



May 2021

Dear Pastors, Friends, & Family,

God is doing amazing things here! I know I have personally talked with many of you and others have seen videos and updates of the miracle God is doing here concerning a building for our church. So, I am putting out this official update, so that everyone would know what is and has been happening.

About nine months ago, I was preaching on prayer and encouraged our people to pick one thing that in their mind was impossible, both individually and as a family, and to begin to pray for it. I told them that as a church we were going to start praying for our own building. A couple of months ago, we had the neighbor above our storefront start to complain about the noise. Also over the last two months we have had about sixteen first time visitors, many of whom have continued to come. As exciting as this is, it has started to create a dilemma with our space, even not considering the Corona restrictions. So we started to talk about looking for another building to rent. One more factor that led us to start looking was that our rent here is set go up next year from about \$1,200/mo to \$1,700, and we were going to have to invest some money into some repairs as well.

So, we started looking. We found a building that we liked. It was for rent for about \$1,450 and was four times bigger than our current building and right in the middle of town. However, Christy found the same building listed for sale on another website and suggested that we should ask about a rent to own option, which is unheard of here for a business. I must admit that it took some convincing, but I eventually went in and made an offer. The catch was that in order to get into that option, we would need about \$35-40,000 for a down payment and to make it legal. So we looked at what it would take to just get a loan and buy it. The bank told us that we would need 50% down plus another 10% for taxes and fees! Well, both of these were impossible, and then we would need some money to remodel it on top of that. The owner ended up accepting our terms for the rent to own option. Our people gave what they could, and we really started praying.

About a month and half ago, Jason, the missionary who is working with us, and I began to call our supporting churches and ask who might be able to help us get into this building, whether it be the amount we needed for the rent to own option or for the down payment. Pastors, churches, and a few individuals really began to get on board, and pretty quickly, we had enough committed for the rent to own option, but God just kept providing! Pastors kept calling back and committing to give different amounts. With a firm deadline approaching, God ended up providing enough for us to seriously thinking about skipping the rent to own option and going straight to the buying process. Then God continued to provide, and then came the thought, "What if God just paid off the entire building?"

So, I started reworking the numbers. The appraisal for the building is approximately \$325,000, and he was asking \$255,000. We agreed on a final price of \$230,000 plus the 10% for taxes and fees, totaling about \$253,000. We have been praying and God continued to use churches and people to provide. As of right now, we have \$239,000 committed! Even yesterday, I received another email about someone else wanting to be a part of this miracle. God is doing our impossible!

Yesterday, I went to inquire about applying for a loan for the rest of the amount along with some money for the remodel. I should hear something back within the next week or two. The mortgage payment would be lower than our rent, which will allow us to do more ministry, and we are also able to pay the loan off early as God continues to provide.

So, I just wanted to let everyone know what God is doing here. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Once we have the building, we will send out a video, and then another one once the remodel is finished. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all who have sacrificially given to us and our church! God is awesome!

Thank you for your prayers and support,  
Markie Bullock