



November/December 2024

Dear Praying Friends,

"Do you know the Pastor there?" was the question I was asked by one of our church members. He was referring to a Baptist church across the street from our church office. Our church member had met this pastor recently and was curious if we knew him. We would have never guessed the results from such a simple question. We had been actively looking for a closer place to baptize since we do not have access to baptistery while we are meeting in a Town Hall. My first thoughts were that this might be a good opportunity to meet someone who might let us baptize when needed. Through meeting this pastor, it was brought up that this church was open to renting their sanctuary in the afternoon. We have prayed for years that God would open a door for us to have a space that could be more permanent and visible.

With the price of storefronts in the city astronomical, and the lack of willingness from most nearby denominational churches to rent to a Baptist church with differing beliefs, the path to how we would move forward was definitely unclear. We say this to help you understand the gravity of this moving of God. There are no new church buildings built in a large metropolitan area. This leaves us with buying one for 5-10 million (while most don't sell but rent to all the churches seeking to find a space), trying to find a conservative denomination who will allow us to teach the whole Bible inside their premises or paying \$10,000+ for a commercial space large enough for our ministry, if we want to meet anywhere besides a community center. So in a word, we call this a...MIRACLE.

This pastor agreed to let us rent his entire building every Sunday afternoon for less money than we are currently paying at the Town Hall. Our church people excitedly got on board with the plan and the needed expenses for this new space. The auditorium of this 75 year old building had 75% of the lights burned out. With the joint efforts of our congregation and theirs, we began the process of replacing the lights. In our search, we found the price for replacement to be more than either congregation could pay. In negotiations with a local electrician, he agreed to do the job for half of the originally quoted price. He later told me, "I knew when I saw your people helping others that I have to help them!" Throughout this process of negotiations, repairs and rental contracts God has amazed us every step of the way. Not only was the opportunity miraculous but the provisions needed to begin using this space. God's name has truly been "exalted among the heathen."

Our people excitedly gathered in this new space last Sunday! We had a record attendance of 53 as many of our people came out and new visitors and friends from other churches came to be a part. We are so excited to see what God will do in this new space. Now when people drive through the neighborhood they will see the sign for Sparrow Baptist Church EVERYDAY! Our hearts are abundantly full and we thank you for your faithfully giving that has allowed us to be faithful in this place in preparation for this day.



Serving in the City,

McTague Family

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