

FREEDOM CAMPAIGN



PLANT
City COG.COM 

Free To Respond To The Harvest

Pastor's Message



Lisa and I invite you to join us in a quest for "Freedom". We are asking you to unite with us in the opportunity to free the Plant City Church of God from its mortgage. The time of harvest for these "last days" is almost gone. This is our opportunity to "free" our church, so all our resources can be utilized in reaping the harvest.

"Freedom" will empower us to: plant new churches, train ministry couples for these churches, minister to orphans, expand world missions, feed and clothe the needy in our community and strengthen local church ministries.

Will you join with us in this exciting time of last days harvest? Romans 10:14-15 says: "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

"Freedom" will allow us to send workers into the harvest. Let's do it!

"Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest" *John 4:35*

The Big Picture



In October of 2010 we will launch our Freedom Campaign that will prepare us to enter a great season for our future ministry levels. We believe the harvest is ready now and God is calling us to reach it here in Plant City and beyond. Because we are sensing the urgency of the Kingdom's Call, we want to accomplish what we can do now and prepare to respond to the harvest that is in the near future. Join with us to see how God wants us to come together and be free to respond to His CALL!

What Freedom Looks Like

Freedom is having the ability to realize the deeper harvest God is setting before us. Starting with the local mission of our own city and cities near us, we move beyond to reach our state, nation and beyond to the nations of the world. For us to get to Freedom, we need to get to a Mortgage Free position!

Having Resources to Respond

Freeing up resources gives us the ability to plant new churches. We can respond to new ministry and mission opportunities with people we have trained right here in our training centers. These servants will be ready to go and minister the LOVE of Jesus Christ in places that God will be opening up. Our timing amidst the instability of our culture and the global economy is timely as God is shaking the nations and releasing an end time harvest. We must be ready with multiple resources. When we are Mortgage Free...we CAN respond!

Our Purpose

Simply...we will be a church that has the Freedom to Respond to the Harvest!

The Dates

We will launch our Campaign on October 24th and finish with Freedom Sunday November 14th. On that Sunday we will receive a special offering and set our hearts before the LORD with commitments to sacrifice financially each month. We will be relying upon God's Grace to get to be Mortgage Free and hopefully celebrate around Thanksgiving 2012. Pray with us as we call out to God to use us and do the things that only HE CAN do while we do what we can!



The Main Chapters...Many Characters

1 THE OAKS - 1918-EARLY 20S

We begin our story in late 1918 when a small group of people felt God impress upon their heart to meet together and pray for a church to be born. They responded and met near the Robinson pool for a few months and then moved to the Arbor at the "The Oaks" - a serene setting where they could call upon God and pray for Him to expand the work and trust God for a needed place to call home. The next event brought a gift of property for \$1.



3 LEMON STREET PROPERTY - 1940S

The Lemon Street property (Strawberry Festival Grounds) had a building and the church added their first wood frame sanctuary. Everyone enjoyed having a church home they could call their own. The years continued to add people as God granted them favor to reach people with the need of salvation.



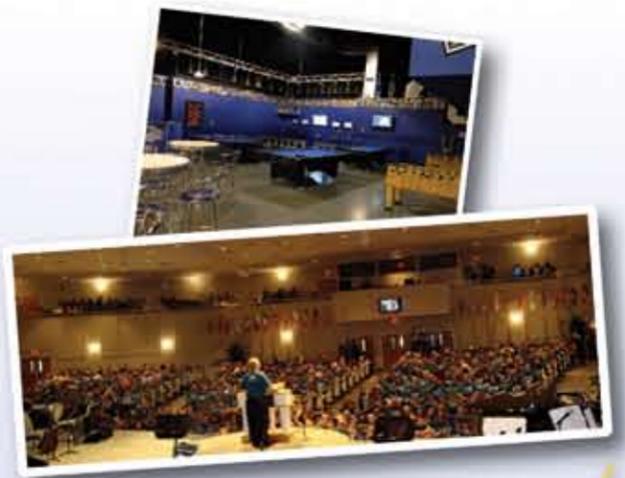
5 THIRD NEW SANCTUARY - 1970S

The seventies created another great chapter in the life of the church. Church growth kept doubling and the congregation expanded its reach those who need Christ. Attendance at one special BBQ outreach event topped the 1000 mark as people came to celebrate good food and faith in Christ. Sunday School space was increased and many great memories marked a decade of a changing culture.



