

## WE BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH

We believe in the church in spite of its imperfections. The church will never be perfect in this world. It is made up of people who are human—with all the weaknesses and sin that “being human” implies. Yet it is made up of people who sincerely struggle to know and do God’s will.

We believe in the church in spite of its limitations and handicaps. Sometimes the church is hindered by lack of vision or weak resolve. Sometimes the church vacillates or hesitates. In spite of all this, the church is still the only agency in the world that provides a place where people can gather to worship God.

We believe in the church because it is the Body of Christ and the human agency of God’s Spirit—an earthly instrument of God’s eternal plan. It has changed through the years, and it will continue to change. It will make mistakes. But the church is still God’s chosen vessel for carrying on His work of redemption in the world.

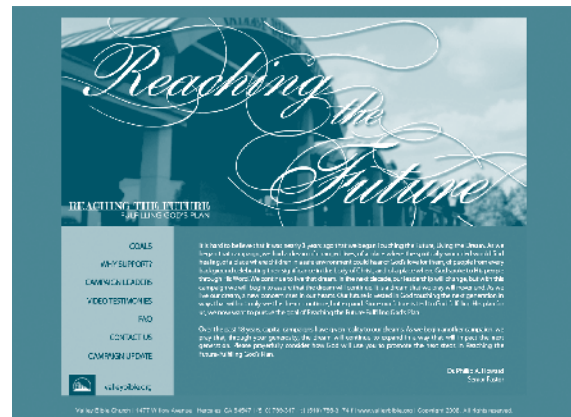
*“Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ.” –1 Peter 2:5*

## EACH PERSON MAY MAKE A COMMITMENT

A commitment card is included in this newsletter. We will collect these cards at the November 16 Celebration Service, and afterward they can be submitted to the church office. By sacrificial giving, we will be able to reach our goal of \$3.5 million. Be in prayer daily about this matter so that you will know what God would have you do for your part in this program.

## Reaching the Future’s NEW WEBSITE

Want updates and reminders about Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God’s Plan? Please visit our website at [www.valleybible.org](http://www.valleybible.org) and click on Reaching the Future.



Dear Saints of God,

I cannot tell you what the “12-Hour Prayer Emphasis” has meant to Caroline and me. It was a time of great blessing as we gathered with the saints to pray. As we reflect on the special work God wants to do in each of our hearts, we know that this is a time for great faith, believing God to do great things in our lives in the days to come just as He has done in the past.

As I think about such faith, I am reminded of our Lord’s words in Matthew 6 where He tells us not to be anxious for our life, what we will eat, what we will drink, or what we will wear. He asks us, “And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his life’s span?” He goes on to tell us that our Heavenly Father already knows our needs. In verse 33, He says, “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.”

When we recognize our Heavenly Father’s love, care, and willingness to provide for our every need, it prepares us to be willing to give sacrificially to our Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God’s Plan Campaign so we can accomplish, for God’s Kingdom, what He intends here in our community and around the world.

It is exciting to think about what awaits us in God’s plan as we joyfully participate in Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God’s Plan.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Phil

*“God is able to make all grace abound to you.” (2 Corinthians 9:8)*

## THANKS TO OUR WORKERS

Hundreds of people in our church have participated in our Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God’s Plan Capital Stewardship Campaign. The Leadership Committee has done a wonderful job in directing and enlisting others to carry out many different responsibilities.

On behalf of Pastor Phil, the staff, and Leadership Committee, we say a heartfelt “Thank You” to those who worked with the 12-Hour Prayer Emphasis, Advance Commitments, Commitment Response, Host/Hostess Directors, and many others. It is because so many have given freely of their time and energy that Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God’s Plan has experienced the success we enjoy. Together, we are demonstrating how the body of Christ can work!

