



"When will you be able to be in your new building?"

If you've driven on County Road 9 south of New London, you've noticed that LOTS of things have been happening since our May Newsletter. If you don't regularly drive that road, I'd encourage you to go to our website <http://www.livingwordlutheran.net> for pictures and descriptions of the latest developments.

Here are just a few of the major things that have happened since you received your May Newsletter:

- A hearing was held regarding our request for a Conditional Land-Use Permit to put a House of Worship in an area that is zoned "R-2" (residential use). No concerns were raised by anyone.
- The county commissioners formally approved our Conditional Land-Use Permit.
- We held a short ground-breaking ceremony after our Sunday School Picnic on Sunday, May 20. (See pictures). After each person in attendance overturned a shovel of ground, we proceeded to the area where the sanctuary will be located. We read together Psalm 100 ("Enter His gates with thanksgiving...") We also sang "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love" and the Doxology, praising God for this great blessing.
- The next day, May 21, Stai Trucking, Inc. began the excavation work. (See pictures)
- By Friday, May 25, the building site and parking lot area had been leveled and the south hill landscaped. The trenches had been dug for the concrete footings and foundation. (See pictures)
- On Wednesday, May 30 the footings had been poured and foundation blocks laid by Joe Caskey Masonry. (More pictures)

As you can imagine, I am no longer am I getting any "What's going on with your building project?" questions. People can see that a building is going up! Now the question has become, "How soon do you expect to be in?"

Here's what our Mission and Ministry Team has told the school (our current landlord): "If everything goes according to plan, we anticipate being able to be in our building by the end of August."

Of course, the words "according to plan" is a huge key to that statement becoming reality. If you've ever been part of a building or remodeling project, you know that very often things don't quite go as planned. Delays can come from less-than-ideal weather as well as contractor delays on other jobs that keep them from being able to work on our job as soon as they hoped. A host of other "unforeseen circumstances" can pop up. (If we knew what those are, we wouldn't have to label them "unforeseen").

But, at this point, the end of August is our goal.

Some of the things you can look forward to seeing this coming month:

- The plumbing, electrical and in-floor heat ducts will be roughed in.
- The concrete slab floor will be poured.
- Our "Structural Insulated Panel" (SIP) walls will be erected.

- Roof trusses will be set on top of the walls.
- Steel roof panels will be set in place.

But maybe the real key for us to be able to take up residence in our new building by the end of August is what comes after the contractors complete their work: **The work WE will do.**

One of our goals in putting up a new building is to Grow Our Congregation. Not merely growing in numbers, but just as importantly growing closer to each other. One of the best ways to grow closer to the people you worship with is to work on a project with them. Very soon we will have that opportunity for growing together by working together. Here are some opportunities for you to plug in and use your talents and abilities

(There really are tasks for almost everyone):

- ___ Making Meals for workers
- ___ Providing childcare for workers
- ___ Painting
- ___ Hanging sheetrock
- ___ Insulating the ceiling
- ___ Installing vinyl siding
- ___ Landscaping
- ___ Decorating
- ___ Running errands (Being a "Go-Fer")

Many of you have already indicated one or more of these areas you could possibly help out with. The sign-up sheet will still be available at worship the next couple of weeks if you haven't had a chance to volunteer. (Or you could just email me pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

Marcia Welsh and Nancy Jo Wendt will be coordinating all of our work efforts. Since we don't know specific days when some of these things will actually be needed, we understand if you may not be available to help on a certain day.

One final thing. After I answer whatever questions people have about our building, the response is the same: "That's exciting!" You bet it is!

Thanks for asking (and volunteering),
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net