

Building for Tomorrow

February 8, 2007

Dear Friends and Members of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church,

As I write this letter, I am reminded of the few great events we get to be a part of in life. A lot of activity will find its way into our lives, and tremendous energy will be spent on some things that matter, and a lot of things that do not. We are standing on the brink of a watershed event in the history of our church. On **Sunday, January 21, 2007**, our congregation agreed to move forward with the **Building for Tomorrow** Campaign with a goal to raise \$6.6 million dollars over the next three years. This is the greatest financial challenge we have ever faced, but the stakes are high.

We will be doing some **remodeling on present buildings** to provide the kind of space we have been hoping for over the years. This remodel phase will add **two elevators** that will give access for all to the second floors of all of our buildings. We have relocated our offices back on the campus, but we will be remodeling some present education space to locate all the offices in one building. The remodel will also **include restrooms** on the second floor of the B Building (also known as the Tucker-Jones Building) and create some medium sized adult classrooms with the removal of some walls. We will provide some **dedicated youth space** on the second floor of the C Building that will provide multi-use space for worship and fellowship. We even hope to bring back a church library that has been missing from our campus for almost two decades.

The crowning achievement of the **Building for Tomorrow** Campaign will be the construction of a **state-of-the-art Preschool and Children's Ministry Center** that will provide needed space for the generation that will serve as leaders for this church over the next 50 years. This education facility for preschoolers and children will move us away from the box style architecture and launch a new look for the future of our church campus.

One new element to this campaign that the church agreed to is the **"Glocal" Missions Project** that will ensure that our strong support for missions does not waiver during this capital gifts campaign. We will take 10% of the gifts given during the **Building for Tomorrow** Campaign and set them aside for immediate use for mission/ministry projects. All three mission offerings will be "guaranteed" at present giving levels out of this 10 percent. Local ministry projects will be initiated with this money and will be overseen by a task force assigned to that task to insure that we are making wise choices in trying to bless our community and our world. This **"Glocal" Missions Project** will simplify the number of times we ask our congregation to give to both the General Budget and the **Building for Tomorrow** Campaign.

There is so much to tell you, it is too much to fit into one letter. So I am asking the friends and members of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church to **attend one** of the **Home Fellowship** meetings being held starting **March 5-17, 2007**. I will be in attendance at all 14 meetings to tell the story of this exciting journey and to answer any questions you might have regarding this monumental expansion project. You will be **receiving a call** to find out which location and day works best for you to attend. I want all of our membership and regular attenders to find one of these meetings to attend, so that you can be **fully informed** about the next steps in the journey this church is taking together. I look forward to seeing you there.

In Christ,



Pastor Montia