

C.A. Rundell's Remarks for the Town Hall Meeting

Expanding Our Faith – for the Future

Good morning! I would like to bring you up to date on our Capital Campaign – Expanding Our Faith... for the Future. First, however, before our campaign began in July 2005, some very generous parishioners had pledged some \$7.5 million to buy the Lomo Alto office building, purchase other property in the block to our north, and rebuild the Chapel. Our campaign was kicked off when the Michaelson property, consisting of six apartment buildings, was offered to us. We were able to negotiate a six-month option period for a small payment that gave us nine months to raise the money. And raise it we did, thanks to all of you who contributed the \$6.5 million necessary to close.

This was the first step in our \$12.5 million campaign. Now, we stand at around \$8.6 million, about 2/3 cash and 1/3 pledges over future years. We have important uses for the remaining \$4 million. Taking care of the needs of our youth and children is a subject you will hear more about from Stewart Thomas in just a minute. We have parking needs that will be exacerbated next summer when the bank parking lot to our northeast becomes a construction site. We have some debt to pay down, also.

We cannot thank you enough for all you have done. You have been given a list of the over 400 families who have contributed. It is not too late for those of you who have not yet participated. I should tell you that when Sylvia and I sit down to decide what to give, we put the annual Stewardship drive first. Then we decide what we can do as a one-time capital gift – some multiple of our annual giving.

David Martin has cautioned me that the Town Hall Meetings are to communicate, and not to solicit. However, I cannot resist the temptation to tell you that pledge forms are available on the tables as you leave, should you be so inclined.

Now, let's hear from Stewart Thomas.