Smith Center Evangelical Free Church

Building Proposal

The Need:

We are in a time of sustained growth and have identified significant needs for more space with several of our main ministries.

1) The Sunday worship service has grown and requires the use of the fellowship hall most weeks.
2) Church potlucks in the fellowship hall are often out of space.
3) Awana attendance reaches 90-110 children each Wednesday and there is need for more classrooms and a better game time space.

The Proposal:

We have looked into building a 60 foot by 80 foot steel building to the west of the current church bathrooms and kitchen. This would be attached by a breezeway where the current church bathrooms are. It would give room for a 60 foot by 60 foot open space on the west end. This would be used for Awana games and could also be used for overflow at potlucks. The east end could house new larger bathrooms that would take the place of our current bathrooms.

We think this would meet our needs by providing a good space for Awana game time. This would allow more flexibility in the fellowship hall by not having to clear it out each week for game time. It would also provide a very large additional classroom for Awana in the fellowship hall. Additionally, chairs could potentially be left set up for worship. As previously noted, the new building would give additional fellowship space.

The projected cost would be as follows:

1) The steel building - $162,000.
2) Dirt work - $76,000.
3) Replacing the septic system (30 years old) - $15,000.
4) New bathrooms - $40,000.

5) Electrical work and HVAC system - $30,000.

Total projected cost - $323,000.

Next steps:

The church membership voted at our last business meeting to hold a special meeting in November (scheduled for the 15th right after church) to vote on whether to proceed or not. The church does not borrow money and we could do the project in stages as money is received - one stage would be the septic system, the dirt work the next stage, and then the building would be the final stage.

There are many details to work out if we proceed and we have heard many good ideas from the membership at the meeting.

We would ask you to be in careful prayer about this. Please be talking with each other. We desire to follow God's will in this. We also know that finances and building projects can be a good source of division in the church. We would rather be short on space and of one heart and mind than divided in a large building!

For the board,

Justin Overmiller