

Faithful to Fulfill

See that you fulfill the ministry that
you have received in the Lord.

Colossians 4:7

THE MET BIBLE CHURCH

31 Auriga Drive

Congregational Information Package

MAY 2025



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FROM THE BOARD

May 20, 2025

Dear Members of The Met,

We are delighted and privileged to share with you all about an exciting and prayerful proposal regarding the future of ministry at The Met.

Over the past 3–4 years, we have witnessed remarkable growth across our Sunday services, children's ministries, and midweek programs. With the addition of a third service last fall and increasing engagement throughout the week, it has become clear that God is entrusting us with more opportunities for gospel ministry. With that comes a need for faithful planning for the future, even as we continue to try to address the needs of the present.

After a year-long Needs Analysis process and a season of careful consideration by the Board, we believe God is giving us a timely and strategic opportunity to prepare for future growth. We are pleased to share that a 2.9-acre property with over 29,000 sq ft built-up area (31 Auriga Drive, located right next door) has come up for private sale (*making this information confidential just yet*). We believe this property could significantly enhance our ability to carry out the ministry God has entrusted to us.

Purchasing this property would allow us to address two of our greatest current challenges: parking and ministry space. It could unlock up to 200 additional parking spots and provide flexible, multi-purpose space for adult learning, discipleship gatherings, and midweek ministries – all of which currently face space constraints. It would also allow us to revisit the Phase 3 expansion originally envisioned when we built at 2176 Prince of Wales Drive, something not possible without resolving our parking limitations. In addition, we would be able to reconfigure our current fellowship spaces by relocating offices to the new building, thereby creating more secure and spacious areas for our growing children's ministry.

There is much to share and consider before moving forward. We invite you to a **Special Members' Meeting** on **Sunday, June 1 at 4:00 PM** at the church, where we will present the proposal, provide additional details, and invite your prayerful engagement as we discern together what it means to be *faithful to fulfill* the ministry entrusted to us. We enclose a summary of the Needs Analysis Committee's (NAC) findings, some information about the property, and some FAQs that might be helpful as you pray and prepare for the meeting.

We are deeply encouraged by what God is doing in and through our church family. We look forward to seeking His will together, and moving forward with unity and commitment.

In Christ,
Board of Elders
Metropolitan Bible Church

P.S.: Given the sensitive nature of the information in this letter (i.e. private sale of 31 Auriga Dr), we kindly ask that you maintain confidentiality and not share this information outside of The Met.

NEEDS ANALYSIS REPORT SUMMARY

Faithful to Fulfill: Preparing The Met for What's Ahead

A Season of Blessing and Responsibility

Over the past few years, The Met has entered a remarkable season of gospel growth. Sunday attendance has increased over 35% since 2022, with continued year-over-year increases across Sunday services, children's programs, and mid-week ministries. This growth reflects both God's blessing and a deepening hunger for Gospel truth in our city.

But with growth comes new responsibility. Our sanctuary, children's ministry spaces, and parking lots are all under pressure. Without a long-term solution, we risk capping our capacity to welcome, disciple, and equip those God is bringing.

In response, the **Needs Analysis Committee (NAC)** conducted a thorough process of research, consultation, and prayer throughout 2024, engaging over 500 congregants, staff, peer churches, and regional growth data. Their goal: to discern the best way forward in light of The Met's mission and growing influence in Canada.

Core Facility Challenges

The NAC identified three major capacity constraints:

- **Sanctuary Seating:** Our 10:30am service regularly exceeds 80% capacity. The structure of the sanctuary and post-COVID spacing preferences make full utilization difficult, creating a "capacity ceiling effect" that limits further growth.
- **Children's Ministry:** Classrooms—especially for nursery and elementary ages—are reaching capacity during peak services. As attendance grows, additional space and enhanced infrastructure is needed to support a safe and welcoming experience for families.
- **Parking:** Our current lot is nearly at full capacity and seasonal conditions (e.g., winter snow) reduce usable space.

While adding a third Sunday service has provided short-term relief, it is not a sustainable long-term solution. Attendance patterns show that most congregants prefer the 10:30 a.m. service, which continues to reach capacity, while uptake for the 12:30 p.m. service remains limited. Additionally, a three-service model places increasing strain on staff, volunteers, and facility operations, making it an effective temporary measure—but not a viable path for sustained growth.

The Recommendation: Expand Our Current Campus

After evaluating four potential options, the committee **unanimously recommends a strategic expansion of our existing campus**. This approach not only resolves our most urgent capacity issues but also aligns best with our mission, financial stewardship, and long-term vision.

A Providential Opportunity: 31 Auriga Drive

A key factor in this recommendation is the unexpected and **strategic availability of 31 Auriga Drive**, the property directly adjacent to The Met. This opportunity—available now but not guaranteed in the future—provides:

- Essential land for parking expansion (approx. 200+ new spots)
- Space to relocate offices, freeing up room in the main building for ministry growth
- Future flexibility for additional space needs, without relocating or building off-site

Combined with a renovation and expansion of 2176 Prince of Wales (Phase 3)—including an enlarged sanctuary, expanded children’s ministry areas, and improved flow—this plan strengthens the church’s foundation for decades to come.

