



11 November 2009

Dear Family and Friends

Jus as we were preparing to relocate, some unfortunate delays in our project timeline have resulted in the need for us to delay our relocation to our temporary accommodation until February 2010. Therefore, we will continue services at our current location through Christmas and January.



Here's why:

- The length of time to receive completed information from subconsultants (engineers etc) on the project will be longer than first expected and will not be completed for a number of weeks.
- Once subconsultants have completed their work a final period of council approvals is required – it is unlikely that we will be able to provide these to council before they go on holidays in early December.
- At the same time, our builder will need to formalise the quotation – in order to do this, he will need to receive quotations from many businesses which will not be available until after Christmas.
- Once the quote is finished, there will be an additional delay in finalising the loan application with Baplink.

As I am sure you will appreciate, even if some of these things are delivered early, the period from early December through to mid-January is unsuitable to attempt the relocation to the new site given that many of us will be away or unavailable. Also, given that our temporary accommodation would cost us \$400 per service, delaying our relocation would save us approximately \$4,400.

<sup>3</sup> This vision is for a future time.  
It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled.  
If it seems slow in coming,  
wait patiently,  
for it will surely take place.  
It will not be delayed.

<sup>4</sup> “Look at the proud!  
They trust in themselves, and  
their lives are crooked.  
But the righteous will live by  
their faithfulness to God.  
— Habakkuk 2:3-4 (NLT)

Therefore, the Board of Deacons has decided on February as being the best time to transition to a new site with a pencilled-in date of 7 February 2010 for our first service at the temporary location. This is a fairly short notice change in plans, and like you, I have felt an element of frustration over the delay. Still I am reminded from Habakkuk 2:3-4 that God is never late and His timing is perfect. From 2 Peter 3:8 we know that to God, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like a day. Who better to place our faith in than the One who transcends even time itself!

I want to reaffirm the Church Leadership's commitment to this project. Specifically we hold true to the decision by the Church to proceed with this project and that it was divinely inspired. It would be unwise for us to dismiss it and focus only on our worldly fears and frustration. We all continue to work earnestly on realising this plan for our Church family and are grateful for the additional time we will have to finalise plans and moving arrangements.

You may recall also that last week we posted a short update on the status of donations made to the property redevelopment project which indicated a slight shortfall from that budget. It is important to state that this shortfall was not a factor in the Board's decision to change the date of transition. We have full faith in the Almighty God that he already and will continue to provide for our needs.

## Prayer Leadership

This recent change has highlighted to me that we should be dedicating more time to prayer associated with this project. I know that individuals and home-groups regularly bring the prayer points for this project to the Lord which I really appreciate. Still, I believe there is a person or group of people that God may have selected to lead a ministry in prayer specifically for project needs. On an almost daily basis I am reminded of things associated with the project that would benefit from prayer but I do not have the time to write these down and let everyone know about them. Some also involve sensitive information that can't really be shared with a large audience.



I believe it may be easier if someone from the church could take a proactive role in contacting me on a weekly basis to get an update of current prayer needs and to communicate those along to others interested in prayer. This person would also need to coordinate occasional prayer meetings, maybe once every month. If you believe God wants you to be involved with this kind of a ministry, please let me (Steve) know.

## Prayer

Finally, below is the list of current prayer needs:

### Praise

- For the continued offers of volunteer labor and services from within and associated with the church.
- The sale of the manse and hall for a profit and agreement to clear these sites without cost to us.
- For the volunteers to be involved with the removal of asbestos from the current church for minimal cost.
- For the volunteers to be involved with the removal of electrical fittings from the current church.
- For the volunteers to be involved with the demolition of the church.
- For the volunteers to help coordinate the project and associated activities including relocation.
- For the provision of a suitable (and air-conditioned!) home for the church during construction.
- For God's financial blessing to the church to date.

### Prayer

- That the delay will not cause concern for the Church and will be accepted and understood by members of the family. (Specifically that people will know not to go to the other place on 29<sup>th</sup> November ☺)
- That the delay in our booking will not present us with problems with our temporary accommodation.
- For continued wisdom and protection for the property managers and workers in planning the building and associated activities.
- That the arrangements for demolition (coordinated by Mark Zeibarh) can be finalized.
- For the speedy completion of engineering, consultation and drafting associated with the finalization of the plans.
- For the continued provision of finances to support the project, prior to the commencement of the project and ongoing during construction and beyond.
- For the sustaining of relationships during the phase of transition and that we will not feel "displaced".
- For the effective continuation and growth of existing and new ministries during the period of transition.
- For the health, safety and protection of our builder, Dave Harney and his business
- For the health, safety and protection of our architects, Steve Turner and Andrew Allen and STEA.
- For the health, safety and protection of all volunteer workers on the project, especially those involved with demolition of the site.
- For the preparation of final quotations by Dave Harney – that these will be within expectations.
- For the final approval of the loan by BapLink.
- That existing power supply to the building will sufficient without expensive work required from Ergon.
- That inspections on current sewerage will reveal no or minimal cost to rectify.
- That God will bless all givers (financial and volunteer) to the project.
- That we can solve any seating / space challenges over the next 2 months, specifically for our Christmas service.

Yours in Christ

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