

Dear Fellow Members and Friends.

As mentioned back in early December the Elders said we would update you on the status of our “Faith Promise” commitment, the following are the results of that campaign.

- Sent out **470 letters** to members and regular attendees.
- To date we’ve received Faith Promise cards back from **42 individuals** who believe that God would enable them to give one-time gifts totaling **\$242, 410**.
- In addition, **92 individuals** have felt that the Lord would provide them the opportunity to give monthly gifts totaling **\$16,858**. Over 18 months this will add up to **\$303,444**.
- This gives us a **total of \$545,854** of income that we believe God will enable the church body to give over the next year and a half.

Let me make several comments about where we stand at this point. First, we are **so thankful to God** for your faithfulness and commitment to give over and above your normal tithes and offerings to advance the ministry of PBC. Second, you can see that we are about 1/3 of the way toward our original goal of \$1.7M which is needed to be raised over the next 18 months to complete the entire building project.

With this information, we’ve scheduled a meeting with Jim Thayer of Timeless Architect to discuss our next steps as we seek to still move forward with the CUP (Conditional Use Permit) process. Please realize that we are only able to estimate costs at a very rough level of precision at this point because we are working with floor plans and elevations. We need to continue to move forward to fill out the detail of these plans.

Timeless Architect has told us that we can request that the City of Santa Clarita give us longer than an 18 month window of time to start the project. That means that we can get the project approved, and still have 3 or even 5 years before we begin. We don’t want to take that long, but it’s good to know we don’t have the clock ticking.

We will also be talking with Mr. Thayer about ways in which we can phase the whole project to use the amount of funding available and still get us to the point of a useable but incomplete facility. Timeless Architect has already thrown out some ideas that have good potential to help us in this way. If we can get a good first phase product down at the \$5M mark, we are in fairly good shape to move forward with the commitments that have been made.

Let me finish with both an encouragement and a challenge to you. First, thank you to those of you who did go ahead and turn in a Faith Promise card over this past month. This represents a tremendous amount of over and above giving for a church our size and demographic given our current economic times.

If we look just at the numbers, there is a large portion of you who did not turn in a card. We realize there may be any of a number of reasons that you chose not to. You may be concerned that we become so focused on the building project that we lose sight what is really important in PBC’s ministry. I want to assure you that the leadership is very concerned that we don’t let that become the case. The church is not a building, it is a congregation of people. The facility is just a tool to enable ministry. The main focus of the leadership team is to constantly look for ways to better help you **grow and to equip** you for the work of the ministry, to **shepherd you** through our watchcare prayer meetings groups and to work with the deacons to **respond to physical and financial needs** as we become aware of them. Ministry is happening, and we are committed to always keeping it our first priority.

If you have **some issue or issues that** is keeping you from participating in this project, I would encourage you to come and speak with one or more of the elders. We would like the opportunity to help answer some of those questions. Some of you may have felt that you **could not make a large monthly commitment** and so decided not to make one at all.

Let me encourage you by telling you that approximately ¼ of the total \$16,000 monthly Faith Promises is coming from individuals who committed to \$100 per month or less. That's about \$25 per week. Don't feel that if you can't give a lot, you won't commit to anything. The Bible speaks of each man giving after his/her own ability.

It is not too late for you to participate with the Faith Promise campaign. We will be keeping a supply of Faith Promise cards available in the foyer and have enclosed one in this letter. As we receive cards, we will add the figures to the total, and then shred the card as we have done with all the others. Just consider the tremendous encouragement to the spirit and unity of this body if we were able to come to the point that I could stand up here and announce to you that 90% or more of our church body had committed to participate in this project at some level.

Isn't it a joy to see what God is doing here at PBC? Please continue in prayer for the leadership, and for your brothers and sisters here in the body. Be faithful in your service, knowing as Paul said to the Corinthians:

...be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain

In His Service

John Hughes  
On Behalf of the Elder Board