

January 14, 2016

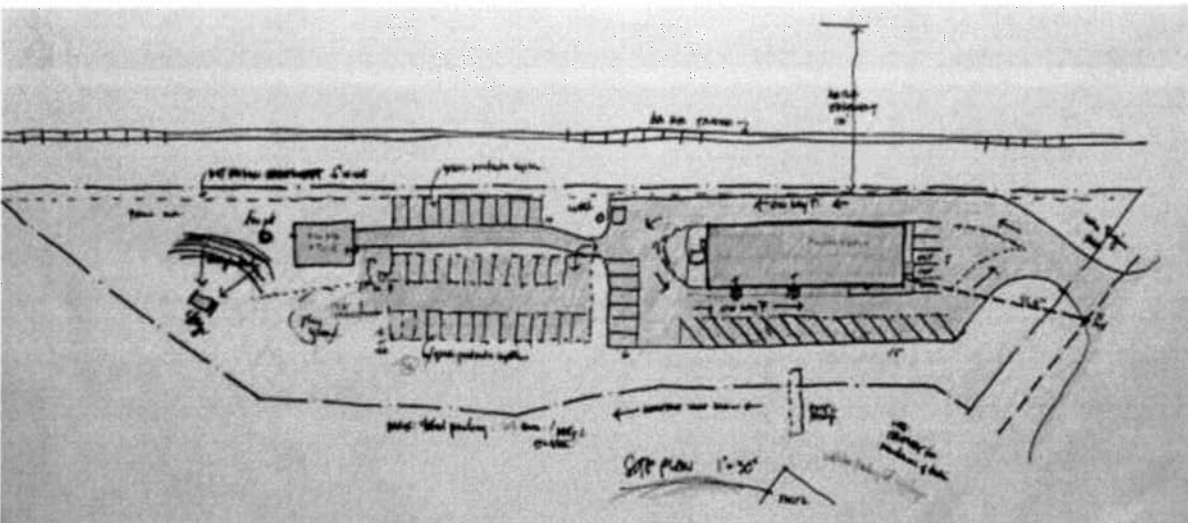
To: Northfield Township Planning Commission

Subject: Request for Change in the General Commercial Ordinance by Living Water Church

Living Water intends to purchase 200 Barker Road for use as a ministry center. One condition of our purchase is that Northfield Township approve of the use of this property as a church. The property is zoned General Commercial. We therefore request the zoning ordinance be changed to permit churches or provide for conditional use by churches. If the zoning is changed to allow for conditional use, then Living Water requests approval for such use based on the following rationale:

This property will provide Living Water with a permanent presence in Whitmore Lake and enable us to expand our ministries to serve Whitmore Lake and the surrounding communities. Living Water has held worship services in the Whitmore Lake High School since 2006. In addition, we have provided a number of programs such as mentoring and tutoring students, Mothers of Preschoolers, Financial Peace University, Vacation Bible School, etc. We have also partnered with Northfield Human Services to provide replenishment for the food pantry, turkeys at Thanksgiving, Christmas gifts for the disadvantaged, etc.

With a full-time presence in Whitmore Lake, we plan to expand these ministries and also provide pre-natal medical services in partnership with St. John's Providence and the 52 Mobile Clinic, a divorce recovery program, an indoor children's play area where mothers can socialize while watching their children, a safe and supervised "hangout" for youth, etc. In addition, we plan to relocate our worship service to the Barker Road facility and make the space available to the community for bridal showers, civic meetings, etc. This will require site work to increase the available parking spaces to 62 with a one-way traffic flow, entering on the east side of the building and exiting on the west side (see sketch below).



I am glad to answer any questions you may have with regard to this request.

Sincerely,

Frank Murdock, Elder  
Living Water Church  
734-417-7073