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Dear Friend,

Praise the LORD all you peoples. There are two very exciting marks of grace developing in OneWay that I need to share with you. The first is the incredible story of how God has met our need for a new headquarters facility. The second is regarding the planting of a unique new church in the area.

There's a prayer we often pray at OWM. *"LORD, do things in our midst that are supernatural. Do things so obviously of You, that all who witness them believe once again that You are not only a God who **can** do the seemingly impossible, but **does** do the seemingly impossible. Teach us to dream again. Embolden Your people. Glorify Yourself in our generation, in our midst."*

My hope is that the story below will move you to praise Him for His mighty acts **in our time**, strengthen your faith, and inspire you to **go for it** in any area He might be leading you. His promises of grace are true. Let's remember 2 Corinthians 9:8, *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."*

An Amazing Story of Grace Unfolds

Three years ago, OWM began looking for a new headquarters in Holland, MI. After much searching, however, we sensed the need to slow down and just wait on the Lord for a few months. At the end of those three months, something remarkable happened.

A businessman and friend told OWM that his company had outgrown its building. He was building a new facility and wanted to offer us 2,000 square feet in that new building, rent free for 5 years! An architect generously donated plans and drawings for OWM to build out offices and studios in this new space. Many of you freely gave to our facility fund to make this possible.

A Church Plant

Meanwhile, the leadership of OWM sensed a growing vision and call to plant a church in the Naperville/Aurora area. Over the latter part of 2009 things began to crystalize. In early 2010 the board adopted the initiative. Our aim is to establish a unique church with an unapologetic emphasis on the urgent need to lay down our everything, even our very lives, for the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom locally and worldwide. Our vision is to see the emergence of a small to mid-sized, elder-led congregation that will, in turn, plant other churches.

With the intention of beginning the first church in the fall, we are currently in the prayer and planning stages. Proverbs 15:22 says, "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed." We are seeking and receiving godly counsel from leaders from my home church (The Compass Church), Zionville Fellowship Church in IN, and many others.

Let me add that we would not be taking on this initiative if the entire board did not believe that it would directly help us in the pursuit of our mission "to exalt Christ and advance His gospel to the multitudes." I know there are many questions that time and space do not permit me to cover in this letter. You can check www.owm.org in the following days for more information. Also, please feel free to write or call me with any questions or comments. I would love to spend time with you.

The Story Continues: God Provides

With the additional vision for a church came the need for more space. We quietly went back to the businessman who was providing us 2,000 square feet and asked if there was any way we could have some more space for the church plant as well. He told us that would not be possible in his new building, but added that he had always pictured his company's former building being used as a church!

Today I am writing to praise the LORD for His grace. We've received a tremendous offer to use the company's entire old building, a great facility with 7,000 square feet of space: enough to house not only our studio and offices, but also the church as well! Additionally, the building is ready for us to begin moving in- which is just what we are in the process of doing.

Setting Up House: Volunteers Needed

If you are local, we are looking for individuals to help with the move, including help to paint, install new flooring, furniture, etc. There will also be a modest amount of construction work to remodel a few rooms to house OneWay's studio, the hub of our recording and Prayercast.com ministries.

If you or your small group are available to help for a day, an evening, or even a few hours on a Saturday in the month of May, please contact Katie at 630.692.6864 or email her at katie@owm.org. We will be hard at work to make OneWay's new headquarters a place from which we can continue to collectively advance the gospel of Christ around the world.

But wait, there's more...

On a personal level, let me also acknowledge His grace. It was early April, just three weeks ago, when OWM was given the keys to the new facility. At that same time, Rachel and I decided to attempt the crazy: as OWM moved out of our basement, to also pack up our stuff, fix up our house(including new flooring, paint, roof and more), sell it and buy a new one.

I can only stop to praise the LORD and tell you that it has all happened- in 22 days. This weekend we signed two contracts: one for the sale of our beloved Dorval Drive house (and former OWM headquarters) and one for the purchase of a new home in Aurora, near the new facility. WOW: new headquarters, new church, house to market, house sold, and contract for a new home- all in three weeks. Let me add that all of this would not have been possible without the sacrificial help of so many beloved people!

Amazing Grace

Lastly, I just want to say that rain or shine, God is just awesome. But when stuff happens like what has happened in our life and in this ministry, you just have to be absolutely out of your mind to not give God glory for His grace- unmerited favor- that He has poured out on HIS work. He is real. He is active. He is faithful. He is unstoppable.

In the end, the most exciting grace He has given is what happened 2,000 years ago, when Jesus poured out His blood for _____ (put your name here). He reached out to all of us and saved us from Hell itself. He is, as my two-year-old says, "building a house for us way up in the sky." All of these earthly developments, while exciting, are miniscule compared to the Ultimate Grace that we all who are in Christ have been given- to belong to Him, and to one day be free, gathered as a family under the Father's shelter, safe and secure forever. That is the grace we celebrate most this day. It is what spurs us on to the work in which we all share. Praise the Lord.

Believer, Lover & Servant of Christ, Partner in the Gospel



Michael Thompson