

Building Vision Finance – Randy Larson– Congregational Meeting 1.27.19

Thank you, Nathan, and good afternoon. My name is Randy Larson, and I am currently serving as the Finance elder on our Building Committee. Let me give you a brief update on finances for the “Building Up, Living It Out” Vision campaign.

Several years ago now, our elders began assessing the anticipated future space needs for our growing congregation. The desire and vision was to be prepared when the time came to expand our ability to make disciples of our children, students and adults consistent with Jesus command in Matthew 28:19-20 , “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” With that vision and purpose clearly in mind, we moved forward in faith with plans for a new Discipleship Ministries building and a new Student Ministries building project.

In the “Building Up, Living It Out” vision presented to the congregation a little over a year ago, our hope was to have enough financial resources to build two buildings at a total cost estimated to be about \$7 million – a Discipleship Ministries Center and a new Student Ministries Center building. Thus far God has graciously provided enough funding for completion of the Discipleship Ministries Center. To date, we have pledges and gifts of \$4.8million. Of that total amount, we have already received more than \$3.6 million in cash and pledge payments. Thanks be to God for His provision for the expansion of our disciple-making vision!

One of our core financial principles in sharing the “Building Up, Living It Out” vision was to not spend more than what God provided. So, for now, we have begun construction of only the Discipleship Ministries Building. It is our desire to be debt free at the end of the three-year pledge period; December 31, 2020.

Due, in part, to delays in the project start-up; costs will be somewhat higher than originally anticipated. Most building projects have some unanticipated “surprises”. In order to realize our goal of being debt free, we anticipate that it may be necessary to cut some highly desirable things from the project. Some potential cuts might include kitchen equipment, shade covers, landscaping, plaza space and lighting and others as necessary. At this point, it looks like we might need to make approximately \$50,000 in cuts to the project. We are still looking at options for further savings.

Our hope and daily prayer continues to be that, rather than cutting important elements of the project, God will move those of you who have not yet pledged or given to the project, to support our ‘Building Up” vision by submitting a first-time pledge or gift – or, for those of you who have already pledged or given, to prayerfully increase your existing pledge or gift.

My **daily** prayer continues to be not only that will we receive enough additional funding to retain all the desirable elements of the project...but that we might receive enough

additional funding to build the second building, the Student Ministries Center as anticipated in our original vision.

Let me close with a verse from Mark's gospel, chapter 10, verse 27, "With men this is impossible, but not with God; for nothing is impossible with God.:

Do you have any questions that I might answer?

Jerry Reimer, one of our elders, please come and pray for us.

I will turn it over to Pastor Chuck.