

here we go by Tic Long

The first phase of *I live the Journey* is over and we are all blown away by what God is doing in our midst. We laid out the projects that needed to be completed to renew this campus and position us for more effective ministry going forward. The cost of all those projects totaled 2.75 million dollars. We would need to raise that amount over the next two years, and not only that, but we would need \$637,000 of it in June to get our solar project going. These are BIG NUMBERS and a leap of faith to be sure. We asked the Journey community to pray this prayer “Father, show me what step of faith I can take as I live the Journey” and then to do what you sensed God leading you to do. Whatever the outcome of the process between you and God was good with us.

Well that happened, man did that happen, and the outcome was amazing! Here are the results of that process related to financial gifts and pledges.

The breakdown:

- As for the \$637,000 needed in June, \$882,408 was pledged at our celebration services on the weekend of May 29/31 (and before). How cool was that!?!

Then during June, a total of \$1,032,203 actually came in. \$1,032,203!!! That was just crazy!

- As far as the \$2,113,000 needed in pledges over the next 2 years, \$2,702,445 was pledged. More crazy God stuff!!



Planting seeds for growth at the Celebration Services.

- Total First Fruits Offering and Pledges: \$3,594,853. Not many of us saw that coming. We do serve a BIG GOD.

This is pretty darn exciting. God has moved and is moving in a big way in our midst. As a staff we are overwhelmed by his goodness and humbled to be part of this generous, acting in faith community.

We have heard many stories about what God has been doing in the lives of our people as they sought him about what steps of faith they should take and then acted in faith. We look forward to sharing some of those stories with you in the future.

Some of you have already asked what we are going to do with the extra money. We are a long way off from having extra money at this point. All the pledges have to come in AND the real cost of everything we planned to do may exceed what we projected. (Ever done a home renovation project?) So we have some time before addressing that, but it will be awesome if that is something we get to do.

Please continue to pray for your brothers and sisters to be able to fulfill the pledges they made. Many of us made a commitment that is a challenge and will need God to step in order to fulfill the pledge.

Stay tuned as we will keep giving you updates.



Together, we pledged to live the journey.



Now What?

Solar Project

Roof repairs are under way and we have completed a fair amount of the needed repairs. The more extensive roof repairs over the deli, the Encounter room and the Worship Center and been contracted. These repairs will begin in a couple weeks and are scheduled to be completed mid August.



The engineering for the solar panels has been completed and the plans are at the city for review. Some of the structural equipment has already been loaded onto the

roofs. Once the permit is issued it will take about 8 weeks to complete. After it is completed, the city and SDG&E must sign-off. At this point it looks like we may be supplying our own electricity by October 1st. However, on a project of this size things can change.

There's More!

New lights in the parking lot have been installed. In case you didn't notice, our light poles were so bad that chunks of concrete were falling from them — not good. Those old poles were a threat to both cars and people. Here is something very cool: some people who

call Journey home took care of the whole thing! They donated the parts, labor and expertise, and just did it.

As we go forward with all the ILTJ upcoming projects, we may find more people with companies, skills and talents that will be able to make a real difference in the cost of things thus allowing us to do even more with the funds we have.

Because of your overwhelming generosity in the First Fruits offering we can start on some other projects as well. We are targeting after the kids ministry next, specifically the new bathroom and the elevator.

Second Floor Bathrooms:

Plans are being drawn, will be reviewed by the city, and then submitted for a permit. When that is completed, hopefully within the next 4-6 weeks, construction can begin. If all goes well this to could be completed by the end of September, but that is not a promise.

Handicapped Lift:

We have begun the bid process. We are getting plans drawn to be reviewed by the city. When that is done we will submit architectural and structural drawings for a permit. After all is said and done we hope to have the lift installed and working by mid-October.

Miscellaneous Kids' Area Improvements:

During the summer we will paint, put in new carpet and tile, as well as other needed upgrades and repairs.

How Can I Help?

First of all keep praying. Pray for the people to fulfill the pledges. We all know a lot can happen over the next two years. As we have said before we will only move forward with projects as the money comes in. Also pray for wisdom on exactly where and when to spend our funds. We are in an ongoing process of discerning what the next steps are. Pray for the projects underway and the team overseeing them. In case you didn't know, we have a Construction Management Team (CMT) overseeing all the projects on our campus. You can read about them in the FAQ part of the ILTJ section of our website. They are giving many hours to make sure things are done right.

We are also looking for people who have skills and resources that they are willing to contribute to

Journey. You may have seen the ILTJ video of Ted Howell, the plumber who volunteered his services for the new upstairs bathroom in the Kids Center. Like Ted, many of you may be able to volunteer goods and services or get us things at cost or at a greatly reduced price. As we move forward we will need electricians, drywall professionals, architects, designers, people who can tile, painters, project managers, people with construction companies or expertise, and concrete specialists. Basically we are looking for people in the trades, building design and construction professions. If you would like to be involved or would like to have your business bid on an upcoming project at Journey, please send an email to Tic@journeycom.org explaining what you have in mind.