

Friends,

We're committed. We plunked down a chunk of bond money(that's money held hostage in the city office) and the machines are digging. Some day, a few months after we have all gotten too tired to think, Payson Bible Church will have a new home.

The guys took out stakes and spray paint, marking where everything is located. I walked in through the imaginary doors and warmed myself in the imaginary lobby. We liberally punctuated our many outbursts of positive sentiment with the word "Dude".

Here are some cool things that have happened.

- A heavy equipment company donated a brand new backhoe FREE(we have to give it back when we're done...sigh).
- We got a ton of electrical supplies free.
- One of our guys works for a plumbing supply house and we get all the plumbing fixtures free. We also get all of the plumbing supplies we have to buy at LDS Church rates, which is a smokin' deal.
- The backhoe operator is working for us for free. We'll make sure he gets paid generously in curly fries.
- We got a furnace and an AC unit free.
- We're renting back our present church building for \$400/mo, which is 10% of the commercial rate in town.
- A construction company is selling the lights for the parking lot for 25% of what they bought them for.
- I bought the doors and drawer fronts for the kitchen for \$40.
- The drywall guy is going to try to get us the sheetrock for as close to free as possible.

There's more, but you get the idea. God has been good. We have been very encouraged.

I'm going to be straight with you. We're underfunded.

We committed to this venture two years ago when we contracted to sell our property. At that time, the money we had in hand was sufficient to do the job. Then two unexpected things hit us. First, one of the families who promised to pay for any shortfall in the project...left to go to another church. Second, the price of oil spiraled upward, affecting every building material cost, particularly asphalt paving, which has tripled in price.

We have decided to proceed and to trust God. We are a homeless church body anyway, so let's go forward. We live by Ps. 25: to Thee O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in Thee. Do not let me be ashamed. Do not let my enemies triumph over me.

We have also promised to do this debt free. We have to keep our word.

We'll be scraping to save every penny by scrounging around for the cheapest route possible, I can assure you.

Please pray about that.

If God leads you to contribute, it will really help. Right now we're buying a whole bunch of concrete for \$90 a yard, and a heating system for \$16000, for example.

And if you want to help on site, you can find us at 1612 South Hwy 198 in Payson. We're looking for experienced builders who can give us days, weeks or months.

Ellie has trusted Christ. Her husband, Rex, was the joyful old cop in the Youtube video who was baptized in February. They are a total delight.

Danny and Jamie and their 3 boys are attending church. They haven't trusted Christ yet. Our oldest daughter Lauren is working a year in town, then plans to attend Moody Bible Institute. Sydney and Kendra will be playing basketball at 2 different high schools this year.

Thanks for participating in this work.

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