

Ministering to the native people and to the Romanian immigrants, with services in English and Romanian.

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Majjor Update for Our Ministry

We have some big news from Gent Baptist Church! God has really blessed us, and our church has moved into a new building. We have not purchased this building, but have had to move to a new rental property. I want to be transparent about that, and why we made this move; especially since many of you have labored with us in prayer over a new building or have even given toward purchasing a building. The money that is given toward purchasing a building is still designated to that cause, and we are still diligently searching for a more permanent home for our church. As much as this move is an answer to prayer and a cause for celebration, we greatly request your continued prayers for finding a building to purchase. Currently we have only signed a three year contract on this new property, this building is not our destination, but a necessary stop on the journey.

The cause for us having to move is really simple, our church had outgrown our previous building over a year and a half ago, before coronavirus had even hit. Since then, like most churches, we had a period where we had to regain stability after the initial lockdown. However God has blessed our church and for some time we have been growing and seeing the Lord do a great work here in Belgium. That is to say that our building was too small before we were required to meet social distancing restrictions. We tried to adjust to these restrictions, by renting the conference room of a local hotel, for our Sunday morning services. That hotel has now been closed since before Christmas; and after scouring the city, multiple times, a suitable replacement couldn't be found. This put us in a hard place, as we have maxed out our capacity, and have been having to hold three different "Sunday Morning" services to allow everyone to be able to be in church on Sundays. Also not having a large enough building of our own, meant not having a reliable or consistent place for the church to meet.

In addition to this, coronavirus has devasted the real estate market here, and also caused most banks to forego loaning money. I went from viewing a suitable building, once a week, to having only found one suitable building in the past five months. So at the beginning of the year, I felt impressed by the Lord to pray about the potential of looking at rental properties; something I had set my heart that we wouldn't do. God however humbled me on this cause, and then brought this exciting property to us. A property that will allow us to almost double the seating of our previous building. It will add to our church several needed facilities such as: a nursery, fellowship hall, entrance hall, office, kitchen, and a much larger children's church. The location is incredible, right on the main road of the community, and one of the biggest roads for the whole city. There are tram and bus stops directly in front of the building, and large bicycle paths all the way from the center. There are three free parking lots, one on each side of the building, and the entrance/exit to the highway is in front of the building as well.

We had our first service there April 11th, and it was overwhelming, how blessed we were by it. I cannot express how excited everyone was, to actually have a church building. Please be sure to look forward to more exciting news, as we go forward in this new location, and let me give my sincerest apology, as this letter was intended to reach you a month ago. Now that you are aware of the big news, I hope you understand that for the past month I have worked at least twelve hours a day, seven days a week, between renovating this new property, with the help of our church people, and doing my regular work as a pastor here. Look for pictures of the renovation process, of the completed building, and of our first services in this new building, on the next page.

Thank you for all of your faithful prayers for us, you are a much needed part of the ministry, and will never know how much of a blessing you are to us, at least not on this side of eternity.

With Sincere Gratitude, Bro. Junior Haley

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?

Psalm 116:12

