

“We’ve Come This Far by Faith”

Covenant Vision Phases 2012-2015...

The Reverend Christine A. Smith, B.S. M.Div., Senior Pastor

Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen

Hebrews 11:1

Phase 1: Fall 2012

- Vision given by God to Pastor Chris to sell 28930 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092
- Began to share the vision with “church elders”

January 2013

- January 20th, 2013 Fiscal Meeting, Covenant Baptist Church Congregation votes unanimously to place the church property on the market and sell (Motion offered by the late Deacon Herb Harrison, 2nd by Mother Catherine Johnson). Sister Sheila Kelly, Vice President of Villa Realtors secured as the church realtor
- **February 2013**, Covenant Property appraised
- **March 2013**, Covenant Property placed on the “Market”

Phase 2: Spring 2014

- April 27th 2014 is the last Sunday in the old building
- Pastor Chris and Church leaders meet to discuss transitioning out of Ridge Road property and moving into a temporary location

Phase 2 cont...

- Pastor Chris shares the following “Five Year Vision Plan” for Covenant...

“FIVE YEAR VISION FOR COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH, 2014-2019”

- Move to a temporary location within a 5-10 mile radius of our current location (28930 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092)
- While in the temporary location, develop and execute a strong, vibrant evangelism and discipleship ministry while continuing to minister to the needs of our current congregation

- Sell our current property and use the proceeds to purchase a facility that will serve as our new worship center and “build” a growing, stable, Bible based ministry

- **May 4th, 2014** Covenant Congregation begins to worship at the **Quality Inn**, “Party Center,” 28611 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092. Service held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (down the street from Ridge Road property)

- **June, 2014** Covenant negotiates lease with St. John of the Cross to occupy space in their school building: a main room for worship, a main office, pastor’s office, reception area and access to the gymnasium.

- **Sunday, June 22, 2014**, Covenant Begins worship at 11:00 a.m., St. John of the Cross School Building, 140 Richmond Road, Euclid, Ohio 44143 (2.3 miles from Ridge Road property)

Phase 3: Fall 2014/Winter 2015

Begin the process of selling 28930 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092

- **Intercessory Prayer Box Ministry begins:** The Lord leads Pastor Chris to begin an “Intercessory Prayer Box Ministry” on Thursday

Phase 3: Fall 2014/Winter 2015 cont...

evenings to minister to the community members coming out to play bingo at St. John of the Cross. Prayers from all individuals (not just community members) received. Names/prayer requests placed on chalk board in Sanctuary room. Ministers from other ministries as well as from Covenant come out to assist with prayer weekly.

- **Pledges to pay off debt:** Pastor Chris asks for at least 15 members to pay/pledge \$200 each to pay off pass due Dominion Gas Bill. **September 2014-October 2014** approximately 12 Covenant members pledge between \$50 and \$200 each to pay off past due gas bill from old property.
- **October 27, 2014** Dominion East Ohio Gas bill paid in full (approximately \$2,430)
- **October 2014**, Covenant enters serious negotiations with a local congregation to purchase 28930 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092. Prospective buyers pay to have inspections done (structural, utilities)
- **November 2014**, waiting for the decision from national parent body of local congregation regarding a written contract proposal for the property
- **December 2014**, Another congregation emerges as potential buyers for the Covenant property on Ridge Road and present an official offer.
- **January 2015**, initial congregation withdraws their verbal interest (never presented a formal proposal). 2nd congregation advances with superior offer (to the former).
- **January 11, 2015**, Following worship, Realtor Sheila Kelly meets with Covenant membership to explain offer. Pastor Chris calls for a motion to accept the offer. Motion made by Sister Wanda Brown,

Phase 3: Fall 2014/Winter 2015 cont...

Missionary Ministry Chairperson, 2nd by Sister Cecelia Jones-Ubu, Hospitality Chairperson, to accept the offer. Motion carried with unanimous vote by members in “good standing.”

- Contract for the 3 year “Lease/Purchase” agreement being prepared by lawyers
 - Anticipated time frame of agreement execution (week of 1/25/2015)
 - **Total benefit to Covenant Baptist Church:** Monthly lease payments (Over next 3 years, totaling approximately \$111,600 in addition to the final purchase price), building repairs, maintenance and ultimate purchase price of \$585,000
- **January 24, 2015,** Covenant members begin the process of packing items to move out of the old facility.
 - **February 7, 2015: COVENANT SIGNS LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT!**
 - Covenant continues to worship at 140 Richmond Road, Euclid, Ohio 44143 (St. John of the Cross School Bldg.) until completion of above stated lease purchase agreement, 2-3 years.

Phase 4: Once the final purchase price has been paid, identify, purchase and renovate a building for the new worship center

Phase 5: Change our name and address, legally (address and name change may happen sooner) and move into our new worship center!

May we continue, by faith to walk out the vision given by the LORD!