

# The Early Vision

Northview Christian Life was born of a deep and abiding commitment to bring the message of Jesus Christ to the Carmel area.



In the Summer of 1980, the first Sunday service took place in the cafeteria of the Carmel Elementary School with approximately 30 adults and children in attendance. That first Sunday represented a small beginning, but it wasn't long before

Northview's ever-expanding community outgrew the school's facilities, and a search for a site for a permanent church home was underway.

Northview celebrated its second anniversary with a groundbreaking ceremony for its first building program. The congregation moved into the first building in 1983, added a wing of offices in 1984, and expanded the sanctuary in 1985.

In 1992 our church family had grown to more than 1100 in attendance each Sunday. Another expansion was inevitable and brought us to our present church facility at 5535 E. 131st Street.

Throughout Northview's history, our growth, both physically and spiritually, has brought us again and again to major decisions. Each time a need arose, we met that need. Each time we reached a crossroad, our congregation stepped forward in faith to fulfill the challenge.

*When land was sought for the site of the new church, God seemed to be directing the Northview family to a building site one mile east of 131st Street and Gray Road. Inquiries revealed that the land on the hill was reportedly the highest point in Hamilton County and was highly desired by every real estate firm in the area. But the property was owned by Purdue University and was definitely not for sale.*

*Three years later as he jogged past the property, Tommy Paino again experienced another vision of God's plan for this much-sought-after acreage. Undaunted, Tommy made further inquiries about the sale of the prized property.*

*In the meantime, Purdue University had commissioned a feasibility study regarding use of the land and unexpectedly decided to sell all 600 acres. Because Tommy Paino was the last person to inquire about sale of the ground, he was the first one to be offered the land. Northview Christian Life bought 81 of the 600 acres through a miracle transaction precipitated by God's plan for the future ministries of Northview Christian Life.*