7 FOURTH NEW SANCTUARY GRAND OPENING - 2003

Thus began a whole new chapter. The church has experienced accelerated growth. With new and larger facilities, we discovered new opportunities to reach neighboring families and meet their needs. Our student ministry expanded with a whole new vision in its new student center under. Children's ministry continues to flourish. Worship has continued to identify us as a church that loves and worships God uninhibited. New ministries are regularly added as laborers respond to the harvest.



6 MUD LAKE PROPERTY - 1990S

As the church continued to grow, the need for more property for expansion became evident. Twenty-seven acres on Mud Lake Road seemed perfect for its strategic location near Walden Lakes, the largest residential development in the city. The church body felt more unified each month as each family chose to sacrifice to pay for the land. The Strawberry Festival approached Pastor Robert Herrin purchased the Lemon Street building and property. The church body agreed to relocate.



4 SECOND NEW SANCTUARY - 1960S

The sixties brought the need of an ever-growing church body. Sunday School became a critical part of the growth path. This step gave them a doubling of square footage. This new opportunity with expanded space now gave the church a way to reach more families. People sacrificed as they came together in unity to hear God's voice and respond.



2 FOREST PARK CHURCH OF GOD - 1926

A church is officially born with its first name called Forest Park Church of God. The church grew and God kept drawing families that sensed His Call on their lives. They joined together to form a unified church.

FREEDOM CAMPAIGN

8 FREEDOM CAMPAIGN 2010

Today, Plant City COG averages close to 800 in attendance. Our church is poised to double in the next few years. We realize that we need to enter this next decade Mortgage Free. This historical step will enable us up to freely respond to the next level of harvest.



A Story We Are *Following* . . .

We have had the privilege to follow one of our sister churches in Charlotte, NC. Loran Livingston is the pastor and has led the church to a mortgage free position. He has ministered there over 25 years and is now land locked on 25 acres. Attendance there approximates 4,000 and the membership has made significant strides since making the decision to be mortgage free. Here are some of the benchmarks they were able to accomplish by God's grace... **No MORTGAGE in the past 17 years!**

Since then they have...

- Built an administration building with cash (2 million).
- Built their youth center with cash (6 million).
- Built their children's center with cash (3 million).
- Last year purchased a K-12 private school with property and facilities with cash.

Missions

- This year they will invest over 1.65 million in international missions
- They are in over 30 countries and have 80 projects with pastoral teams dedicated to oversee and manage them.
- They have multiple lay teams going on mission projects multiple times per year to deepen the harvest impact. These include orphanages, digging wells for clean water, food needs, church plants, housing, trainings, choir tours, etc.

Expanding Ministries

- This year one of their expansion ministries is the restorative prison ministry.
- So far this year, they have seen 4000 conversions and have teams to follow up with full discipleship.

For the LEAN TIMES...

They intentionally use consistent:

- savings approaches and deep reserve funds
- deep sinking funds for big ticket items



Lake Park Academy



Main Campus

A Story We Are *Building* . . .

Vision

It is our desire to create opportunity for our church body to realize the same impact that Central Church has experienced. We see a parallel journey for us to that of Central Church. They heard from God and responded. He has truly opened up for them a diversified harvest in multiple places around the world. In the following pages you will see some of the ministry vision as we see it from here.

Mortgage Free

One of our first steps is to intentionally create a season for all of us in the church body to sacrifice and begin to secure a legacy for those coming behind us. We now enjoy the answered prayers and lasting fruit of many generations who have gone before us. The land, the buildings, the ministry staff, the missions opportunities have all been set up by many who we have never met but possibly heard about. Thus is the Kingdom of God...one generation will declare to the next the works of the LORD through their hands and decisions. This will be our turn as we make this critical decision to be "Mortgage Free"!

