

February 19, 2021

Hello CrossPoint attendees and friends,

Let me wish everybody a happy afternoon as we share some very exciting about some things that are upcoming for our church plant here in Wyoming, MI. Throughout the pandemic we have continued to see the Lord bless us and our attendance increase. With being a church plant, it is very exciting to see how the Lord has continued to bless us even through these most difficult times. Earlier in the week, I asked everyone to stay tuned for some important information regarding our church, so I'd like to take a moment to share that with you now.

Along with being new in the area, we have always known that at some point we would outgrow our current rental space and/or need a place of our own for the long-term establishment of Crosspoint Baptist Church. Currently the storefront that we are meeting in is 8000 square feet and it has met our needs to this point. But we are halfway through the lease agreement and now need to consider what the Lord would have us to do for the future. We have spoken to our landlord and, while he is considering putting it for sale, we have not yet agreed on a price that is acceptable to both of us. It is prime real estate where we are located, so we understand his situation, but we are a young and growing church, and need to be frugal with the finances the Lord has given us.

I would like to ask you to pray about another possibility that has come to our attention. There is a large church building that has come up for sale, that is only about less than one mile from where we currently meet. It is a beautiful building with 23,000 square feet, and a three-bedroom house and two stall garages attached to it. This property we believe we could purchase for around \$900,000 and it will keep us in the area where we are currently and would be perfect for us to establish our roots. There would be plenty of room for current and future ministries and would be all the building we would need for quite a while.

We have spoken to multiple bankers, and believe we have a bank that is willing to work with us. They are asking that we have 15% capital to make as a down payment and will work with us on a pledge basis for the remaining 10% that they would need for the loan. That means we would need to raise about \$135,000. It is a good bank and the man who is helping us is a good Christian man, who understands our position and predicament. So, we believe that the Lord has got us to the right individual to help us when we find the right location and building.

On Sunday February 28th, we plan to take a special offering that will kick off our Expansion Fund Drive. Once again, we have been asking our church people to pray about how they can give to this fund, and sacrificially give to see the work of the Lord continue undeterred here in Wyoming, MI, through CrossPoint Baptist Church. On that day, February 28th, we will also be collecting Pledges Cards from our regular attendees, asking them to commit for at least one year, if not possibly two years, to give every week or month towards

our Expansion Fund. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, we have many folks that are still watching from home Via Facebook and YouTube. You should be receiving a letter in the Mail from me, with an "Expanding Our Coast" Expansion Fund card. Please read it carefully and use the tear away portion to send back your pledge and commitment to the expansion fund in the pre-addressed envelope, please send it back by Thursday of this coming week, so we can include it in our tally for this special expansion fund kickoff on Sunday, February 28th.

I know there have been many in our congregation that have sacrificed greatly to see CrossPoint get to this point in 3 short years. We have sacrificed time, talent, and treasure many times over in those 3 years but I believe it has been truly worth it. The blessings we have experienced, the joy we have in serving together, and most importantly, the souls that have been saved and influenced for Christ because of your faithfulness is a testament to the heart of Crosspoint Baptist Church. As your pastor, I want to thank you for that faithfulness, but also to ask us to pray about going a little deeper in our walk of faith to help us raise the down payment needed at this time.

Having said all this, we are continuing to examine other avenues and other possibilities, where the Lord might be leading us. Even if this building does not work out, we still need to decide for our future and have a down payment ready to go for when the time is right. We are still praying for the possibility that the Lord will "gift" us a building or allow us to find a group of people that have a building who would be interested in merging with us for the glory of the Lord. These are all still very viable possibilities, and I would encourage you to not only pray, but also let your friends and family know online and in-person about what is going on with our church, as they may know of a possibility that might work for us as well.

This is an exciting time for our church, and I want you to know as the pastor of CrossPoint, I am not nervous or concerned about the outcome. As I have said many times, this is the work of the Lord and not of man. This is the church of God, and he will supply it all its needs. I have supreme faith in this. And I know that years from now, we will look back on this time and recognize that while it was a huge step of faith, our God and Savior provided everything that was needed according to our faith.

So, I ask you to pray for our church and for its leadership during this time. Those who are regular attendees of CrossPoint, I would ask for you to pray about how the Lord would have you to give this upcoming Sunday, February 28th. Also pray about how you will pledge to give for the next two years to meet the needs of our church at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I do covet your prayers for our church plant as we go through these exciting days that the Lord has planned for us. God bless you, and may the Lord keep you healthy and safe in the days to come.

In Christ Service,

Pastor Theron W. Crawford