



## **Proposal for Use of Union High School by Living Word Church NJ**

### **Requested Term and Dates of Use:**

Living Word Church is requesting to use Union High School for Sunday services and select holiday events from Sunday, August 10, 2025, through Sunday, June 25, 2028. This request includes all Sundays within that period, as well as Good Fridays and Christmas Eves during that timeframe.

### **Proposal Overview:**

#### **Term Length:**

Living Word Church NJ proposes an initial agreement covering the period from August 10, 2025, through June 25, 2028 (Approx. 2 years and 10 months). This timeframe reflects our goal to begin services in August 2025 and continue for the dates stated prior. We are aware that the school years run (July to July) so we made the end date of this agreement to reflect that. Just to be clear Living Word Church may be interested in remaining longer than this agreement states. We only presented this time frame as a starting point between us. Living Word Church is currently working with Union Township leadership on multiple projects that include finding our church a new campus home for the future and supporting the town in their development projects. Having the ability to use the UHS facilities provide us an opportunity to continue searching for our long-term campus here in Union. We are thankful for the opportunity to pursue this partnership.

### **Mutual Benefits and Partnership Investment:**

This proposed partnership between Union High School and Living Word Church NJ is intended to be mutually beneficial. As part of this agreement, LWC will make an immediate investment in the upgrade of the UHS Auditorium's audio and visual system. These improvements will be fully funded by Living Word Church in lieu of making a monthly rental payment. The estimated value of this investment is approximately \$150,000 or more. These upgrades will remain in place at the school, enhancing the experience for all Union High School events, provide an immediate upgrade for the UHS Theatre Department and other programs that utilize the auditorium.

One of the major benefits of this upgrade is the immediate savings financially and physically for the theatre department. There are many reoccurring expenses that occur for the play and with this partnership, LWC and UHS will work together to reduce that cost dramatically and help save UHS money moving forward. We have already done this with the lighting project UHS had started and Dr. Benaquista can share more details on this as needed.

As a result of all these initial investments, we are hoping that UHS would see this partnership as payment for using the facilities during the agreed upon time. As a non-profit organization any reoccurring bill can become a burden over time and we are thankful for your considerations in this. With our partnership we believe that we can enhance the experience dramatically in the UHS Auditorium, help UHS save money on reoccurring expenses, help UHS save money on one time purchases you are currently gathering quotes for and continue to impact this community together. Living Word Church NJ has a large contingent of Union Township families that attend our church and we look forward to helping build that bridge between the schools and our families ultimately leading to a thriving community.

**Areas to Be Used:**

- Main auditorium
- Bathrooms
- Hospitality room (any classroom behind stage areas)
- Classrooms (for kid's ministry classes)
- Small gym

**Service Time and Access Needs:**

Sunday services will begin at 10:00 AM. We request that the facility be opened by 7:00 AM each Sunday to allow adequate time for setup. All activities, including breakdown and cleanup, will be completed by 1:00 PM. We will work together with the custodian or site manager that is on site to ensure proper facility use and access.

**Security Arrangements:**

Living Word Church will provide security coverage each Sunday through the Union Jobs in Blue program and through a currently contracted private security company to ensure the safety and orderliness of the premises.