



# SOVEREIGN GRACE

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## BUILDING UPDATE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2014

Dear Sovereign Grace,

How did we get to the point where we are considering building our own church facilities? I still remember when a small group was meeting in my house to pray through the book of Ephesians as we looked to plant this church. We prayed for the Lord to work through the proclamation of his Word to bring many to faith in him. We joined Paul in asking the Father,

*'that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith-that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.'* (Ephesians 3:16-19 ESV)

We have shared the great privilege of seeing him answer this prayer. We have

seen many people saved, baptized, and reaching out to others. We have grown from 7 people to well over 300, with over 40% of those people being saved and baptized at Sovereign Grace.

We have been blessed with the opportunity to assist in planting several churches, to begin a missions organization ([Radius International](#)), to send out a full-time missionary, and to support other missionaries. We have launched several grace groups, trained numerous men for ministry, and appointed 6 elders. We also have 100+ children involved in our ministry. We rejoice in what the Lord is doing while looking forward to what he will continue to do.

As many of you know, we had 18 acres of land donated to the church. Due to our continuing growth as a body, and our desire for a long-term church home, we have a building committee which has been meeting for the last several months. The building committee is



*Recent Prayer Meeting on the Church Land.*

trying to wisely think through how we accommodate the continual growth of our body, while also restraining our expenditure of money on our property. We do not want to accumulate debt and cripple our mission as a church. We want to wisely steward the Lord's church.

Our committee has begun narrowing down a process for getting to our goals. The process began with a document which lays out in some detail our mission, goals, etc. The committee then met and planned around that document. They have determined to ask Klassen Corporation to put together a concept design for the purpose of giving you a sense of direction. Once this concept is complete, we will run it by the elders and the congregation. We will then begin fundraising in earnest to have the money necessary to build.

Again, we are committed to avoiding debt service payments which will bring harm to our ability to further our ministry goals. The elders never want to have conversations about cutting staff, missions support, or pleading with the congregation for more money due to unwise decisions we made with regard to this process. The reality is that projects like this cost millions of dollars. Further, the Bible nowhere requires us to own our own facility. Therefore, we will not fail to do what the Bible clearly commands us to do, so that we can pay for something the Bible does not require of us.

With that said, we do believe it is strategically wise to establish a constant visible presence in our community. We want to reach more people for Christ. We want to have the facilities necessary to disciple, train, and counsel people throughout the week. We desire to put our money toward ownership of facilities, rather than leasing them. We desire the flexibility and ministry opportunities which come with our own facilities.

As the year comes to a close, I know many of you are looking for ways to participate in year end giving. I ask that you consider directing some of your year end giving to the building campaign. We need to begin gathering the necessary money to go forward. Please don't redirect your regular giving toward that end. We don't want the building project to undermine the current ministry of the church. But, if the Lord has provided you with additional resources, we ask you to consider giving to this project.

Permit me to end this update by saying that we love you all and cherish the incredible privilege we have to walk with you as we follow Jesus together. There is no greater privilege than being united to Him by faith, and thus being united to one another in Him.

*For His Glory,*

*Chad*

*(On behalf of the Elders and Building Committee)*