

# JANUARY 2008

## CHARESTCORP NEWSLETTER

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### Seeing the Vision

#### Simple Ways to Communicate Vision to Your Church

By Gary Molander, Floodgate Productions

Many churches are discovering that people need a regular dose of vision-reminder medication on an ongoing basis. In a perfect church, every congregation member should be able to spout the vision at any point in their week. But we're not in perfect churches, so it's vital to constantly keep your unique vision in front of your unique people. In my opinion, there is no greater calling for a leader of any organization.



Have you considered using media and video as a means of doing that? At our church, we've done two very simple things in the month of January...



-First, we obtain a cheap video camera, and ask people the following question as they walk into the church: "What gets you most excited about our church?" We ask 8-10 people this question, then show it during that worship service, immediately. No editing. No musical underscore. This provides a great launching point for a sermon on vision.

-Second, we've used videos like "Who Are We?" ([www.floodgateproductions.com](http://www.floodgateproductions.com)) and "Me Church" ([www.ignitermedia.com](http://www.ignitermedia.com)). Both of these videos are downloadable for a minimal fee. Play either of them just before the message, and people will be ready to have a vision discussion.

Make no mistake about it - January is a perfect month for communicating the unique mission to which God has called you. Don't let this January slip by without doing this, and don't be afraid to add some "out-of-the-box" media!

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[www.floodgateproductions.com](http://www.floodgateproductions.com)

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# The Church as a Developer, Part 1

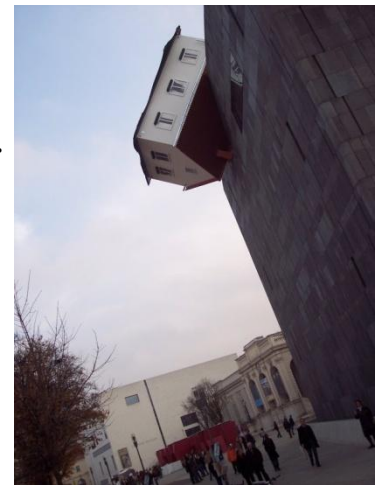
## Potential for Disaster

By Rene M. Charest, CEO CharestCorp

Many churches make the fatal error of thinking that the process of building new facilities is simply a construction project that can be handled with a simple permit and general contractor. **What they don't see coming is, as Paul Harvey would say, "The rest of the story"!**

In recent years the pressure to create an ever growing tax revenue base for money starved cities and counties has put Church buildings at the bottom of the planned general growth for most City planners. It has become an arduous process to design, permit, and finally construct a new church facility. The incredibly difficult city and County approval process is designed for the educated developer who has the resources and training to overcome the abundant and not so user friendly development requirements.

Listed below are **three** areas that a developer would normally handle for a new project that a Church must now understand and address.



### **SITE RESTRICTIONS and CIVIL ENGINEERING**

The Civil Engineer is a vital part of preparing the site plans not only for the grading and parking requirements, but also for the Air Quality and pollution control plans which will show how you intend to control site water and soil from contaminating the storm drains and streets. You will also need to provide a system that controls dust during construction. You can be fined hundreds of thousands of dollars for improperly working on your own site and for how you negatively affect those around you.

The Civil plans must be coordinated with all the architectural plans for handicap and egress issues as well as building set backs and fire and safety access areas. A poorly designed site can lead to tens of thousands of dollars fixing parking, drainage, and traffic flow problems.

## Faith, Hope, and Latte



A Third Place experience is more than brewing coffee, sitting on couches, and building countertops.

When people feel comfortable, they stay

When people stay, they connect

When people connect, they establish relationship

Relationship cultivates influence

Influence changes lives

Create an environment that is comfortable, connecting and cultivates life-change.

## The Coffee You Save May Be Your Own

Sipping the

Reindeer Blend from some roaster that sent me coffee this week, I find myself thinking of all the coffee gifts that will be given out this year. I want to take our few minutes together to see if we can save the life of a few innocent beans:



Tip 1: Get those beans out of the freezer and refrigerator. I don't care what Folgers or your grandmother told you - they're wrong. You are killing them. That is coffee euthanasia. Don't buy more than you will use in a month. Put them in a container that is air tight, at room temperature, and away from the sun.

Tip 2: Use 2 table spoons for every 8oz of water. Add hot water to coffee brewed at full strength if you want it 'weaker'. . . . . don't try to stretch

coffee by putting two scoops in for a whole pot like my mom used to do before I converted her and helped fulfill the purpose of her beans.





Tip 3: Throw away all of those glass carafes. (Okay, due to the focus on being *Green*, go recycle them.) Use coffee makers with soft heat; either a stainless steel carafe or one that holds the coffee inside.

Tip 4: Heat your porcelain cups up before you pour hot coffee into them.

Michael Trent

Church Bartender

[www.thirdplaceconsulting.com](http://www.thirdplaceconsulting.com)