

July 2010

Dear Christ Community,

First if all let me say how grateful we are for the relationship that we share as sister churches. It is always a delight and never ceases to amaze me as I see and experience the level of unity that exists among our church families. It is the expressed envy of many churches seeking to have the same experience.

The recent discussion that we had concerning the commitment to our building expansion as a part of the overall CCC capital campaign offered such a level of encouragement for us and gave us a huge dose of hope as we struggle through this difficult economic times.

The timing was perfect and was a real boost to our staff. The further decision by CCC elders to kick things off by agreeing to immediately pay of the current building loan to free up funds to help with the current economic dilemma resulting from the economic state that we are in as a country, state and city, simply brought tears to every staff member. We were at a critical time and needed a very strategic plan that would not simply serve as a "bail-out" but rather as an advancement toward our goal while addressing what seems to be a temporary drought. Paying off the current loan was a strategic move that offered all of the critical elements necessary to both help offer some healing to the current crisis and advance the future plans.

Paying off the current loan helped us in a few ways;

1. It helped address the immediate financial (budgetary) short fall. Layoffs, job reductions and unemployment conditions have hit is very hard and left us making week to week decisions concerning our financial obligations and basic bills.
2. It saved a substantial amount in interest. As with most loans, the interest is front loaded in the structure of the loan where contribution to the principle is often at end of the amortization adding much to the overall cost. Paying off this loan immediately, resulted in an overall savings equaling thousands.
3. It offered a great encouragement and boost to our morale and hope. Many discussions are circulating about ways to help those who are suffering from the current economic situation. Seeing so many of our members affected has been difficult and this boost was really needed.
4. It allows our leadership team to focus on ministry issues and moves us out of "survival mode".
5. And finally, it moves us steps forward in our plan of seeing our new facility serving our members, the surrounding community, and the other urban churches that we continue to influence and impact for the sake of the Kingdom.

It is without a doubt that together we give true direction for the journey as we offer a biblical alternative for living in every area of life. There are "God things" occurring almost daily as a result of our commitment to experience our biblical journeys together, as a result GOD is glorified in so many ways and lives are impacted, served and transformed.

It is amazing to be a part of this generation and see how God is using us together to set a course that will forever change the perspective of ministry for future generations.

To His glory  
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