

Word of God Church Marks Opening of New Sanctuary, Campus

Written by Staff Writer

Thursday, 03 January 2013 08:58 -



Word of God Church and Ministries (WOG) will mark a major milestone in the church's 12-year history with the Grand Opening of its new 2,500-seat, state of the art Sanctuary and Administrative Campus in Columbia's Dutch Square area on Sunday, January 6.

Located at 119 Diamond Lane near the Broad River Road/Dutch Square Boulevard intersection, the new campus sits on 20.66 acres of land formerly known as Intersection Center Shopping Plaza and has been renamed "Word of God Dutch Square".

WOG Senior Pastor Eric W. Davis said, "Our grand opening activities will begin in the new sanctuary at 10:00 AM with the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony followed by our Inaugural Worship Service. The entire community is invited to join us at our worship celebration."

"We can't think of a better way to begin the New Year than to transition from our former location at WOG Southeast to our new campus at WOG Dutch Square. Sunday we will celebrate our God, our source and keeper, the one who has purposed us to reclaim and restore this property for His people. Our resounding theme throughout this extensive renovation project has been that of Nehemiah's vision for Israel in the Bible. And that is for a city to be repaired, a people restored back to God and a community of faith revived. The Lord has blessed us with a unique opportunity to serve this community and we thank God for equipping us with the tools to do just that," Sr. Pastor Davis said.

The once abandoned 138,000 square-foot plaza has been renovated and now houses the church's new sanctuary, a 1000-seat Banquet Hall, an Administration Building, Welcome

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Center, Business Park, Media Arts Complex, the Upper Room for youth and young adult Christian activities, an Insurance Agency, a Print Shop, a future Restaurant, and a Recreational Park.

"We began the renovations in August 2010. Members of our congregation and contractors have worked diligently to complete this massive undertaking in a timely manner. We were blessed to have purchased property that had nine buildings that were very functional," Sr. Pastor Davis said.

WOG's presence in the Dutch Square area is a welcome addition. The renovated campus fits well with Richland County's revitalization efforts along the Broad River Road corridor which has been in decline for several years. Officials with the county and city, as well as businesses and residents along the corridor, who are expected to attend the grand opening activities, have expressed their support and welcome the church to the community.

"WOG has a place for people of all ages and backgrounds to study God's Word, fellowship together, and minister to others. Our in-reach and outreach ministries are very important to our mission of saving souls for God's Kingdom. Our ministries are designed to meet the spiritual needs of the congregation and the community through various acts of Christian love—giving of our time, energy, and resources so that others may come to know the Lord God through Jesus Christ," Sr. Pastor Davis said.

WOG is a non denominational church with both English and Spanish services held each Sunday at 10:00 AM at WOG Dutch Square and 4:00 PM at WOG Southeast, respectively.

The Diamond Lane campus will be the church's fourth location in South Carolina which include Word of God Southeast located at 7355 Garners Ferry Road in Columbia; a 74 acre Campsite in Bishopville, and a ministry location in Bethune. The WOG Southeast Campus, which houses Word of God's Espanol sanctuary, a future Bible College, a Thrift Store, and a discounted Furniture/Flower Store, will continue to serve the surrounding community.

For additional information about WOG Dutch Square's grand opening activities or other information about the church, its ministries, outreach and business development initiatives, contact the church at 803.799.3535 or visit our website at www.wordofgodcm.org .

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