Why This Was the Right Choice

The NAC carefully considered four possible paths:

1. Do nothing
2. Plant new churches or pursue a multi-site model
3. Move to a new campus elsewhere
4. Expand the current campus (recommended)

After prayerful review, Option 4 was clearly preferred because it:

- Addresses the three most urgent constraints (sanctuary, children’s ministry, parking)
- Builds on our existing infrastructure and location—without disrupting ministries
- Provides long-term flexibility without committing to relocation or costly alternatives
- Protects and preserves our unique ministry footprint in Ottawa
- Reflects wise financial stewardship, with a more manageable cost
- Takes advantage of a rare and time-sensitive property opportunity

Other options either failed to resolve all major issues, required duplicating resources and staff, or created long-term complexity beyond current needs.

Why This Fits Our Mission

This expansion is not about growth for its own sake—it is about staying faithful to what God is doing among us. The Met exists to engage people with the gospel, establish believers in the gospel, and equip servants of the gospel. This recommendation ensures we can:

- Preach God’s Word clearly to a growing audience
- Welcome and disciple more children and families
- Train and send the next generation of gospel leaders
- Create space for deep community, meaningful service, and effective outreach

It also positions The Met to remain a stable, gospel-anchored church in a city—and country—facing cultural confusion, spiritual hunger, and a leadership pipeline crisis.

In Closing

This is a defining moment for The Met—our “third transition” in nearly 100 years. Just as our founders stepped out in faith to plant and expand before us, we are now called to do the same.

We believe this recommendation reflects God’s provision, the right timing, and a wise path forward. With prayerful unity, strategic investment, and gospel conviction, we can make room for those He is calling—and remain faithful to fulfill the ministry we have received in the Lord (Colossians 4:7).

31 AURIGA DRIVE – BASIC INFORMATION



2.9 ACRE | 29,338 SQ. FT. | 2-STOREY OFFICE BUILDING

111 PARKING SPACES (WITH SPACE TO EXPAND)

BUILT IN 2002 | EXCELLENT CONDITION | ORIGINAL ROOF & HVAC

\$6.6 MILLION PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. Why are we purchasing a new property?

In recent years, our ministries at the Met have grown steadily, including Sunday attendance, children's ministries, and mid-week ministries. With this growth, we believe God is calling us to make room for the people He's sending our way and to increase our ministry impact in Canada. However, our current property has space limitations – particularly in parking and children's ministry areas. Purchasing the adjacent property, 31 Auriga, will help us address these constraints and better fulfill the ministry God has entrusted to us.

2. What's the long-term vision for this expansion?

While 31 Auriga will address our immediate needs – like parking and children's ministry space – our vision is to build capacity for the future. We envision it will serve as a place for ministry and administrative work and a hub for fellowship and discipleship. The additional space will also allow us to expand our current facility by relocating church staff offices to 31 Auriga.

3. Were other options considered like maintaining three services, church planting or building a new campus?

Yes. We prayerfully explored options like maintaining (a) three services, (b) church planting and (c) building a new campus from scratch.

- a) While three services have offered us short-term relief, it was not sustainable long-term as it placed strain on staff, volunteers, and families.
- b) We continue to consider church planting as important and biblical. But after prayerful reflection, we recognize that in this season, The Met is uniquely positioned not to multiply through planting just yet, but to strengthen and support the wider church in Canada. This property helps us do that faithfully and sustainably.
- c) As for a new campus build, projected costs exceeding \$60 million made that route financially unwise.

Considering these realities, expanding where we are now – through the purchase of 31 Auriga – became the most responsible and mission-aligned path forward.

4. What will the new property be used for?

At first, the property will provide much-needed parking, house our church staff offices, and offer space for mid-week ministries. With ~29,000 sq. ft. of flexible, multi-use space, 31 Auriga can support a wide range of ministry activities. Over time, we envision it also becoming a hub for biblical training and development and a welcoming space for fellowship, ministry events, and hospitality.

5. If purchased, when can we start using the building?

We could start using the building as early as December 2025, but that depends on meeting the conditions in our agreement with the seller, like inspections and due diligence.

6. How does this affect our current building?

By relocating staff offices, this will free up a significant portion of our current facility. With this freed-up space, in phases, we hope to expand the sanctuary, expand and create closed-off children's ministry zones, and add a larger foyer – not just to reduce congestion, but to foster a more welcoming and accessible environment for connection and community as our church family continues to grow.

7. How much will this property cost?

The purchase price for the property is \$6.6 million, excluding taxes, legal fees, or other associated costs.

8. How will this purchase be funded?

We are taking a phased and prayerful approach. This includes reallocating existing funds, exploring financing if necessary, and inviting the church family to give sacrificially. More information on giving opportunities will be shared soon.

9. How can I stay updated?

We'll be sharing regular updates through Sunday announcements, email communications, and our website. Stay connected by subscribing to church emails and checking for updates as we move forward.

10. How can I be involved?

You can be involved by praying for wisdom, unity, and God's provision as we take this church-wide step of faith. You can also begin prayerfully considering how you might give generously toward this opportunity to expand our ministry impact and serve more people with the Gospel.