

TRUSTEE REPORT: 2009

2009 EBC Trustees: Gary Babb
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Praise the Lord that we are in our new church home and loving it! The preliminary discussions regarding the EBC church building expansion started back shortly after the turn of the century. Sounds like a long time ago; however, we had several steps to take that would help us along the way until we could complete the first phase of our proposed building project. The next phase may be a few years in the future, but at least we have a plan.

A lot of positive changes have taken place in the last twenty years since Pastor Bill and Jeri came to Eagleville Bible Church. There has been a steady growth and development in the church overall. We went from a church building with a sanctuary that would seat about 100 maximum, very little space for Sunday school classes, and no inside rest rooms . . . to buying the property next to the old church so that we would have office space, Sunday school rooms, and rest rooms, adding a second and third service. . . to moving to the Expo Center at the Jefferson Fairgrounds for five years so that we would be able to continue expanding and have more parking area. We broke ground for our new church building in May of 2008; and in May 2009, we occupied our new 18,000+ square foot building. All the while, the attendance has been growing and the ministries have been growing right along with it. Praise the LORD for his guidance and hand of blessing!

This year, the Trustees have been given the job of taking over the responsibilities of maintaining the new church building (1981 Route 45) along with existing properties (mainly the parsonage on Forman Road, Annex on Eagleville Road, as well as the original church building on Eagleville Road). Recently, Pastor Chris and Brook moved to their new house so the parsonage is no longer occupied. The annex has been winterized and is in the process of being emptied out for resale, and the old church building basement is basically a storage area. We have to maintain some heat in the annex and church because of the wood floors in the annex and to prevent damage to some expensive equipment that is still in the sanctuary. We are attempting to sell this equipment and, as soon as we do, we will evaluate the situation to as to whether we need to heat this building. Battery back up sump pumps were installed in the church and the parsonage to protect the furnaces and other equipment in the event of a power outage.

There was a annual spring clean up at the old church properties where the usual items were covered such as raking the gravel out of the grass, raking up leaves, cleaning leaves out of the basement entry to the annex, and cleaning gutters. We spent some time removing throw-aways from the parsonage garage, annex property, mobile classroom, and church. Those items were deposited into a 40 yard dumpster that was rented.

Once again, our friend Teddy Hill and crew worked at scrapping and painting the east and north side of the old church building. (Thanks, Teddy!) Some work still needs to be done on the north side; but due to weather closing in, it could not be completed this past year.

Just prior to our Grand Opening on May 17th, there was a flurry of activity that I can't begin to comment on in detail. What is important is that the work got done, and a special thank you goes out from the Board to all those that helped out at that time. Even before Opening Day, and since, there has been so many people that have volunteered their time (and in many cases equipment) to do landscaping, mowing, grass planting, cleaning, moving stuff, buying equipment and installing it, and praying. The praying part has always been a big part of our preparation before any major event took place.

We have now been in our new church for about eight months and we are still adjusting, but slowly the kinks are being worked out with the various systems as we learn to operate them.

Steve Myers was hired for the Sextons job shortly after our Grand Opening on a part time basis. His responsibilities are to clean and prepare the church and to assist any volunteer help in this endeavor. We want to thank him and all those that assist him in this demanding line of work. Steve also has been involved in many other projects such as setting up chairs (weekly), building steps, painting, changing light bulbs, shoveling snow, working at the annex cleaning it out, and much more. Steve is a great guy to work with, and we appreciate his willingness to help out where he can.

Some of the projects that are in process this last few months are:

- ✦ Parking lot pattern shift and aisle markers
- ✦ Snow plowing contract was awarded for this year's snow removal
- ✦ Installing gutter drains on the south side of the building (north side yet to do)
- ✦ Installing ice guard brackets on roof (still in process)
- ✦ Coat racks installed in rest room entries and along the north and south hallways
- ✦ Installation of convection oven
- ✦ Grass planting

We have had two motor failures in the sewage plant that are covered under warranty. John Jamison has spent a lot of time training himself on the heating and cooling system and has been working with Geauga Mechanical on problem areas.

As I mentioned earlier in this report, we have been blessed as a church with so many people that have stepped up and taken on work projects where sometimes they weren't asked to do the work but instead volunteered to do the work. So I will say it again...thank you as a member of the church and from the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Bentley