



December 14, 2006

Dear Prayer Partners,

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP'S GIFT OF SERVICE

Gifts are front and center this time of year. Bows, ribbons, colorful paper, boxes and bags. But as I reflect on the church plant, the gifts I am most thankful for are all the people from Trinity Fellowship Church (a.k.a "the mother church") who are pitching in to make this anticipated birth a reality. Let me share a few examples...

Eddie Allen, the sound room director at Trinity is keeping his eyes open for the new church so that when we need to set up our sound system we are a step in the right direction. **Pam Wrobel**, Trinity's nursery director and **Kari Jane Smith**, the CE Director have also been collecting items for the new church. **Carol Weldon** and the librarians at Trinity Fellowship have given boxes of books. Members of the **Finance Committee** have spent hours helping us to establish our new budget, train our Treasurers and be sure we are setting up proper financial policies and processes. For over a year, the **Elder Board** has dedicated precious time in each of their monthly meeting and retreats to guide and pray for the church plant. **Terry Palmer** is chairing the location committee. He, **Larry Honea** and **Gary Kirchoff** have joined some core-group members to evaluate different possible meeting places. Church staff members, **Kari Jane, Allen, Diana, Keith, Pam, Melanie, Leonard** and others help on a daily basis and are working with our ministry teams. **Tom McCullough** provided his expertise to help the core-group work together more effectively. **Mike Slaughter** has been coaching me and providing communication expertise for over a year. **Tim Ralston** has worked with the core group to refine our theology of worship. **Chuck Hendricks** and **Keith Hileman** introduced the core group to Peace Maker's ministry. **Jerry Beachum** is volunteering his time to help make our Crown outreach next March a success and **John Hendricks** decided he wanted to turn his vocal recital into a benefit for the new church.

How does that saying go -- "It takes a village to raise a child." Well, it "takes a church to plant a church." I know there are others I did not mention – including many of you who are praying faithfully for this ministry. Thank you to all. Church planting is no small undertaking and I am so thankful for each person's faithful service and contribution. It is a team effort and we will together glorify Him, when, Lord willing, we launch on April 8th.

LAKE CITIES BENEFIT RECITAL

After the rush of the holidays I'm sure you will be ready to relax and enjoy a stress-free elegant evening! John Hendricks, vocalist and senior at Gordon College will be sharing his talents as he sings classical opera and fun jazz theater pieces. All are invited. What a wonderful opportunity for a relaxing, elegant evening (Date night?). Refreshments will be served and an offering will be taken to benefit the church plant. Location: Trinity Fellowship Church sanctuary. Date: Wednesday January 3. Time: 7 – 8:15pm. Nursery provided.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

THANK YOU to those who have already given to the church plant. If you sense the Lord leading you to give, simply place a check (made out to **Trinity Fellowship Church**) into a white Lake Cities giving envelope, and mail to Trinity Fellowship Church at 932 S. Greenville Ave. Richardson, TX 75081.

If you need an envelope, just contact the church at (972) 690-9535. They are also available in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity Fellowship Church.

- **Progress:** \$69,903 (increase of \$11,120 over the past week). 47% of total! Praise the LORD!
- **Goal:** To raise \$150,000 by the end of 2006 to supplement the 2007 budget for Lake Cities (including start-up and operational expenses).
- **Gifts are tax deductible** and should be above and beyond your normal giving to Trinity, or the church you attend.
- **Note:** Although I report the increase each week, I do not see or have knowledge of any individual giving. All giving goes through Trinity Fellowship's excellent finance people and is confidential.

Please continue to pray for the Lord's financial provision for both the church plant and for Trinity Fellowship.

UPCOMING DATES:

- December 17, Sun – Core Group Meeting, 6:00 -7:30pm. Topic: Adult Education / Small Groups.
- December 17, Sun – Craig preaching at Trinity Fellowship. 3rd week of Advent. Topic: Joy (various texts)
- No Core Group meetings: 12/24 or 12/31. Merry Christmas!
- January 3, Wed night – Benefit Recital, featuring vocalist John Hendricks. 7pm. At Trinity Fellowship Church, sanctuary. Nursery provided.
- January 7, Sun – Core Group Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Assimilation.
- January 14, Sun – Core Group Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Administration / Policies and procedures.
- January 21, Sun – Core Group Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Evangelism, outreach.
- January 28, Sun – Core Group Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: World Missions.
- February 4, Sun – FIRST Preview Worship Service. Time/Location TBD.
- March 3, 2007, Sat. – Rowlett Outreach. Crown Ministry: "Journey to True Financial Freedom" workshop. Location: Rowlett Community Centre, Room B. (register at www.Crown.org). Nursery provided.
- Easter, April 8, 2007, Sun. – Target date for FIRST SERVICE of Lake Cities Community!

Pray for the Lord's direction and that His will would be done at each activity. Guests are welcome at our core-group meetings. Come see first hand what the Lord is doing!

CHURCH PLANTING QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

Church Planting Myth #5

Planting a church will hurt the parent church.

Reality: From a human perspective, giving away something means you will have less. But in God's plan of economy,

What you sow you are going to reap.

Most parent churches recover in 3-6 months.

Evangelical Free Church Training Session for Parent Churches, 2003.

[Note: The Evangelical Free denomination has one of the best church planting models around. They currently have 142 church plants under way with a 90% success rate.]

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, Easter Sunday. Each week new people are added to this list. If you are one of these – **WELCOME!** 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!

Rejoicing in Christ,

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 Trinity Fellowship Church
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