

Facility Expansion - Wedge

Elder's Decision to Wait



2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; Ephesians 3:20-4:3

After prayer and consideration on Thursday evening, the Elders were unanimous in making the following affirmations and decisions. These affirmations arise from the lessons we have learned over the last year and the issues we have confronted. Therefore, through these declarations, we shape the context for our ministry and our decisions.

We affirm:

All that we have declared in our Mission, Vision and Values and, as a result of the last year of growth and change as Elders, we further affirm:

- That we ought to grow numerically for the glory of God;
- That buildings and facilities are an integral and necessary element of God-pleasing ministry;
- That care and attention to aesthetics is an important consideration in reflecting the glory and beauty of God;
- That wise stewardship involves the careful planning and strategic use of all the resources given;
- That wise stewardship does not preclude the securing of loans;
- That we should minimize barriers for the presenting of the gospel to unbelievers and the gaining of the hearing of those new or young in faith;
- That we will communicate the maximum amount of truth and welcome the maximum number of people;
- That we will not compromise our doctrines or distinctives;
- That we affirm governance by the Elders while valuing the counsel and harmony of the congregation in wisdom issues.
- That we will hold to the way of wisdom in decision making as we have taught in the past and have modeled in this process.

Therefore we have decided:

Through loving, collegial, wise discussion **not to move forward with building the Wedge at this present time**. We arrived at this decision primarily because:

- We do not have the money to build for cash; and
- We would not be able to sustain present ministry stewardship and meet a mortgage payment.

Further, we have decided:

- To continue to pursue expansion planning and development so as to be ready when God provides;
- To continue to receive your covenanted giving and set it aside for expansion till the end of this fiscal year (August 31);
- To plan to separate the expansion/committed giving from the General Fund for accountability;
- To weigh your input and counsel in regards to remodeling this facility;
- To continue to invest time, energy and resources in the development of our current facilities and grounds for more effective ministry aligned with our Mission and Vision as well as the affirmations we have declared this morning;
- To budget in the coming year for needed maintenance and upkeep that would have been part of the Facility Expansion;
- To continue to earnestly and diligently pursue the building of the OACM home.

We will apprise you of our plan for maintenance, beautification and remodeling as it is completed.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Chapel Mission and Vision, a brochure that clearly articulates who we are becoming as a church is available on our website and in the information area.