



Proclaiming Christ's Love in Mililani and the World:

Building For Eternity

Mililani Community Church

Volume 3, Issue 2

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Pastor's Corner

"Not unto us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness."

Psalm 115:1

I vividly remember the day I stood for the first time on our church property in Mililani Mauka. We didn't own it yet, and we didn't even have the money to pay for it. But I realized that God in His providence had chosen to entrust it to us. And I was excited about how the Lord would prove Himself faithful in meeting our need for the funds to pay for it.

As I stood on that property praying and meditating, I got chicken skin all over as I looked around at the many homes surrounding our property, and thought of the families living there, and how much God loves each of them and wants them to know His Son; and how He was choosing to place us there to be His light – to share His love for them, and to have an eternal impact in their lives and the lives of many others for His glory.

Since that day the Lord

has proven Himself faithful. We were able to pay in full for that property on the day it closed.

Now we are on the threshold of another exciting step in following the Lord's leading – and that is to actually build the first phase of our church facility.

A verse of Scripture that has been on my heart since the beginning of our stewardship campaign is found in Psalm 115:1: *"Not unto us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness."*

This building campaign is not about us. We want to build a permanent facility for God's glory to reach as many people as we can for Him. Jesus said, *"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."*

When Jesus calls us to follow Him, it means that life is no longer simply about our needs, our comfort, and our pleasure. It's about a purpose far bigger than just living for ourselves. It's about knowing Christ and making Him known!

I can't think of anything more worthwhile than to be

used of God to invest what He has entrusted to us to reach others with the life-transforming message of the Gospel!

Our stewardship campaign is simply a vehicle to help us do the best we can in impacting our community and the world for Christ. So as you faithfully invest in this project you are investing in something of eternal value. That's why the theme of our campaign is: *"Building for Eternity."*

Our goal for this campaign has been 100% participation (Exodus 35:21). As we said at the beginning, *"Not equal giving but equal sacrifice."*

If you have not yet committed to giving to help fulfill our goal of building the first phase of our new church facility, it is not too late! You can begin to give a monthly gift, as the Lord leads you to give (II Cor. 9:6-7). I invite you to pray and then give as generously as the Lord enables you to – over and above your regular tithe to the ministry of this church (Matt. 6:19-21).

Rick Bartosik, Pastor



Don't forget those pennies!



The "IN GOD WE TRUST" inscription on each penny is a tangible reminder to save our pennies and trust in God's provision. Penny by penny, even a child can invest in eternity!

Building For Eternity

AN UPDATE ON THE BUILDING FUND

For the 2007 calendar year, MCC members and friends made faith pledges totaling \$153,442 for the Building for Eternity campaign. As of November 28, 2007, \$83,931 has been received. The total in the Building Fund savings accounts as of November 28, 2007 was \$437,214.

As 2007 comes to a close and we head towards groundbreaking, please envision how God will use Mililani Community Church's new ministry facility to further His Kingdom in Mililani, Hawaii, and throughout the world. The Building for Eternity campaign is not about fundraising. It's about saving lives, reaching out to the lost, connecting with the surrounding neighborhood, encouraging families, building vibrant young people, and serving others. More importantly, it's about growing in faith, honoring God, and experiencing the pure joy of watching God work miracles through us.

General Contractor Selection Update

by George Ehara

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for Preconstruction and Construction Services for Phase I of our master plan has been issued to three pre-qualified General Contractors in late October. All three General Contractors (Kingdom Builders, Steeltech, and Steel Frame Home-builders) were interviewed by the building committee prior to being pre-qualified, and all three have experi-

ence building church facilities similar to ours, as well as references from similar past projects. They are now diligently preparing their responses to our RFP, and we expect to receive their RFP responses later this month.

The selected General Contractor will be awarded a Preconstruction contract and begin pre-planning the Construction phase with our building committee. Preconstruction services

will help ensure the success of the Construction phase - design reviews, budgeting, and scheduling. If the Preconstruction phase goes well, the General Contractor would be the likely candidate to become our builder for the Construction Phase.

Please pray that God would bless the RFP process, and that we would select the right Contractor to work with us during the upcoming Preconstruction phase.

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“What’s the alternate use committee?” “Hmmm...” by Nancy Okimoto and Chris Matsumoto



The alternate use committee, a sub-committee of the Building Committee, was established to identify the needs of the Mililani community, assess whether Mililani Community Church (MCC) will be able to minister to these needs, research what will be required (facilities, permits, costs, personnel, etc.) for particular ministries, and locate service providers who can partner with us to fulfill our ministry vision. Maximizing use of our church building(s) will also help us fulfill our commitment to Mililani’s developer, which sold us the

land, that we will use our ministry facility for a community purpose. Moreover, foundations are more likely to provide grants to churches to fund a community ministry.

The Mililani community has a tremendous need for preschools, teen ministries, and adult day care. Since the subcommittee was established in 2002, its members have visited a number of churches on Oahu that have such ministries. Members took pictures, asked questions, obtained brochures and operating manuals, and learned as much as they could about how churches set up and maintained these ministries. This information is being used by our architect, Warren Nakamura, to design the buildings.

As our church approaches groundbreaking next year for the first phase, the alternate use committee has a new job. Adult day care is a logical ministry

for this phase since it will meet a crucial need of our graying community. Additionally, the large floor space area of the multipurpose facility will be easily accessible by the wheelchair-bound. But who will operate an adult day care facility? The committee plans to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit formal proposals from those interested in operating an adult day care center on our site and would welcome help in developing the evaluation criteria and drafting the RFP. If you can help or know of any adult care operators who might like to receive an RFP, please contact Chris Matsumoto or Nancy Okimoto.

