In the fall of 2018, Lenape Valley Church will launch a New Worship Service. This opportunity is long awaited by some, while others wonder how this addition will impact our church family here at LVC. You are invited to take a few minutes to learn about this exciting missional enterprise. Watch the Dream- God’s Dream- unfold over the summer months.

Who will lead this New Service?
The New Worship Team is actively interviewing candidates for the Worship Leader position for this service. The Worship Leader will form a band to share in the leadership of this service. A Worship Leader and band are as essential to a contemporary worship experience as a good organist, choir director and choir are to a traditional worship experience. At Lenape Valley, we know the blessing of having strong, creative leadership in our traditional worship. We are seeking that same strong, creative leadership for our contemporary worship.

Who will preach in this New Service?
The message and the preacher will be the same for both the traditional and contemporary services. The goal is to allow our faith community two different expressions of worship, while keeping the same message and mission. In this way, we will continue to be a united faith community. We will also create times when we will serve together (The Church Has Left the Building, 20,000 meals, Mission Trips), and fellowship together (a shared Fellowship hour from 10:30-11am, Pasta Dinners, Pancake Breakfasts, special women’s and men’s events) to allow us to know each other even as we worship at different hours.

How will this New Service impact our current Traditional Worship?
At Lenape Valley we are blessed to enjoy vibrant, creative traditional worship. Our traditional worship has inspired numerical growth in our faith community and deepened our faith journey. We are blessed by the gifts and talents of our community that make each Sunday a new experience. The Elders of our church recognize the strength that our traditional worship brings to the whole of our faith community. They have made a commitment to support the 9:30am traditional worship with resources, staff and prayerful encouragement. This support will allow the 9:30am service to continue as a strong, vibrant, creative worship experience at Lenape Valley even as we reach out to others with a new contemporary worship service.
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Why a New Worship Service?
Every Sunday, when Lenape Valley gathers, the sanctuary fills to capacity. Over the last 2 years we have welcomed 64 new members and their families. Every Sunday visitors come to share in worship with us. Thus our 9:30am worship service is beautifully full of members and visitors. What a wonderful reality to have! The time has come to offer a new opportunity for worship to address the influx of people into our worship.

When the Session considered the need for a second service, they did not want to just meet our needs. They are painfully aware that the majority of our neighbors do not have a church home where they are actively being nurtured and cared for. The Elders began to ask what kind of worship experience would speak the good news to our neighbors who are not here yet. Since we already have a strong traditional service to offer, the Elders decided to add a worship experience with a different style. This new worship service will broaden our witness to the community by giving us a second “worship language.”

Who is the target audience for this New Worship Service?
The hope is to create a worship experience where all feel welcome. If you have ever attended a contemporary worship service, you probably noticed that the congregation ranged in age from child to senior. Contemporary worship is a style that reaches across the generational divides, just as our current traditional worship does. We know that there are people within our current congregation who have been waiting for this service because it will be more their “style.” We are hopeful that our youth will engage more fully in worship through this New Worship experience. We are excited to offer our Sunday School and Nursery staff an opportunity on Sunday to worship as well as serve. We look forward to inviting our young adults into a worship experience that speaks the good news of Jesus Christ in their cultural style. And we yearn to reach those who are not here yet, that they might find a home in our grace-full faith community.

When will this New Service happen?
For the past year, we have been studying the worship habits of people in our area. We have explored many possible options as to when to offer this service. Should it be on Sunday morning, or perhaps Saturday or Sunday evening? We looked at successful churches in the Philadelphia suburbs, and consulted with pastors and church leaders who have been successful in reaching their neighbors. The best wisdom we can find encourages us to place this service on Sunday morning. When we launch this service in the fall our Sunday morning schedule will look like this:

- Traditional Worship 9:30am
- Children’s Sunday School 9:45am
- Coffee Hour 10:30am
- Contemporary Worship 11:00am
- Children’s Time during the Message