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FAQ

WHY IS FIRST WEST LAUNCHING A NEW CAMPUS?

Launching a First West regional campus is a major part of our multiplication strategy in Northeast Louisiana (NELA). By extending our reach into new areas with lots of unreached people, we will #seetoit that no one misses the grace of God with Christ-centered worship, community and service.

WHY CALHOUN?

We believe that God has called First West to extend our ministry to families in West Ouachita Parish. This is the right time and Calhoun is the right place for several reasons:

- It's the second-fastest growing community in NELA.
- The population is projected to grow 5.8% in the next 5 years.
- Only about 10% of the population attends church in Calhoun on a a typical Sunday.
- Over 150 First West members and prospects already live in the area.
- A Calhoun Campus extends our reach farther into West Ouachita Parish.

WHO WILL LEAD AND PASTOR THE NEW CAMPUS?

First West has called Josh Elliff to serve as our Calhoun Campus Pastor. Josh, who is licensed and ordained, previously served at Fielder Church in Arlington, Texas. In addition to leading the Young Adult Ministry and preaching weekly to them, he has worked with median adults (ages 20 to 50) and directed the church's small group ministry. Josh is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University with a BA in Bible Studies. He also has a Masters in Divinity from Southwestern Seminary. Josh and Jacqueline are the parents of Evelyn Faith.

WHAT ABOUT EXISTING CHURCHES IN CALHOUN?

We want to support and bless the work of existing churches in Calhoun. Our campus goal is to reach unchurched and dechurched people who currently do not attend any church. We will partner with the longstanding work of Calhoun churches to reach West Ouachita Parish for Christ!

WHERE WILL THE NEW CAMPUS MEET ON SUNDAYS?

We are evaluating several possible meeting locations. We may meet in a school or a business, or lease commercial space. We plan to offer home LIFE groups in the Calhoun area prior to the launch of public services.

WHEN WILL SERVICES AT THE NEW CAMPUS BEGIN?

We plan to begin having public worship services in Calhoun in March 2017. We hope to have our "grand opening" worship service on Easter Sunday, April 16.

WHAT WILL WORSHIP SERVICES LOOK LIKE?

Sunday morning worship will feature the same music, the same look and feel and the same spirit of engagement we have in Fairbanks and in the 11:00 a.m. West Monroe service.

WILL WE HAVE PRESCHOOL, CHILDREN'S AND STUDENT MINISTRIES IN CALHOUN?

Yes! Nursery will be provided for babies and preschoolers. Treehouse will be our Sunday ministry for children. Student Ministry activities will also be provided for middle and high school students.

IF A FAMILY LIVES IN CALHOUN, DO THEY HAVE TO GO TO THE NEW CAMPUS?

Absolutely not! Families are free to choose whatever campus best suits their needs. No one will be pressed to attend one campus over another.

ARE THERE PLANS FOR A PERMANENT LOCATION?

Not yet. In future years, our strategic plan calls for a permanent facility in West Ouachita Parish.

HOW MUCH WILL WE INVEST IN OUR CALHOUN CAMPUS?

We propose to spend \$150,000 in next year's ministry budget for our Calhoun Campus. Additional start-up expenses will be funded through this year's Transform offering. Campus giving is projected to provide a minimum of 30% of our initial operating expenses.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Let us know that you're interested in helping with our Calhoun Campus launch. E-mail your contact information with the word "Calhoun" in the subject line to: info@firstwest.cc.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

Go to: www.firstwest.cc/calhoun