WE COULDN’T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

## OVERVIEW OF OUR GOALS

- To reduce or eliminate our second mortgage of \$450,000+ and our first mortgage of \$4.86+ million. Our financial goals are represented by three levels:
  - LEVEL 1:** \$1.5 million over the next 3 years. This allows us to make our monthly payment of \$35,085 and apply the remainder to the principal. This will eliminate the second by the conclusion of this campaign.
  - LEVEL 2:** \$2.5 million. This allows us to not only eliminate the second, but to begin significantly reducing our first while giving serious attention to improving and enhancing our campus.
  - LEVEL 3:** \$3.5 million. This paves the way for eliminating our present mortgages within the next 6 years!
- To continue the expansion and refurbishment of our campus.
- To remind and teach us about biblical giving.

Our giving has never been about money, but about God working His desires through generous and faithful people. Each time a life is changed, a marriage saved or a person saved, these changes are made possible in part by the generous giving of our people. God is our provider—not the economy.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend!

**NOVEMBER 13-14**  
Advance Commitments Emphasis

**NOVEMBER 17 - 29**  
Commitment responses

**NOVEMBER 16**  
Celebration Sunday

**NOVEMBER 30**  
Campaign results announced

## GUIDELINES FOR FRUITFUL GIVING

- **Give first.** *Proverbs 3:9*  
Make the first use of my income an act of faithfulness to a loving Lord.
- **Give gratefully.** *1 Chronicles 29:13-16*  
Remember God's gifts and the many ways this money can matter for eternity. Praise Him and remind myself of the joy and privilege, not of giving, but of giving back.
- **Give faithfully.** *1 Corinthians 16:1-2*  
Cultivate the discipline of faithfulness regardless of how I feel at the time.
- **Give proportionally.** *Acts 11:29*  
Compare my gifts to no one else's and happily give from my resources.
- **Give generously.** *Romans 12:8*  
It seems like a natural law, and certainly, it is biblical that the way we give and live is measured back to us. I will give as I would love to receive.
- **Give sacrificially.** *2 Corinthians 8:1-5*  
I know and God knows when a gift comes from my heart. Practice giving in a way that expresses my love for God's kingdom.
- **Give cheerfully.** *2 Corinthians 9:7*  
God delights in and loves a cheerful giver.
- **Give freely.** *2 Corinthians 9:7*  
Attach no strings or expectations; seek nothing, particularly public recognition, in return.
- **Give personally.** *2 Corinthians 9:7*  
Invest myself, my time, and my talent. Involve myself in the privilege of returning to God with the first of all I have. Step back and allow each member of my family the same opportunity for personal involvement.
- **Give quietly.** *Matthew 6:2*  
Give without fanfare. God sees, and that is all that matters. Never seek to draw attention, but be prepared to explain why I give.
- **Give expectantly.** *Luke 6:38*  
Look for ways to share my gifts, bear another's burden, or contribute my resources to God's kingdom.
- **Give worshipfully.** *Romans 12:1-2*  
Our model is the author of giving: "For God so loved the world that He gave..."

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FULFILLING GOD'S PLAN

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## REACHING THE FUTURE FULFILLING GOD'S PLAN

### CEL•E•BRA•TION *(noun)*

1. To observe with ceremonies of respect, festivity or rejoicing
2. To perform (a religious ceremony)
3. To announce publicly; proclaim
4. To extol; praise

Webster's definition of the word "celebrate" is an apt description for what will take place on Sunday, November 16.

### CELEBRATION SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 16, 2008

Join us on Sunday, November 16, 2008 for a special celebration. This will not be an ordinary Sunday. For the first time in years, both services will be combined into one service at 10:00am. It will be a "packed house" as we come to worship the Lord and sit under the teaching of the Word.

Our worship team and choir will lead us in worship. We will have another opportunity to review our history and again be reminded of the many blessings that we have experienced over the years. We will also be reminded that even in the worst of times, God remains our provider. Be sure to join us in this great celebration.

During the 2-hour service, each of us will have an opportunity to complete a commitment card for Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God's Plan. Wouldn't it be great if we raised our goal of \$3.5 million? We would be on our way to not only paying off our second mortgage, but freeing up money to begin paying down our first while giving consideration to campus refurbishment and expansion.

*"The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David, the king, also rejoiced greatly...Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand."*

—1 Chronicles 29: 9, 14b

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