

Newsletter No 9 27th October 2013

How to Pray for the Church Building Project

One of the best things about being a Christian is that we can talk to the Creator of the universe, and He listens to us!

As our church faces some enormous challenges we need to turn together to our Heavenly Father in prayer. So why not give some of your regular prayer time to praying for First Antrim, the building project and the Development Team?

Praise God

As we seek to pray for this project, it is essential that our focus is on God. Let us remember who our God is and what He has done in, through and for First Antrim.

Praise the Lord as Head of the Church and Glorify Him as our Provider and Sustainer (*Psalm 54:4*)

Humble Ourselves

We must also humble ourselves before God and seek His protection as we travel a difficult road as a church family.

Ask God for true motives and for strong faith to trust Him as we follow Him together step by step (*Phil 2:3, Proverbs 3:5-6*)

Give Thanks

We have much to give thanks for.

Thank God for our current buildings and all He has done through them, for our unique location as a town centre church, for how He has guided us and provided for us this far. (*Psalm 100:4-5*)

Seek God's Supply

In our planning application we are currently faced with processes and decisions that are beyond our control – **pray that God would guide the Planners and that we will see His Sovereignty in the outcome.**

We as a church and also the Development Team will be faced with difficult decisions along the way – **pray for wisdom and guidance for the Team and the church leadership. Pray that our church family will confidently follow our Father's will in unity.**

With the magnitude of the financial challenges ahead of us, it is easy to take our eyes off the Lord and to plan to rely on ourselves, our coffers, our fundraising efforts - **pray that God will provide for the project and pray for strong faith to trust in His supply.**

In faith we ask God to provide, but we must also be prepared to respond as He guides each of us by His Spirit, giving us a wonderful opportunity to play the part He has for us and be part of His work - **pray for His Spirit to prompt you and for courage to respond in faith.**

Let's keep praying!

It is all too easy to see the importance of prayer when we are faced with challenges and tasks such as these. But Paul teaches the Thessalonians that they should -

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:16-18)

Let us take this opportunity to lay down a foundation of rejoicing in, giving thanks for and praying for our church and its buildings that will continue in all circumstances to the project's end and beyond.

Put this into your Journey of Faith folder, keep a small prayer diary and later look back to see how God has answered our prayers in ways we could never have imagined!