



Dwight Smith

## gateway church

**Client:** Gateway Church

**Location:** Southlake, Texas

**Project Type:** New Construction

**Seat Count:** 1,550

**Opening:** 2004

**Construction Cost:** \$5 million

**Architect:** Holland Simpson

**Contact:** Jon Simpson | Holland Simpson | 817.749.9000

**AD Scope:** Audio | Acoustics

Gateway Church broke ground for its first church campus on May 19, 2002. The campus included a 700-seat sanctuary that was designed to be expandable to 1,400 seats when there was a need for more room. The church never dreamed that the need would come as soon as 2004 when the average weekly attendance rose to 4,900.

Because the church had planned for growth, the facility's design allowed for church activities to continue while the addition to the worship center was being completed. The outside of the building didn't change at all. The existing worship center occupied only half of the building, so a mirror image of the worship center was built on the other side of the worship center's wall. When it was completed, the wall was simply removed, and the two areas were joined. The stage area, which had been in the corner of the original worship center, was mirrored to create a large center stage that allowed for seating to surround it in nearly a 180-degree pattern.

AD was asked to come aboard the project to handle the inherent acoustic and audio problems that would naturally occur from doubling the worship center's size, which created an extremely wide room that was not very deep. The church had already been experiencing challenges in their old worship space with noise and vibration from the HVAC systems. In addition, there were acoustic challenges with the back wall and some concerns about their sound system's performance.

**ACOUSTIC DIMENSIONS**