



**October 12, 2006**

**Dear Prayer Partners,**

### **OUR VALUES – DO YOU ENJOY PAINTING?**

When we were in San Diego a number of years ago, we stopped in an art gallery for a painter named Sally Huss. Her paintings are bright, cheerful and loved by children and adults. Unfortunately, we found the original paintings to be far out of our price range.

While we were picking out a few prints, I noticed an original work of art that we could afford - a painting palette. A palette is the flat board an artist uses to hold different colors while painting. This palette was about the size of a dinner plate, framed, and had a menagerie of bright colors running together - greens, pinks, yellows and blues – the colors she had used in one of her masterpieces.

This is a picture of a church's values. If you know a church's values, like the colors on a palette, you know what has gone into the "painting" of that church. Now, by the time the colors go on the palette, the artist knows basically *what* he or she wants to paint – for us, this is our mission and purpose statements. The values of a church, however, fill in the colors and make it come alive. The values are the personality and favor - the individual brush strokes that bring the painting into reality.

Our church values were selected carefully and prayerfully with input from the core group over this past summer. We pray that these will not only guide us after our launch in April, but will be important now, as the church continues to be planned and developed.

Would you like to see them? I have recently put our 17 church values on our temporary web site at [www.TrinityFellowship.org](http://www.TrinityFellowship.org) - follow the church plant link off the home page!

### **CORE GROUP UPDATE:**

The 13 core group families are meeting Sunday nights and we continue to get to know each other better. It has been a joy to share, pray, laugh and discuss the church plant activities. My first devotional talk to the core group was from John 13:34-35; a challenge for us to be characterized by love for one another. Like God's love for us, our love is redemptive in nature. It is not only for the edification of "us," but it is our calling-card to the world. How will those outside the church know we are Christians? By our love!

We are in the process of developing "ministry teams" who will begin the nuts-and-bolts work of forming each major ministry area. These teams will work with myself and Trinity Fellowship staff as they develop ministry direction, policies and needs. Pray that the Lord would guide the development of each team, and that each person would seek the Lord's wisdom and direction.

Also, there are several individuals and families still praying about their involvement with the church plant. My prayer is that we will still gain 5-10 more families before we launch. This would bring us to a better "critical mass" for holding worship services. Pray the Lord's will be done in this area.

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

Over 400 packets were mailed to Trinity Fellowship Church members and “alumni” this week. Please pray people will respond as the Lord directs in supporting this new church. 100-200 additional packets will be mailed to others who are interested in the church plant over the next week.

- Progress: \$6,876.15 (increase of \$150.00 over the past week)
- Goal: To raise \$150,000 by the end of 2006 for start-up costs, facilities and operational expenses through 2007.
- How to give? Checks can be made to “Trinity Fellowship Church” with a designation of “LCC / Samaria Fund.” Gifts are tax deductible and should be above and beyond your normal giving to the church.

## **UPCOMING DATES:**

- October 14, Sat – Craig speaking at Sat BBQ for Trinity Fellowship Church’s 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Topic: “Beginnings.”
- October 15, Sun – Micah Foster is giving a church plant “testimony” in both morning services. Alan Hull one of the founders of Trinity Fellowship is preaching in both morning services.
- October 14-15, Sat-Sun. – Trinity Fellowship’s 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.
- October 15, Sun – Core Group Meeting. 6:00 – 8:00pm (extended meeting). Team building.
- October 22, Sun – Core Group Meeting. 6:00 – 7:30pm. Testimony sharing and discuss Crown seminar outreach.
- October 29, Sun – Craig preaching at Trinity Fellowship. 2 Tim 4:1-8, “Motivations for a Lifetime of Ministry.”
- October 29, Sun – Core Group Meeting. 6:00 – 7:30pm. Ministry focus: Nursery.
- Nov. 5, Sun – Core Group Meeting. 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Being a Peacemaking Church.
- Nov. 12, Sun – Core Group Meeting. 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: CE/Youth ministry.
- November 19-26 – Craig (and Tammy?) in Taiwan – Teaching at annual TEAM missionary staff retreat. Topic: Ruth, “Above and Beyond – Living a Life of *Hesed*.”
- March 3, 2007, Sat. – Rowlett Outreach. Crown Ministry: “Journey to True Financial Freedom” workshop. Location: Rowlett Community Centre, Room B.
- Easter, April 8, 2007, Sun. – Target date for first service of Lake Cities Community!

Pray for the Lord’s strength and direction for each activity, that they might be profitable as He allows.

## **CHURCH PLANTING QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

“Values are often unwritten assumptions that guide our actions.

Values demonstrate our convictions and priorities. Values are confirmed by our actions, not just our words. Values are not a doctrinal statement; they are convictions that determine how our church operates. Values provide the foundation for formulating goals and setting the direction of the church's ministry.

- Robert E. Logan, author and “coach” for church planters. ([www.coachnet.org](http://www.coachnet.org)).

## **E-MAIL LIST INFORMATION:**

The purpose of this e-mail list is to encourage prayer for the planting of Lake Cities Community Church. The anticipated launch date is April 8, 2007. Each week new people are added to this list. If you are one of these – WELCOME! Past prayer letters are available on Trinity’s website. It is our desire that this letter will help you to pray effectively and stay up to date on the happenings of Lake Cities Community Church!

In Christ,

Pastor Craig Schill

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