Ministries

As we engage the next two years and work sacrificially, we believe God will grant us much privilege as this end of days harvest is being released. Our ministries will expand to meet the needs around us. Children's ministries will have more ability to minister to the complex family scenarios of our day. From kids in a suitcase who experience shared custody to very little knowledge of who God is and what it means to live a Christian life, we desire to serve these family situations. Youth ministries will rise to the ever-changing culture of mixed belief and lifestyle choices. They need more ability to prepare for college and the onslaught of a post-Christian nation.

Missions

Missions and specialized ministries will be a specific focus as the critical needs are increasing around us, and we need ways to train and resource people to win with life.



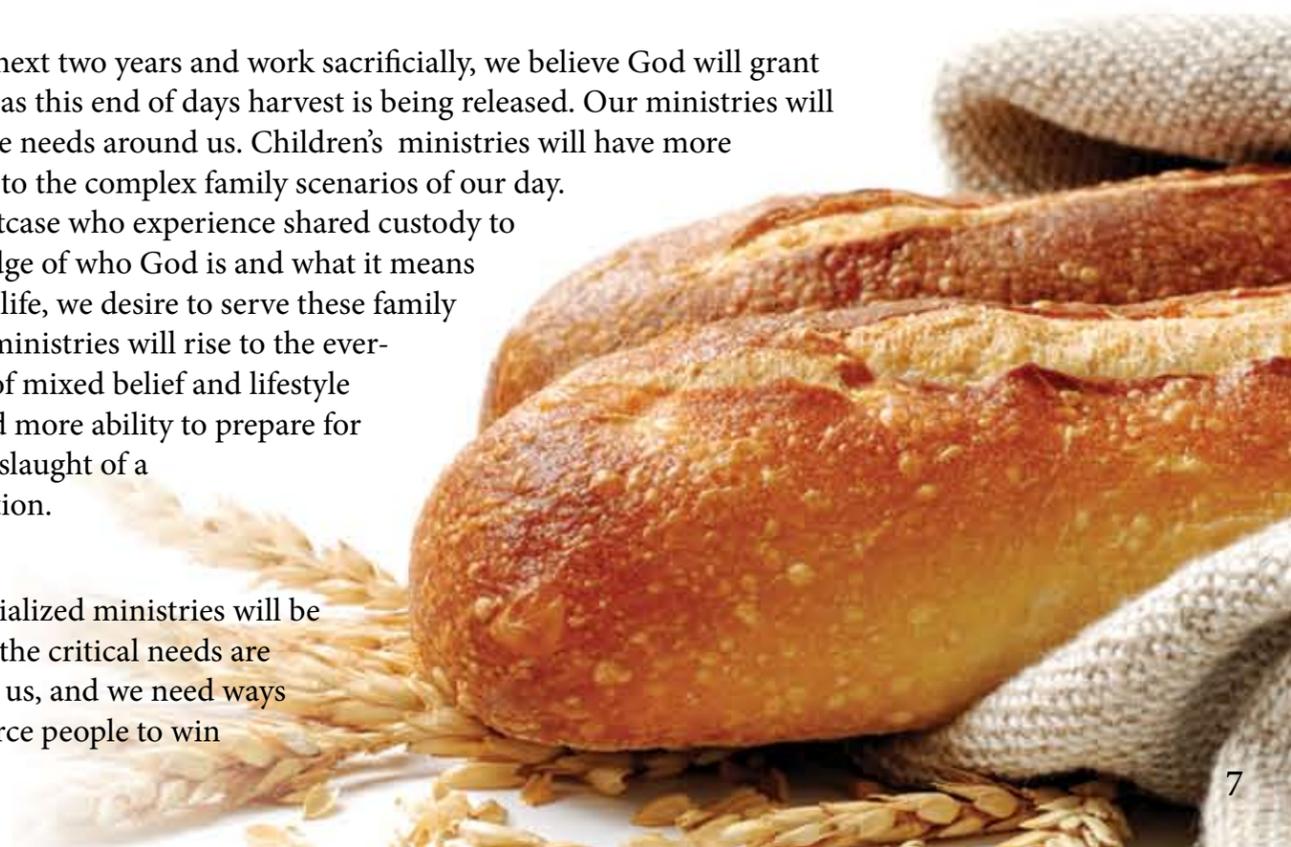
Deeper Into Missions



Reaching More Kids



Reaching More Families



The Opportunity

Reach The Harvest

Responding to this call requires taking the first steps necessary. That is to free us from one of our greatest expenses...our mortgage. We believe God is sending this message to many, if not all of us...prepare for what is to come. The return to a "storehouse" mentality will create a response to be able to meet the coming needs. WE can help people be freed up personally to serve God full and part time...resourced to make a secure and well-funded impact for ministry.

**FREE to respond to
God's Direction
of Harvest**

An ability to give birth to
New Churches.

Establish
**Key Ministries
and Personnel**

Ability to
Train, Send and Support
Pastoral and Lay Teams

Wisely Assist
Struggling Churches

Create
Strategic Centers
by New Multi-Generational Needs

The Strategy

Over the next two years we are preparing multiple ways to be involved through special gifts. These are designed in the form of financial sacrifices made now to enjoy the freedom and ministry advancement within the near future. These gifts will specifically pay off the current mortgage quickly, including our current payments plus mortgage principal payments.



Each Year in our Campaign...

We desire to raise 1.3 million through:

