

February 13, 2008

Dear Church Family:

Can you envision breaking ground on the multi-purpose building in just *six to seven months*?

The thought of what this can mean for our church family and for the many who will come to know Christ as a result brings us great joy and a sense of eager anticipation!

In these days of uncertainty that are engulfing our nation ... the presidential elections, a struggling economy and other matters that can shake our sense of security, God is still urging us forward to take the good news about Jesus to our friends, our community and our world. Our security is in Christ: He is our wisdom, our strength and our hope. As His body let's continue to trust His promises and walk in the confidence He gives!

You will remember that last spring we focused on launching the giving portion of our building program. As a church, we responded by committing \$10.6 million over the next four years to *Building on Purpose*. What an amazing, God-inspired response to His vision for having an expanding impact in our region!

In this letter, we want to bring you up to date and give you some very important information. Progress "behind the scenes" these past eight months has been significant, and we are moving full speed ahead in our preparations for building.

- In June 2007 the Modesto City Council approved our zoning amendment, clearing the way to develop the multi-purpose building.
- In August 2007 we opened our new parking lot on 11th Street, paving the way to replace parking that will be lost when the multi-purpose building construction begins.
- We finalized plans to move the Administration Building offices (on Needham Street) to the Christian Education Building. This allows us to demolish the Administration Building to make room for the multi-purpose building.
- Remodeling of the new offices should begin this April, pending final approval from the City of Modesto.
- Detailed design of the multi-purpose building has really taken shape with:
 - the first floor being dedicated to children's ministry and our future day care,
 - the second floor designed to house our youth and college ministries, and
 - the third floor reserved for future development as needed.

- We are in the process of designing the “park” area in front of the multi-purpose building, providing a friendly, welcoming entrance to the heart of the church campus.
- Plans to relocate the utilities such as electricity, water, sewer, telephone, etc., have been submitted to the City of Modesto and are nearing approval.
- We are updating our Web site to provide the most current information, including pictures, specific prayer focus, a weekly blog and a webcam during construction.
- The Board of Deacons continues to carefully monitor cost estimates and the progress of *Building On Purpose* contributions to insure we move forward in wisdom and prudence.

While this list is not exhaustive, we trust you will agree that a lot of progress has been made. The planning and approval phase of our large-scale project has taken a lot of time with little visible progress ... but the actual construction is just around the corner!

Some of the most exciting and encouraging news is that in the past eight months, we have given in excess of \$1.5 million toward our commitment of \$10.6 million! This is a great accomplishment! As we continue to move ahead, there are three things needed: 1) that we give regularly and systematically, according to the commitments we have made; 2) that we all pray regarding recovery of the real estate market as some have committed significant dollars through the potential sale of property, giving from the proceeds (with the state of the economy, the donors have wisely pulled the property off the market until a recovery takes place); and 3) that more members of our church family will join in this momentous effort. By the end of our four-year giving program, we want to meet or even exceed our commitments. It is important to remember that every dollar given means that we will potentially need to borrow one less dollar.

We are very excited about the direction we are moving! The bottom line is that we want to see more folks come to know Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith. Expanding our space for ministry helps us to accomplish our mission.

We invite you to join us at one of our dinner meetings scheduled for May 4-7, to hear the latest information regarding plans and progress, especially as we draw closer to breaking ground in the very near future!

Let's continue to seek the Lord in prayer as we move forward and continue to do our part in reaching one life at a time!

Serving together,

B. Wade Estes
Senior Pastor

Curtis Grant
Campaign Co-Chair

Randy Reeves
Campaign Co-Chair

PS. If you were unable to commit last spring, please consider joining now. If you would like to make a commitment, contact the church stewardship office, and we will be glad to provide you with any information you need.