The alternate use committee would also welcome help from those with a passion for teen ministries, since the multipurpose building will be well-suited to ministering to middle-school and high-school aged students as well.

Building For Eternity

The Art of Counting Cars

By: Alisa Wong

Raindrops dripped off the pine needles above my head and onto my clipboard as I sank deeper into my squeaky, plastic beach chair. It was 4:45 on a Wednesday morning and I, along with several others, were braving the dark, cold, and rain for the love of Jesus, our church, and our community, and to count cars.

Our team had met earlier in front of Zippy's at Mililani Town Center to receive instructions from traffic engineer Susan Uejo about our tasks for the morning. Armed with clipboards, flashlights, counting machines, and umbrellas, we then drove up to Mililani Mauka, where Susan assigned us to survey the traffic at assigned intersections near our church property.

Gary Okimoto and I ended up perched under a huge pine tree on a semi-grassy slope at the main Meheula intersection approaching our church property. Gary was asked to log the movements of cars and pedestrians at one corner of the intersection, and I was assigned the opposite corner of the intersection.

It took me a little while to get comfortable with the "counting machine." Whoever said it was just a simple little clicker to count passing cars must not have undergone the serious training regarding the strict protocols involved in the art of surveying traffic. We not only had to count the number of cars that crossed the intersection, but we had to keep track of how many cars went straight, turned right, and turned left. We even had to count the number of pedestrians and the directions they walked! Let me tell you, pressing the correct directional buttons on the "counting machine" is a real challenge when you're only half awake, some bystander is asking you a question, and there's a green light with lots of cars going every which way at once. Susan said to pretend it was a video game, but I'm not very good at those either.

Despite the weird and curious looks we got, our team members kept counting cars for four hours. It was an interesting experience. When all is said and done, I realize that God used that time to teach me the meaning of sacrifice and that a heart of ministry can be in every action -- even counting cars! He also taught me how to be quiet in the still of the morning and in the midst of bustling traffic, during periods of dark skies to the sunrise, and thru light "showers of blessing" to the very opening of the flood gates of heaven.



Thank You Surveying Teams!

Many kudos to the following church members who gave up a morning or afternoon to assist with the traffic study that the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting has required Mililani Community Church to complete and submit in order to obtain a conditional use permit, the first step in the government process to begin building on our church property.

The members of the afternoon team were: Ralph Kajiwara, Pastor Rick and Diane Bartosik, Nathan Knapp, and Miki and Dave Hallstrom.

The morning team members were: Dianna and Jerry Ho, Alisa Wong, Gary Okimoto, and Madeleine Oliva.



Building For Eternity

Claiming Mililani Mauka for God!

by Dianna Ho

It was a very dark, rainy, and sometimes pouring morning, but knowing that God had given me another day to appreciate His Creation and be grateful for His many Blessings, nothing could dampen my spirits. A member of the MCC morning traffic survey team, I was assigned to sit on the sidewalk at the corner of Ka'apea and Makakai Streets, right in front of church property, and count passing cars and pedestrians. Since it was dark when I got to my assigned location, I was able to listen to alarm clocks waking up the neighborhood and the chirping of the birds. I also saw people walking their dogs, kids riding their bikes, and parents taking their children to school or to the babysitter.

As I sat in my chair with my counting machine, I had some interesting encounters with curious people from the neighborhood.

At about 5:15, a lady across the street from where I was sitting asked me if I was waiting for the bus. I replied "no". She then walked a few steps and asked again if I was waiting for the bus. When I answered "no" again, she walked away. About 5:45, it was pouring rain and still dark when the same lady appeared at my side, startling me.

"What are you doing here?" she asked me. When I told her I was conducting a traffic survey, she said, "Yah, this is a very busy area. People speed a lot, so someone must have complained." She then asked: "Do you know that someone wants to build a church here?" When I responded "yes", she replied, "I don't think it will happen." I wanted to tell her that God has claimed this location, a church will be built, and that the reason God wants us to plant a church here is for people who don't believe and are lost and hurting. I also wanted to share that God sacrificed His Only Son for all of our sins. But I had to follow instructions and not go into details.

Other people waiting for the Community Bus, the Trolley, School Bus, and the Hanalani School Bus were also curious about what I was doing there so early in the morning. An elderly man and a couple of ladies stopped by to ask what I was doing. When I told them I was conducting a traffic survey, they said "okay" and walked off. A man walking his son to school asked if I was taking note of them crossing the street. When I answered "yes," the man said, "Okay do a good job!" School kids waited for the school bus in front of our property. One girl stood in front of me and when I asked her if she was waiting for the school bus, she said "yes", then reached into her bag and showed me her school ID.

At about 8:15, the Community Bus driver stopped in front of me, opened the bus door, and asked what I was doing. When I said "a traffic survey," he said, "Can I have your job?" I laughed and said sure.

The traffic study raised some concerns about the need for crosswalks. People are rushing and speeding in all directions, and at times, the traffic backs up to our property because children are crossing Meheula Parkway to walk to school.

I found the neighborhood residents to be very nice. The harvest is great, and I'm looking forward to the day when we can move to the property, get to know them, and minister to their needs.