Single Day Offering	\$100,000
Current Payments	\$300,000 (12 x \$25,000)
Added Principal Payments	\$120,000 (12 x \$10,000)
Special Gifts through the year	\$300,000
Monthly Commitments	\$480,000
Total	\$1,300,000

We Will Be Ready To...



DEVELOP MINISTRY TRAINING CENTERS



DEVELOP MINISTRIES TO ORPHANS

REACH DEEPER INTO MISSIONS



HELP BUILD STRONG FAMILIES



DEVELOP SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES



DEVELOP NEW CHURCH PLANTS



Your Commitment

An Opportune Commitment

Now it comes down to each of us slowing down to listen for God's Voice. It will be simply asking God to give you a number and then sense a peace of what He tells you. Sometimes it may surprise you in the number He gives. **Don't FEAR...** as He tells you the number, He is getting ready to produce some divine circumstances for you! Take the privilege to participate in this great Kingdom Opportunity.

How It Will Work

Freedom Sunday, November 14th

Special Day Offering

We will give a cash or asset offering to the LORD. We will do this in a no pressure approach, so it is freely given.

Commitment Day Dedication

We will dedicate ourselves and our commitment pledges to the LORD. We will prepare not be tempted to set this portion to the LORD in other places. These will be faith promises as the LORD provides.

A Sample Gift Chart

Weekly (52)	Monthly (12)	Annually
\$ 2.31	\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00
\$ 5.77	\$ 25.00	\$ 300.00
\$ 11.54	\$ 50.00	\$ 600.00
\$ 17.31	\$ 75.00	\$ 900.00
\$ 23.08	\$ 100.00	\$ 1200.00
\$ 46.15	\$ 200.00	\$ 2400.00
\$ 69.23	\$ 300.00	\$ 3600.00
\$115.38	\$ 500.00	\$ 6000.00
\$230.77	\$1000.00	\$12000.00

Remember, not EQUAL GIFTS, but EQUAL SACRIFICE!

Commitment Card

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Special Offering

Today, I/We would like to...

give a cash gift for \$ _____

give a gift other than cash (value) \$ _____

Description of gift _____

Commitment For This Year

My/Our Commitment monthly for one year...
gift per month \$ _____

I understand that this is a faith promise gift trusting that God will provide.

By Faith Before God,

Signature _____

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