

## New Hope Family Church: Offer on Catholic Church... Letter of Intent...

Jim Boothby  
February 6, 2020

### \*\*\*LETTER OF INTENT \*\*\* OFFER BEING MADE ON FORMER CATHOLIC CHURCH (non-binding)

Dear New Hope Family,

As everyone knows, we've had an ongoing "building challenge" in suburban Maryland for years. Squeezed by escalating rent and unsustainable lease, the decision by council, pastor and leaders was made last year to buy a NH church home soon.

**Current Situation and Non-Binding offer:** Our multi-component team has been working hard and co-operating on this with the input of Rev Patton and Dr. Kim....both of whom signed off on this proposed buy. On Monday night with - a quorum of the entire team: Church Council, Building Search team, Young Adult Rep, and the Pastor ....we took a step. We passed, on an 8 to 2 vote, a decision to tender a (non-binding) Letter of Intent (LOI) to make an offer on this former Catholic Church.

**After 60 days;** if they accept the offer, during the so-called Feasibility Study period, we have 60 days, for any reason, to walk away. Only after that are we actually committed.

**\*\*\* 100 Scott Ave, Glen Burnie-Pasadena, 6.1 acres, 400 person chapel, social hall, residential house, assorted features**

**LINK 68 PICTURES - [www.coldwellbankerhomes.com/md/glen-burnie/100-scott-ave/pid\\_29938302/](http://www.coldwellbankerhomes.com/md/glen-burnie/100-scott-ave/pid_29938302/)**

**Background, your efforts:** This comes on the foundation of a lot of work, hundreds of man-hours of deliberations, 21-day group prayer, multiple visits (close to 50 members have been there) and strong young adult support. Moreover, Rev Patton spent a couple of hours there, gave a solid endorsement, saying: "Yes, buy it ". We've had multiple meetings - during church, after church, weeknights, multiple emails, last week a survey and more.

On the strength of all that, with financial analysis and more input, Dr. Kim said "OK. buy it if you wish". We asked Dr. Kim for help with the down-payment (an ask he had earlier said he did *NOT* want to entertain) ...and then, *he did, in fact, come forth this week with some financial help.* Even I, as an initial skeptic about this opportunity, was moved gradually as the "stars continued to seem to line up"...seeming to signal God's favor. **Surprised by 82%:** The survey in the church showed 82% support to move towards a buy. Some 90% said waiting more time, another year or more would be not advisable. A meaningful 70-80% said the bit longer drive to an especially nice site. such as this was, OK.

**Anything is a compromise:** No building will meet all needs adequately. It will be in many ways...what we make of it. This spot is a bit below-market valuation and with developable land (up to 10 houses ) and if, surprise, in a few years we decided it's not for us, we could certainly sell it and find an even more appropriate spot. And possibly make meaningful money in the process.

**All Views considered, honored, welcome:** Moreover, sincere and heartfelt apologies to those who might disagree or would see differently. We respect that differences exist. And we embrace them. Sincerely. We are determined to honor and aggressively respect Everyone's views. I am especially anxious to reach out to all. And,btw, we still have plenty of time to back out if something better comes along within 60 days.

**Together and Unity: We need to stick together.** Even beyond realities of healthy differences about the building. It will take a unified effort to make this work.

**Some Reasons:** You've heard before - Few factors that informed us here - large 400 person chapel, large social hall, overwhelming Young adult support, affordability, great condition, big house, buildable land, the public school with playground and sports field

across the street, commercial kitchen, and income-producing potential from various rentals. Still, we know it's not "perfect".

**Drive and Location seem workable, if not preferred:** On average for Sunday morning, for the average member (not everyone, some will be further, without a doubt ) the added drive is about 10+ minutes more than current drive times. Very doable. Remember many churches, especially so-called, niche-specialty congregations (like FFED) have sustained drive distances. Several experienced bishops have said people driving little longer to a "truly great congregation", or "the right congregational experience " is not a problem.

Please continue to offer strong prayer towards this effort and God's direct graceful guidance.. May God Bless you and New Hope Family Church.

**In True Parent's Love,**

***Jim Boothby, Pastor***



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