

July 2006

Things Have Come Together to Serve Better.

Dear Theophilus,

Things are coming together. Since Christmas my various travels and experiences have been a source of energy and rejuvenation and provided one vision of what we might become here at LCPC.

Cuba reminded me of the devotion of a loving church community trying to serve its community seeped in scarcity.

Fantasy Camp reinforced the old adage that when you play together and pull for each other and have a common goal you feel like a team, even a family. These bonds can run deep.

Egypt, incredible Egypt, allowed me to witness very creative ways that people are meeting human need.

The meeting with my uncle, Dr. Paul Eberts, sociologist at Cornell University, on how to identify the needs in our community heightened the sense that we can do something right here in this community and that we should.

Reading *The Tipping Point*, suggested by Paul, claims that small changes can make a big difference.

The visit this week of Olga Comas Perez, lay pastor of our sister church in Caibarien, Cuba, reminds me again of how connected all of us are to one another, despite the barriers of language and distance.

Things have come together to the point where I have found myself brimming with enthusiasm when I think about you and this congregation and our larger role as a leader in the community.

Why not fix up all of our property so that we can truly be good hosts to our neighbors and community organizations? We have rooms that are literally screaming for some loving attention so that they can give off the message of community and spirituality and energy and compassion.

Why not put a garden and walkways and a fountain and plaza and trees and a new sign and a small structure for community news in the front of our building facing Mayfield Rd. to let every driver passing by know that we are a welcoming and beautiful and vibrant place that takes our middle name of "Community" seriously?

Why not develop a program for our children or youth or elderly that will help and enhance and embrace, meeting whatever needs they identify?

Why not put a campaign together, from the bottom up, that will enlist the energy of you and your friends, inside the church and out, that will unleash a whole new wave of excitement to do something for LCPC, for our community, for the world, for Jesus Christ?

Why not? It's time to build up the community!

Grace and peace,

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