

Open Door Fellowship

February 3, 2008

Dear ODF Family,

This past Tuesday we met with Dick Beall of Church Growth Services to go over the report they put together as a result of our Pre-Campaign Assessment. The report was very comprehensive, thorough and positive in its observations, conclusions and recommendations. It verified once again that we are a healthy church and that we are committed to our children, our vision and to the future as we seek to reach out and serve our children, one another and our community.

There are at least three reasons why we believe now is the time to move ahead with a capital campaign and subsequent building addition. One is because, as a congregation, you have been willing to share your discernment with us in a variety of ways. Through the input forums, the interviews and the congregational survey we have heard from you quite comprehensively. A strong majority of you have indicated you are ready to move ahead with a capital campaign and building project that is conservative and that will benefit our children right now. The following responses to the survey demonstrate this.

Most believe that "this is the right time to proceed with a campaign." 68% either strongly agreed or agreed that "Spring 2008 is the best time to launch a capital campaign for this project."

79% of the respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that "this is the right time to proceed with an addition to create more space for children's ministry."

A second reason we believe now is the time to move ahead is because of the strong recommendation we have received from our consultant, Church Growth Services. They have affirmed that our congregational survey is one of the strongest they have seen in their 49 year history. We take that very seriously and value their experience and expertise. The following six pages are a summary of their report.

A final reason we believe now is the time to move ahead is because we as Elders, along with the Building Team and Pastor Dan have all discerned that we believe God is blessing us to move ahead with this project which will create more space for our children.

This being the case we have decided to contract with Church Growth Services to help lead us through a Stewardship of Life capital campaign. We believe that with their giftedness, experience and expertise we will be well served in learning how to be incredible stewards of all that God has blessed us with. As we learn how to be faithful stewards of God's financial resources, we believe we will experience a renewed joy in giving sacrificially to see this expansion project be a blessing to our children and the children in our community.

We will do our best to keep you informed of what is happening, when it is happening, and how you all can be a part of this great adventure we are embarking on. In addition to this building project we also want to be more intentional in our outreach into our community and region. We have already started talking with some of you about your ideas and ways to implement these ideas. If you really have a heart to reach our community, please let us know so you can be a part of these times of discernment.

Finally, all the financial resources that are committed to, and given for, the building project will be deposited into the Building Fund. Our intent is to construct a facility that will require no long term debt. We do plan to progress with the "spec" house later this spring and the funds needed to build it will come from the Building Fund and when the house sells 100% of the proceeds will be deposited into the Building Fund.

Thank you for your participation in this journey of discernment! Your input has been very helpful!

In Christ, The ODF Elders