

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## About the new City Campus 284-296 Tuam St

### **WHAT SIZE IS OUR NEW BUILDING COMPARED TO FERRY RD?**

At 5.3 times the floor area of 150 Ferry Rd, we have a large building with plenty of room for future growth. The total floor area of the drive though carpark, main warehouse, storeroom and amenities is 4850m<sup>2</sup>. In addition to this, 309 St Asaph St (previously the Global Living building) is included. The total land area of the whole site is 7719 m<sup>2</sup>.

### **HOW MUCH DID IT COST TO BUY?**

The final negotiated conditional offer was for \$6M. The building was not on the market and had been leased by Trents as a wholesale food warehouse. We'd tried to get the owners to agree to sell for more than two years, but this proved difficult as insurance settlement negotiations had not been finalized. Given its prime location and its close proximity to Ara, the Innovation Precinct, the New Stadium and the East Frame housing development, we think it's a very good deal.

### **WILL WE BE CLOSING DOWN ANY OF THE OTHER CAMPUSES?**

No. Strong multisite Churches typically have a healthy central campus that serves the satellite campuses in other parts of the city. As each additional campus joins the family, we become stronger and more diverse. Each campus has its own unique characteristics and strengths but are also part of the wider family, sharing core values and most importantly — each campus has a part to play in the wider mission of seeing the city saved and brought into relationship with Jesus.

### **WILL OUR BUILDING BE AVAILABLE FOR MID-WEEK ACTIVITIES?**

Yes. One of the key things we're determined to provide once we're in our own place again is access to good meeting spaces for mid-week groups and activities. We believe that its location and layout will accommodate even more mid-week activities than we've been able to offer in the past.

### **WHY THE CBD?**

We currently have ministries to the Inner City poor and homeless and only see this increasing in the future. With new businesses being established all the time and plans to have 20,000 residents living in the Inner City, there's a great opportunity to get established right in the midst of a vibrant new city. The city is also an easy to reach central location for people to drive to from any direction. We want to be a "Church in the city, for the city." The words that God has given us over nearly three years add up to a strong mandate that could be summed up as "I want you to help rebuild the spiritual foundations of the city." We believe that our location, relative to the people we seek to serve, is very important, and in order to be an effective tool for mission, our building must be where the people are.

### **WILL A BUILDING CAMPAIGN DIVERT US FROM GOD'S MISSION?**

Not at all. We're very clear about any buildings we have simply serving us as a tool for mission. People are what's important in the end. We need buildings to help us serve and love the city we're a part of.

### **WHY NOT PLANT MORE CAMPUSES INSTEAD OF BUILDING ONE BIG CAMPUS?**

One of the key ingredients to healthy satellite campuses is a strong central campus that provides administrative support and specialist expertise. Our size allows us to provide a higher quality of ministries like worship, kids programs and the like because centralized resources and training are available to the campuses.

Efficiencies provided by centralized accounting and admin functions allow the satellite campuses to get on with the job of making disciples. It is also vital to have at least one larger venue for conferences.

## **WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO SPEND ALL THE MONEY ON THE POOR/MISSIONS?**

With a long term vision, we understand the need to invest in facilities that enable the mission to continue to grow well into the future. Helping the poor and providing funds for missions is both important and central to what we're all about. To be missional and effective at reaching the lost you need tools. Good facilities are just that — a tool for mission. We believe it's a case of both/and rather than one or the other. Both are needed to get the mission accomplished.

A great example of sacrificial investment to leave a legacy of multi-generational blessing is the Living Springs complex near Governors Bay. The faith-filled obedience, foresight and courage of Peter & Anne Morrow and David & Eddie Down has created an amazing asset for the city of Christchurch and has provided a place for hundreds of people to encounter Jesus over the last 40 years.

## **WHY CAN'T WE STAY AT FERRY ROAD?**

Moving back into the Ferry Rd building was always a temporary solution for a number of reasons.

For a start we don't own the building and the landlord generously made it available to us at a discounted rental until we get a new building. There are many ministries that we'd love to get started, but are currently on hold until more space is available. Ferry Rd is just a stepping stone to our permanent site and is not suitable as a long term City Campus location for a number of reasons. It's too small. Prior to the quakes our morning services were so full that we were at risk of exceeding our fire limit (for people inside in the building) on a weekly basis. Sadly this meant turning people away at the door with a 'Church Full' sign. The land has poor quality soil.

Many of the buildings in and around Phillipstown suffered the same fate as ours, and the liquefaction prone soil can cause ongoing problems for the building. We don't want to be the Church that's like the man who "built his house on the sand." Rebuilding at 150 Ferry Rd would be very expensive given the groundwork required to support a building and prevent future liquefaction damage. Added to the fact the site is too small, we're better using our insurance payout on a larger building with better soil underneath it. Another problem is our limited parking. There is a decreasing amount of parking available on Sundays. On weekdays, it is extremely hard to find a park, which limits our ability to have any meetings during the day. We are unable to hold any meetings larger than 400 people and therefore we have to use other churches for funerals, conferences, etc. Many of our ministries do not have room to grow. There is not enough room for our children's programs.

## **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?**

We are still finalising our architectural design. The next phase will be to accurately cost it out and decide the various stages. At present, we do not have an accurate figure to release.

## **HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?**

The process will last as long as it takes for us to raise the money to build the new building.

## **WHAT HAS BEEN THE PROCESS FOR MAKING DECISIONS?**

Every Tuesday our Key Leaders team meet together for half a day to worship, wait on God, pray and discuss God's leading on the key challenges we face as a Church. This group is David MacGregor, Sarah-Jane Peez, Sam Harvey, Scottie Young, Tony Walter, Clark Alcock, Rocky Stocks, Bridget Underhill and Simon MacGregor. We have also been meeting regularly with our property team: a team of experienced business people within our Grace community that we have been able to seek advice from. This team is fully behind this vision, and includes engineers, a lawyer, a quantity surveyor, a property developer, an accountant, builders and capital finance consultants.

We have had prophecies, words of encouragement from a variety of different people and an outstanding amount given towards this project which are all signs of confirmation that we have heard clearly from God about this.