



The SCOTT CRABTREE Family

Missionaries to the Deaf

"There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." Psalm 19:3

THIS IS NOT OUR USUAL PRAYER LETTER--some will be disappointed that there are no Crabtree Classics enclosed in this one, but there is a reason for the omission. We received some rather disheartening news in July that has pretty much turned our church world upside down. Someone told me that this was exciting news (to see what God is going to do). We told him, though, that roller coasters are exciting, but we don't much care for them! In April, the LifeSigns Deaf Baptist Church had its 2nd church anniversary, although due to COVID we were unable to celebrate this milestone. BC (Before COVID) we were averaging 45-55 on any given Sunday and people were and are continuing to grow spiritually. We are also seeing brand new visitors almost every week who are hearing the Gospel. We have been renting our current church building for 2 years and have put a great deal of effort into updating the building and using it for God's glory. We anticipated using this building for at least 1-3 more years. **On July 10th, though, we received a letter from the landlord (another church) that they will be selling the building and that there is no guarantee it will be available after October 4th.** To say this was a shock is an understatement and our church and family have shed many tears.

Our building sits on 5 acres of prime land and businesses such as Google, Amazon, and Facebook are just down the road; the local schools are directly across the street. Once it is sold to the public, we have no doubt that the church building will be leveled to be used for other commercial purposes. We believe this is where God wants us and we do not want the light of the Gospel to go out here! Many souls, hearing and Deaf, have been reached for the glory of God. We also have a good reputation in town with the neighbors, fire, and police departments.

We were given the first opportunity to purchase the property and were disheartened (and shocked) to discover that the listing price is 2.5 million! After several weeks of attempted negotiation, a private investor has stepped forward to help us in this effort. Through email we received word that the sellers will accept a significantly smaller offer as they would like for this location to remain a church. If officially accepted, we will need to raise the funds for the full amount to keep all 5 acres or sell off two of the acres to pay down the loan. **IF** our offer is not officially accepted, we will still need to purchase or rent another facility--church buildings are not easy to find in this area unless they are in rundown neighborhoods.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! THIS IS AN URGENT MATTER WITH A SHORT TIMEFRAME. THE INTENT OF THIS LETTER IS TO ASK YOU TO PRAY. WE HAVE NO OFFICIAL NUMBERS TO GIVE YOU AT THIS TIME. TO SAY THIS HAS BEEN A FRUSTRATING PROCESS IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT. THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT AS THE BALL IS BACK IN THE LANDLORD'S COURT. WE ARE AWAITING THEIR RESPONSE WHICH HAS BEEN AGONIZINGLY SLOW.



PLEASE PRAY SO WE CAN QUICKLY GET THIS FOR SALE SIGN IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH TAKEN DOWN!



Missionary Scott Crabtree

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