environments, curriculum materials, safety equipment and portable ministry supplies
- **First Impressions:** Exterior signage, flags, lobby environments, guest experience and Next Steps
- **Marketing + Community Outreach:** Launch communication, digital marketing, community events, printed materials, and serving/outreach
- **Staffing + Ministry Operations:** The people, systems and resources required to establish and sustain the campus

THREE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:

- **PRAY** - Ask God what your role is in this next chapter.
- **GIVE** - Consider making an investment toward the North Campus Grand Opening.
- **GO** - Consider becoming part of the team that will help launch Connect Church North.

All participate. Equal sacrifice. Different roles. One mission.



WHAT ARE OUR NEXT STEPS?

WE ARE MOVING THE MISSION FORWARD NOW.

- OCTOBER 11th - DAWSON COUNTY COMMUNITY NIGHT:

- This will be a Sunday night of worship, vision casting, free coffee, and connection right within the North Georgia community.
- This will be held at Because Coffee in Dawsonville GA at 6PM.
- We are inviting North Georgia families and friends who are interested in attending this campus to come hear the heart and mission of Connect Church North.
- We are also inviting our Connect Church South family to be in attendance and begin building bridges of connection with the expanding community of our church.

- OCTOBER 25th - NORTH CAMPUS + KINGDOM BUILDERS:

- This Sunday will be a strategic highlight on the financial investment in the North Campus and community. We are inviting our South Campus family to prayerfully consider investing through Kingdom Builders in the advancement of the Gospel through Connect Church Expansion.
- Our goal for this campus is \$250K in overall investments and commitments. We invite all to pray, to invest, and to come ready and excited for our Annual Kingdom Builders Offering on Sunday, December 13th. We are expectant for what God is doing through Connect Church both in the North and South regions.

- NOVEMBER 21st - NORTH CAMPUS PRAYER WALK:

- This will be a time of prayer and agreement over the North Georgia community and it's people.
- This will begin early Saturday morning at Regal Dawson in Dawsonville GA at 7AM.
- We will prayerfully walk laps around the parking lot covering the counties of North Georgia and their people in prayer and speaking favor and provision over this new campus.



FAQ'S

1) Is Connect Church becoming two churches?

- No. Our vision is one church in multiple communities. Our campuses will share the same mission, leadership, values, culture, ministry philosophy, and overall direction.

2) When will the North Campus launch?

- Our target is January 2027. We want to move with both faith and wisdom, so we will adjust timeline for additional preparation if necessary.

3) Where will the campus meet?

- Our current launch plan is centered around Regal Dawson Theatre in Dawsonville.

4) Is the theater our permanent location?

- Our theater strategy allows us to launch and begin ministry while we continue actively exploring opportunities for a permanent North Campus location.

5) Will there be Connect Kids?

- Yes. Creating safe, excellent, Jesus-centered environments for children is one of our highest priorities for the launch. Phase one will include the following areas: Kids ministries, Sunday Experience, First Impressions, Set-up and Tear-down.

6) What will a Sunday look like?

- Our teams will arrive before service to transform the theater into a Connect Church environment. Worship, kids ministry, first impressions, AVL, and guest experience will all operate as part of our regular Sunday ministry. After service, our portable environments will be packed and prepared for the following week.

7) Do I have to live in the Dawson County/North Georgia area to serve?

- No. Some people may feel called to help establish the campus even if the North isn't their permanent campus to attend.

8) What happens to our current campus?

- Healthy multiplication strengthens the entire church. We are intentionally planning staffing, volunteer schedules, ministry systems, and leadership development so that we can multiply without unnecessarily weakening what God is already doing. This requires all of us to lean into more together!

9) Will both campuses have the same ministries?

- Our goal is alignment around the core ministries, mission, and culture of Connect Church while allowing each campus to grow according to its community and ministry needs.

10) How can I help?

- Start with one question: GOD, WHAT IS MY PART?
- You can pray.
- You can give.
- You can serve.
- You can invite.
- You can go.

**CONNECT
TO GOD.**

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CONNECT CHURCH

