

Academic Center Update Winter 2010

The Academic Center (AC) is well into its first full year of usage. About a year ago, ILC was able to move into the first phase as the classrooms section of the AC opened for students and teaching staff. This past summer after the second phase was completed, the contents and work spaces of the previous administration building,



Northwest Hall, moved into the AC. Also the school library, computer labs and other school resources found their new home within the new building. In August, at the beginning of this school year, the completed AC was dedicated to the use of God's kingdom work.

When faced with anything new, we accept and adjust gradually. Soon that newness becomes everyday and

normal; it does not take long for change to become routine. While the AC is a welcome addition, it will soon become recognized and associated with ILC as much as the tall green pines have been. Maybe in the minds of those there on a daily basis, the Academic Center already has become a commonplace part of their school day.



Yet do not think that anyone has taken this vital gift for granted. Recently, the faculty and staff were asked for their reflections (impressions) of the new building. The wide range of comments that were received from professors and staff indicate that many aspects are appreciated in this new structure.



Almost every comment addressed the comfort level of the building. There are now evenly heated areas. No longer do breezes find their way through leaky windows and distract people working within the room. Consistent indoor temperatures

and lighting also enhance the appreciation of this new building. With the extremes of Wisconsin summers and winters, several responders acknowledged that building climate control as a primary improvement.

Others mentioned that work is more efficient for both students and teachers. Technology is available in every classroom as well as a new phone system that can reach others on campus quickly. The larger rooms allow for a greater variety of



classroom configuration, enable instructors to walk among students and provide a less claustrophobic atmosphere. All high school classes, except physical education, are under one roof now which makes changing classes less frenetic. The AC also assists teachers in preparation for teaching because less time is needed to move equipment and teaching materials. Instead of moving books, computers, projectors and other items between buildings in all kinds of weather, now all resources



are within 100 feet of each other.

The science laboratory offers the space to more safely and effectively conduct laboratory activities. The library is now in close proximity to the classrooms which has increased student use of library resources.



The administration area and the overall look of the school

have improved. The AC is much more inviting and functional than Northwest Hall. Visitors and guests have a better impression after coming to ILC. The whole environment of the school has a different feel. Everything is clean, spacious, attractive and functional. It no longer feels like we're doing our best just to 'make do.'

Several comments acknowledged the past changing to the present and future. We are thankful to the Lord for providing the buildings of the past. The recently razed



buildings, Cottage, Reim Hall, and Northwest Hall served us well for many decades and were a blessing. We are additionally thankful to the Lord for providing this new building to replace those older, less efficient ones. Through the people of the CLC, the Lord has given the students and staff of ILC a new facility in which to prepare young people for the work in the kingdom as teachers, pastors, missionaries and laymembers.



One responder added that the AC still "has that new car smell." This

tongue-in-cheek remark helps remind us that any purchase or investment in life comes with a price tag. For those of us not at ILC very often, it might be tempting to forget this and move onto other priorities. But a new car comes with payments and maintenance-obligations to fulfill. So does the Academic Center. Another comment expresses this same idea a different way:



My prayer is that everyone realizes that with the completion of construction and occupation of the building, **the job of paying for this building now becomes a main focus of the membership of the CLC.** It would be easy to say, 'Thank you Lord for providing this building,' and not follow through by paying for it. This 'Year of Jubilee in the Lord' during our 50th Anniversary celebration would be a great time to work toward truly completing the Academic Building Project by working at paying it off.