

Come Thus Far: Rejoicingin Remembrances

The Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything.

DEUTERONOMY 2:7

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments.





Seeing New Horizons: Pursuing Future Possibilities



As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord.



They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?



"Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"



Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.



"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

EXODUS 14:14



In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

EXODUS 16:2



The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."



The Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God."



That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud.

NUMBERS 14:1



All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness!



"Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?"



And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt."

NUMBERS 14:4



Then Moses and Aaron fell face down in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there.

NUMBERS 14:5



Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes



and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good.

NUMBERS 14:7



"If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us.

NUMBERS 14:8



"Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them."



For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea.



They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.



They all ate the same spiritual food



and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual Rock that accompanied them, and that Rock was Christ.



Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.



Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.



Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry."



We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did — and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died.



We should not test Christ, as some of them did — and were killed by snakes.



And do not grumble, as some of them did — and were killed by the destroying angel.



These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.



So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

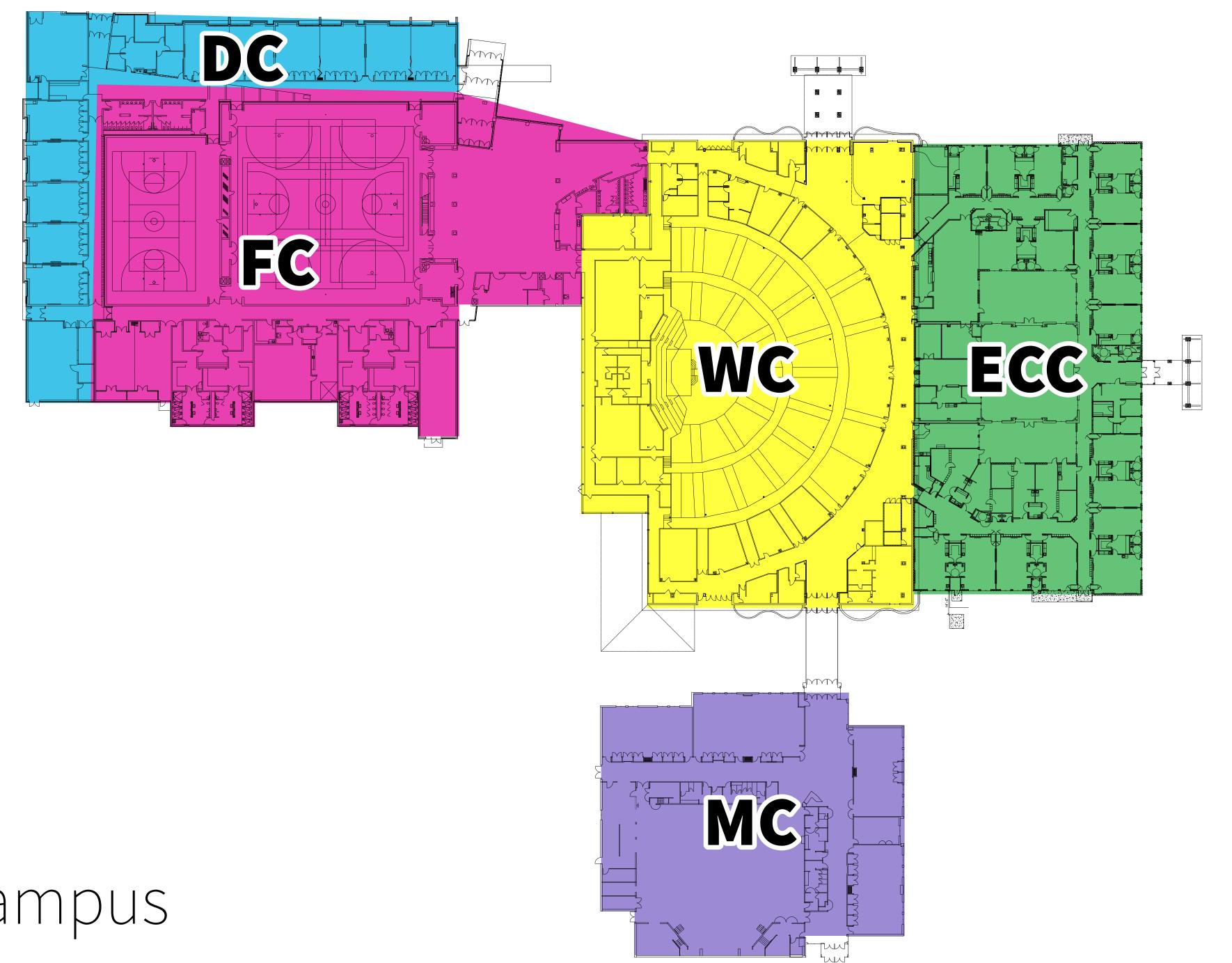


No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

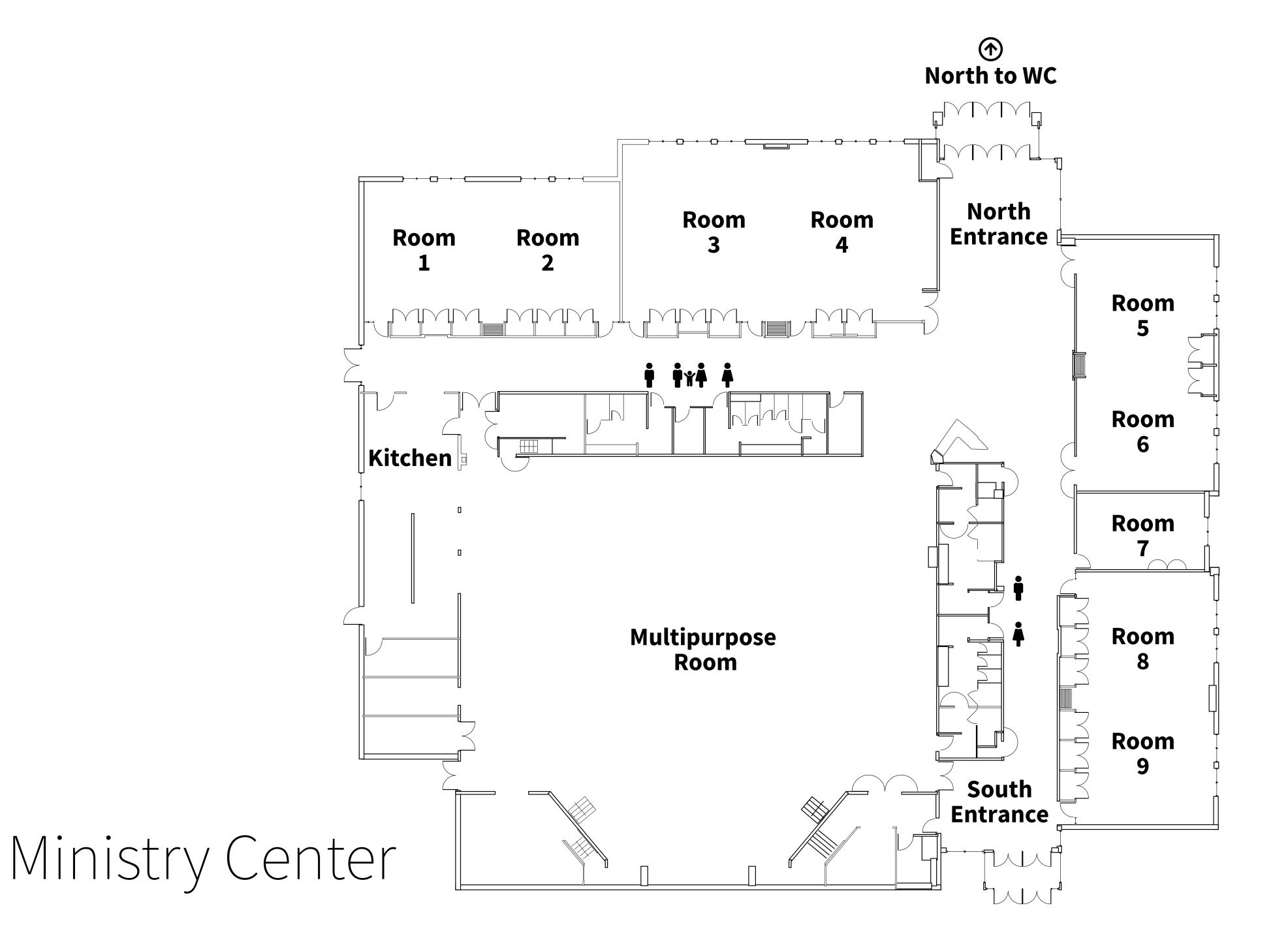


How is God calling you to participate as we enter a new year and a new era?





Main Campus



"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace."



With His people, what God commences, He continues and completes.



In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now...



being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

