

Grace Family,

The Deacons would like to inform you that our parking lot reconstruction project has encountered a significant problem. Despite diligence in testing the soil beforehand, once the existing asphalt was removed on Monday, the ground beneath the parking lot surface failed a critical proof roll test (personally witnessed by Dan Holdridge and Dan Luedke) and was deemed unstable. Unfortunately, this left the Deacons with only a few difficult options:

1. Proceed with paving: leading to a dysfunctional, non-warranted finished product.
2. Delay the project: even very dry weather offers no guarantee that the clay subsurface will stabilize on its own, and delaying the contractor could set the project back months.
3. Excavate the unstable soil and refill: estimated cost \$175,000+
4. Implement a professional soil stabilization process: quoted cost of \$76,400.

To keep the project from extended delays and cost increases, the Deacons voted unanimously to proceed immediately with option 4: soil stabilization. This will result in a fully warranted parking lot with only a one-week delay from the original anticipated completion date.

The additional expense will be paid from Grace's **10-year Capital Improvement Fund**, which is money set aside for major ongoing expenses. God has provided richly for our church, and the money available in the fund will completely cover this unexpected expense, but the reduced fund balance could affect the timeline of longer-term future projects. Still, we know that God supplies every need according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19). We trust in His faithfulness and provision.

The parking lot will remain closed this Sunday, August 23. Our worship service will proceed as scheduled, and all are encouraged to park on the streets surrounding Grace. As a reminder for any who are unable to walk the extended distance, the service will be broadcast through livestream on www.gracechurchfdl.org.

Sincerely,

The Deacons of Grace EFC