

Shepherd of the Hills

Season of Study and Discernment

The signing of the contract by the session of SHPC for the purchase of 69 acres for \$750,000 ushers in a season of Study and Discernment for our congregation.

Study

By signing the land contract, we have effectively removed the land from the market so that we can engage in a study to determine whether we can effectively use the site in the future. It also gives us time to secure short term and medium term financing on the property.

1. **Site Development Approval**---The first step is to get a site development approval to assure us that a facility can be built that will be sufficient to meet our present needs and flexibility for our future needs.
2. **Road Work**---The second step is to work with TX DOT on future road expansion plans to make the location safe and accessible.
3. **Adequate Funding**---The third step is to attain adequate funding, both short term and medium term for the purchase of the property.
4. **Closing**---The final step is to close on the property in a maximum of 210 days, should the way be clear.

Discernment

The signing of the contract also represents a time of serious discernment for our church. Together we want to search our hearts to determine whether God is really calling us to make this bold step of faith.

1. **Prayer** --We are calling on all the members of our church to commit to praying for our Church and its direction.
2. **Congregational Discernment Gathering**---We are going to have a congregational discernment meeting on **Wednesday evening, September 7th**. At this gathering you can ask questions about the property and our future together.
3. **Congregational Meeting**---We are going to have a congregational meeting to vote on moving ahead on the property and upon the short term financing necessary to finalize the contract.
4. **Capital Campaign**---This fall, in addition to our annual stewardship season, we will all be challenged to give to God's work at SHPC through a our Reach Up and Reach Out campaign.