



# Eastside Baptist Church

seeking to glorify Him

Dear Eastside,

If you were among the few around Eastside eight years ago you may have come to the conclusion that we may never build a new building. I've had moments of thinking like this too. This week our architectural drawings were introduced to the city of Twin Falls as we move toward breaking ground on May 1, 2009. It is likely, if the building permits are in place sooner, the ground thaws and God allows we will begin the foundation work sooner.

In my personal journal dated December 12, 2005 I reflected on the largest attendance (186) we have had on a non Easter/Christmas service, "The time has come that we should move forward with either the purchase of another facility or build a new building. We may be able to facilitate a third Sunday morning service if needed, but I feel we must move forward now... Lord, give confidence to your people and clarity in direction. Lord, I feel I must let the people your church has appointed lead in this endeavor. Help! May only Your name be made known."

That was two and a half years ago. My prayer is still the same, "May only Your name be known." Our "planning on building" dates all the way back to 2002. Our Long Range Planning Committee did good work to investigate potential options of building here, purchase of other buildings in town, and land. God lead us at that time to buy eight acres of land on Addison Avenue. God provided the money for that land and I thank God for the day that He will allow us to plant another church in the Magic Valley. We came close to buying a facility down town twice, only to decide to re-explore the option of building here (204 Eastland Drive.)

Each time our building team has recommended an option, you have extended patience, grace and confidence to follow; for this I am so proud of you. Our building team has labored hard for you and their work is almost complete.

Eastside, following the leadership of God through our building team, we are ready to build a new meeting place. Our architect estimates that this 6,000 sq ft building would cost \$600,000.00 if we contracted the entire building out. This is a tremendous task before us; one that we are prepared to face with the help of God.

I pray that only God's name be known as we build. This will mean we will have to be careful not to rely on others to give all that will be needed, even though some may give more than others. We will have to guard our hopes of others to come and volunteer their time to build, even though some may. We will need to be careful that our attention is not distracted away from the task we have been charged with, the proclamation of the Gospel.

I'm praying that there will be an ongoing sense of pleasure welling up in our congregation in God as we taste His goodness in the coming days. I will endeavor to ask God to have an attitude of Samuel (1 Samuel 7:12) when he raised a marker for the people to be reminded that "thus far the Lord has helped us." It will be my ongoing prayer every time we see God provide for the needs that we raise the marker and shout "thus far the Lord has helped us!"

With my eyes fixed on our only hope, Christ!

