

faith to you

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

JUNE 2016

NEW CHURCH PLANT

Where did God go?

Luke chapter fifteen tells the story of two sons who left their father's home. One went far away, the other just stepped outside. Both left. Only one returned.



Jesus gave the church a very specific mission.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. ~ Acts 1:8

Ministering the gospel of Jesus Christ must happen both at home and away.

Ministering Christ away by planting churches

In Acts 13 the Antioch church began the first church-planting mission, sending away the best of their leadership in order to take the gospel and plant churches. FBC wants to do the same.

In 2014 FBC ordained Pastor Sthembiso Mahlangu to the gospel ministry. For many years—even before his ordination—Sthembiso's desire was to plant churches. When God calls, we must go. When God calls we must also send. We believe that God is calling now.

By January 2017 Pastor Sthembiso will be shifting to the position of an FBC church-planting missionary, involved in three ministries:

- Dennilton, Limpopo — commuting to hold Sunday morning meetings.
- Spring Valley, Emalahleni — continuing Sunday afternoon meetings.
- Faith Baptist, Emalahleni — as he will be living in town for the first year, we will still get to see him around!

FBC must prayerfully answer these three questions:

1. If FBC is going to send Sthembiso away, how best may we do this?
2. If FBC is going to plant other churches, how may we assist these new churches without hindering their future stability?
3. When Sthembiso leaves, what ministries will continue at FBC?

On Sundays we are looking at a similar story to that in Luke. Nehemiah records how one man and an entire nation found their way back to God. Nehemiah powerfully illustrates how God builds people.

Many times when God seems far away, it is you and I who have actually left. Join us next Sunday at 10am for our family worship service, and begin finding your way back to the Father.



Ministering Christ at home by developing FBC

The Lord has brought more people to FBC, and more people at FBC are serving the Lord through various ministries.

In order to provide more space for ministry, we have sought architectural advice to handle the following:

Present site limitations

- Auditorium seating
- Entry and exit congestion & disabled accessibility
- Classroom options and dedicated teaching areas
- Parking and traffic flow

Although the auditorium is the space that most often feels inadequate, before it can expand, we must provide classrooms and teaching spaces.

What to do?

It doesn't make sense to *over* or *under* develop our property. For some time the pastors and deacons have been praying and working on finding solutions. The following is our proposal. There are a few options for how to proceed, but consider these two phases:

Phase One to include the following...

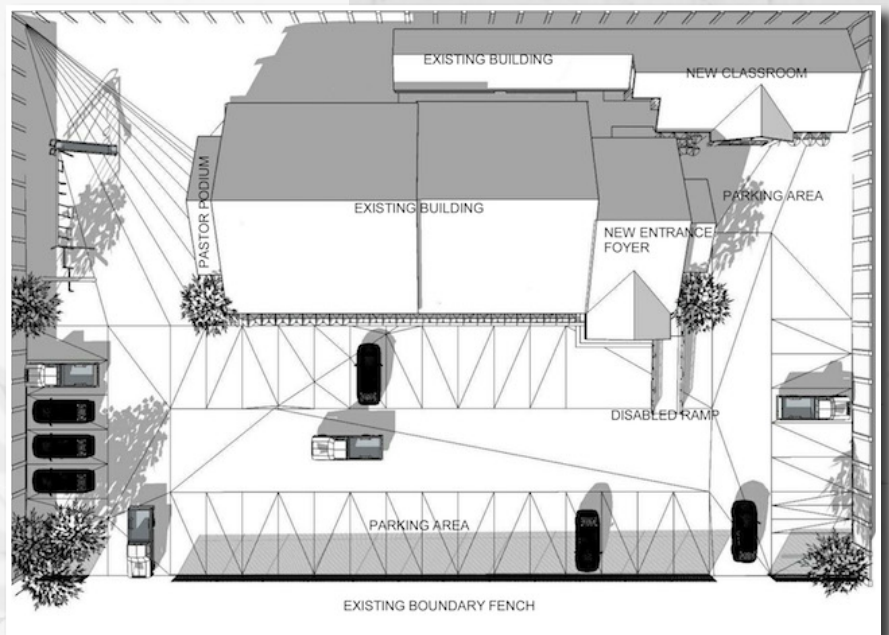
- Three extra classrooms in an education wing
- Remove wall in outdoor flat to finish as fourth classroom
- Add three toilets; men's, ladies' & disabled
- Develop parking to 40 spaces; add an exit gate, pave entire driveway, grass entire parking area, add dedicated spaces for guests and the disabled

Phase Two to include the following...

- Expand auditorium to seat 200 (incl. larger platform, better lighting and sound)
- Develop new entry way to face the road (larger and add more access doors, greater seating and fellowship area)
- New office and reception

We need to pray together as a church about these proposals. Drawings are available by emailing the church office (office@faith.org.za). You are welcome to bring questions and comments to one of the pastors, or contact the proposed building committee directly:

Sam Mahlangu	073 337 5904	samuel.mahlangu@alsglobal.com
Roddy Martin	083 308 2498	roddymartin91@gmail.com
Pinky Molefe	071 605 5158	pmolefe@mpg.gov.za
Suzette van Rensburg	083 296 0133	suzettevr7@gmail.com
Bernard Swanepoel	083 267 4838	bernard@opg.co.za



Save the date!

Prepare now to be involved with the FBC family in these upcoming events:

July	17	9am Classes Resume
	24	9am Business Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• new members• building proposal vote• building committee
Aug	12-13	Men's Camp
	20	Work Day (9am to noon)
	26-28	Ladies Camp
Sep	15-18	Missions Revival

If you would like more information, or if you would like to assist with any of these events, please contact the church office.