



FROM CONCEPT TO CONCRETE

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Special points of interest:

- Building Project is Moving Forward
- ENVISION... Is our money secure?
- September Budget update

ENVISION... UPDATE

This past week, Dave Landers, Rich Walling and I met with the team from Cogun, Inc., our design/build firm to get an update on the various meetings that had taken place with the City of Clearwater over the past month.

I am delighted to tell you that the City has been impressed with our plans and the level of detail that Cogun, Hamilton Engineering and Hyde Park Architects have been able to provide them. They were very encouraging and appreciated being kept in the loop as we planned the building. Early on, we were told that the permitting process could take anywhere from 3–9 months. The City has been kept appraised of our progress and plans and told Cogun that they would be able to turn our permits around in 4 weeks after the final drawings were submitted. If there were any questions, they would respond within 2 weeks of receiving any resubmittal of information. We need to be realistic, there will be ques-



Artist's Rendering of master plan for Heritage.

tions and challenges but we are thinking that this approval process can realistically be done within 2 months. What a blessing.

The City has come back and asked us to increase the size of the retention pond that is by Landmark Drive. This will impact our plans by requiring us to level the Light-

house before building can commence. We will be leasing a portable building made up of multiple modular units that will house the current Student Ministry and Children's Ministry activities that occur at the Lighthouse until the new building is finished.

... story continued on page 2

ENVISION ... GIVING NEARS \$2.5 MILLION!

Last year at our celebration, we reported pledged giving to the building project of \$6,757,261.24. As of today, we have received \$2,489,195.08 which is 67% of "anticipated revenue" for the second year of the 3-year program.

Anticipated revenue was the full amount pledged divided by 3. It is an estimate by which we measure how close we are on the plan. Many of us pledged a "flat amount" for the campaign which is due by the end of June 2010. It has the effect

of distorting the year-to-date giving making it look smaller than anticipated but it is not. We appreciate everyone's prayerful and sacrificial giving to make this ministry project become a reality.



We have signed the Civil Engineering Agreement so Hamilton Engineering can do all the drawing necessary to file plans with the City for drainage and topography of our land. Over the next few weeks, we will finish the overview of the space plans for the Children's Ministry and Student Ministry space.

Our next task will be to determine exactly what we are going to build. We will gather the Administrative Council and consider the three options:

1. Children's Ministry and Student Ministry building only.
2. Children's Ministry and Student Ministry building and half the Fellowship Hall

3. Children's Ministry and Student Ministry building and the entire Fellowship Hall and commercial kitchen.

We have heard the many comments that we want our building to look like a church and not a shopping center. We are keenly aware of this and will work with the Building Committee to oversee the finishes that will present our buildings as a church to the community and bring consistency to all phases of the construction. We will be building the buildings in a Mediterranean architectural style for two reasons: the first reason is that the concrete and stucco building is the most cost-effective method of construction and second, it blends with the Spanish influence of the communities within our Countryside area. Between November and March, all site permits will be received and the building permit

process will take place in March and April. The temporary building will be constructed in April and we will work with Cogun to plan the demolition of the Lighthouse for late May or early June. We would like to wait until after school is out in the first week of June. Completion is scheduled for May 2010.

As more plans are known, we will share them with you. It is exciting to think we will be able to move dirt this spring.

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Blessings,
Arch Johnston
Church Administrator

FINANCIAL/ BUDGET UPDATE—SEPTEMBER 2008

This year's church budget is \$2,160,000. Through September, we have received \$1,476,898.15 which is 91% of anticipated giving. This is exactly where we were this time last year and is very typical for this time of year.

Expenses through September were \$1,497,282.42. We have spent \$20,384.27 more than was received.

September is our most difficult month during the year coming out of the high expenses of summer in Florida and experiencing decreased attendance due to people being on vacation. During the month of October, we begin to catch up and get back on track. We have now applied all pre-paid pledges to the budget so we do not have a nest egg to fall back upon. We are relying on weekly giving to

meet our budgeted expenses on a weekly basis for the balance of the year. During this trying economic times, we ask that you prayerfully consider your giving weekly. Additional funds are always need for the Needy Family Fund and requests are increasing as you might imagine.

Thank you.

WITH THE RECENT STOCK MARKET CONDITIONS—IS OUR *ENVISION* MONEY SAFE?

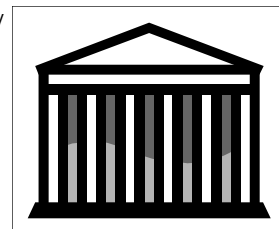
"ENVISION funds moved to safe, secure, liquid, insured investment vehicles."

Yes it is! We did not want to come to an April date and find out that we could have lost money and that our project could be in jeopardy. I am thankful to tell you that our assets have now been protected.

Until last week, our funds have been invested in a Merrill Lynch Institutional account and we received monthly interest from our investments. It has been an excellent investment for us. Paul Burroughs the Chairperson of Trustees, and John

Lawler, the Chairperson of Finance met with Melanie Matheny and me and we had a conference call with our Merrill Lynch team. We have moved our money to Insured Savings Accounts (ISAs) and into CDs. Our funds have now been spread over 30 banks and each account is insured by the FDIC. We have protected our

stability and the liquidity of our building funds and they are not subject to the swings of the market. We are receiving about 1% less interest but the security



Be safe; plan today.

in the short run was our objective and we have accomplished that. Be reassured that your investment in our future ministry and life transformation is secure. We greatly appreciate the wisdom of our team in this process.