

[Pine Ridge Church-Meeting Location!](#)

[16 Comments](#) Published by Tadd Grandstaff on at 3:19 PM. Last night we confirmed our meeting location. Now, before I tell you where we are meeting I have to tell the story that goes along with us using this location.

Last Thursday after being on the phone with Elon University (this is the location we were looking to do a Sunday Night service for college, singles and young adults) for a good part of the day the conclusion was drawn that they could not make a commitment to allow us to meet on their property on a weekly basis. They told us that we could use the facility whenever we needed but it just couldn't be a regular occurrence.

That same day I received a phone from the project manager of the new mall being built here in our town. He told me that they are way behind schedule and they still have not signed a contract with the new movie theater and the way things looked that it would not be opening until late 2007 probably early 2008. So, as you can tell Thursday I was freaking out and beginning to get a little discouraged.

Thursday night I didn't sleep the whole night, I was consumed with our meeting location. And as clear as I have ever heard God speak to me he said go to West End Cinemas. West End Cinemas was the first location that I looked at over a year ago and was actually the location we had originally been interested in meeting in. I even tossed around the idea of calling the church West End Church since that is the name of that area. Once we moved here to Burlington and I got confirmation of the new mall and movie theater coming I steered away from this theater.

To make a very long story short last Friday I had a meeting over in the area. So, I left the house a few minutes early and pulled into the parking lot of West End Cinemas and just spent some time riding through the parking lot and praying over the facility. Once again I felt God speaking to me and he was telling me that I needed to go inside...I didn't go.

I went to my morning meeting and passed the cinemas later in that day on my way to my second meeting...again hearing God telling me that I needed to go inside. Finally, after my last meeting I was on my way home on I-85 and God's force was so overwhelming telling me to GO TO THE THEATER.

So, I immediately got off at the next exit...turned around and headed back to theater. When I pulled in the parking lot there was a heating & air conditioning truck, a carpet truck, and a painter van parked outside the front doors.

I went inside the theater and asked for the manager...I told the manager who I was and asked about renting the facility...he had remembered me from coming in last winter and asking about the availability of renting the theater. He told me to come back to the office because the owner of theater was actually at the facility...He said it was perfect timing since the owner is never at this theater location. I went back to the office and introduced myself to the owner again telling who I was and asked about renting the facility for a

church plant.

He began to tell me that the theater is locally owned and that he owns 1 theater here in Burlington and 2 others in Greensboro, both theaters in Greensboro have church plants meeting in them.

He told me that they had just began a major remodeling of the entire facility, new paint, new carpet, new seats in some of theaters, new everything. He walked me through the theater showing me the entire facility.

Now, here is where it gets really unbelievable as we got back to his office he asked if I was interested in the renting the theater. I asked him how much it would be...he asked me how many theaters we would need each week...I told him probably 5-6...he told me it would be \$100 a week. I asked if that was for each theater and he told me no \$100 a week for all 5-6 theaters. (Okay, let me stop real quick and type that out again...I have this in writing...5-6 theaters...from 7 am-12 pm for \$100 a week...\$400 a month). He told me he knew how hard church planting was and that he knew we wouldn't have a lot of money...He said listen were not trying to get rich off of churches we make enough money off of the theaters. He told me that all of the money they were charging us was just going to pay their custodian.

He then asked me how much storage space we would need...I asked him how much they were willing to give us...he told me we could have all the storage under the movie screens in each theater we rent as well as a 2 storage closets in the hallway. Then he asked me would we want to put of directional signs or banners (I am not over-exaggerating these are the questions he asked me)...I told most definitely...He then told me that we could put up the signs and banners on Saturdays and keep them up until Sunday afternoons.

Listen, this guy was answering questions that I didn't even have time to ask. Last night he sent me an email confirming everything that I am quoting from above. Today, I had a meeting with the manager of that theater and he also agree to what the owner had quoted me.

Guys, I don't know about you but stuff like this just gets me so stinking jacked up that I can barely contain myself. I can't help but think if I had never turned the car around and went back to that theater...I would have possibly missed the opportunity of a life-time.

I stopped by today and took some pictures of the outside of the building...tomorrow morning I will be inside taking some more photo and measuring out a few of the theaters.

To let you know just how close to target area we are...the theater sets about 1.8 miles from Elon University....about .6 miles from the new mall.... .8 miles from the new exit in Elon that is really our target area. This theater allows us to be so regional...there is not another theater unless you travel about 20 miles into Greensboro (west) or 25 miles the opposite direction into Chapel Hill (East). So, for now everyone knows where West End Cinemas is and it is on the main street (church street) in town.

Parking will never be an issue since I counted every marked spot today...there are 722 marked parking spots. The largest theater holds about 220...which is smaller than what I really would have liked...but it does allow the option of going to a second service much quicker if necessary...we will start with a 10:30 am service that way if we need to add a second service we can add one at 9 am...There are 14 theaters inside the facility so we are not limited on space.

Anyways, I know this post is so stinking long but I could go on forever...I am just so excited about meeting in a location where they owner actually wants a church plant to meet in their facility and is literally bending over backwards to make it happen for us.

Here are the pictures from today and I will post some more tomorrow!

[West End Cinema](#)

Sep 14, 2006 - 15 Photos