

July 4, 2010

PRESSING ON IN FAITH

Dear Church Family,

As you are probably well aware, we are going through some big and exciting changes around here at CCEC. We want to help you better understand what these changes are and the reason for them.

Status of our Church

First of all, we want to make it very clear that things are going great here at the church. Not only are we watching people come to Christ and grow in Christ, but we are seeing a lot of new faces around here, too, which is always a blessing. Please know that we are not in financial trouble. The economy has affected everyone, still we are doing well and have not had to cut any ministries or lay off any staff and we do not intend to.

Sale of the Building

The biggest change here at CCEC is that we have sold our building to Literacy First Charter School. Please know that we did not do this out of necessity or hardship, but because we believe this is exactly the direction the Lord is leading us, and that it is the best decision for the future of our church. We own the building here at 698 W. Main Street, but have never owned the land. This has worked well for many years and has saved the church money. That said, we are persuaded it is best for the church to be in a position where we own both the building and the land. It has been our goal for several years to purchase the land here, but we have not been successful. Due to these factors, the board decided in 2009 that we would put the building here up for sale. Literacy First Charter School has decided to purchase the building at our full asking amount.

Our Goal

Our goal is to find a place where we can purchase both a building and land. For the time being, at the close of escrow, we will be leasing from Literacy First at a very reasonable cost and will be continuing all of our services at their usual times in this building, in addition to keeping our offices on site. This will allow us to look for a place without the rush of needing to be out of our current location! This is all really good news and we hope that in understanding the situation, you can be excited and grateful for what God is doing.

Please Be Flexible

Escrow is not closed yet, but should be soon, and it is Literacy First's intention to have this building ready for the school year this coming fall, 2010. We understand that change can be very difficult, but in this case, it is for a very good reason. We want to ask you to consider the following proverb from Chuck Smith, founder of Calvary Chapel: "Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be broken". We would love to be able to give you a calendar of all the current and upcoming changes, but at this point it is simply not possible. The state of the remodeling and room changes is fluid and we do not always know how certain changes will affect us until we get closer. We will do our best to inform you of those things that are pertinent to you and the ministries you are involved in; we want to ask that you please be patient and flexible in the process. Above all, please keep the church and these matters in your prayers. May God use the changes in our church building to do His work in His church here at CCEC, which is not the building at all, but the people which make up the Body of Christ.

In Jesus' Love,



Pastor Dale