



For Immediate Release

### **Groundbreaking Ceremony Set for Life Community Church and Memorial Chapel**

Ada, Okla., June 4, 2012 – On Monday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m., the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Life Community Church and Memorial Chapel will be held at the corner of Pre-Paid Way and Stonecipher Blvd. in Ada.

The new Life Community Church (LCC), replacing the existing facility located at 330 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Ada, will be a modern 24,000 square-foot church and 1,400 square-foot memorial chapel that occupies a 10-acre site formerly owned in three parcels by the Pre-Paid Legal Services, the Kerr Foundation and the Chickasaw Nation. Construction on the church and chapel is expected to begin during the summer and be completed by November of 2014.

The groundbreaking will feature presentations by LCC Pastor Mickey Keith; Harland Stonecipher, founder and former CEO of Pre-Paid Legal Services; and other dignitaries, as well as recognition of attending state and local elected officials.

According to Pastor Mickey Keith, Harland and Shirley Stoneciphers – who are members of the LCC congregation -- contributed an estimated 3.5 million for the construction of the new church and a memorial chapel, which is specifically designed to aid bereaved parents who have lost children. The Stoneciphers specific interest in the memorial chapel results from the loss of their son Brent, daughter-in-law Tina and grand-daughter Nikki in plane crash on June 24, 2005.

“Ever since their deaths, Shirley and I have struggled to find a way to deal with this tragedy,” Stonecipher said. “And while it seems time would heal the wounds, in fact, as more time passes, the pain increases. As you get farther away from those loved ones, there comes a fear that they will be forgotten,” he said.

As he searched for a way to “fix the unfixable,” Stonecipher realized, “The only way you can relieve your pain is by helping others who are in pain.” Then two years ago, he contacted Pastor Keith to offer assistance in building a new Life Community Church, which would also include a memorial chapel to help others who had also lost children.

“That started the process and we’ve been moving forward ever since,” Pastor Keith said. “In my experience, this combination of a special memorial chapel (a healing place) and a church (a life giving place) is unique. I have visited places like ‘Precious Moments’ Park and Chapel (in Carthage, Missouri), but there is nothing quite like what we envision here,” Pastor Keith said.

The architect for the project is Sprague & Associates of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a firm that has specialized in the design and construction of church and religious facilities for more than 15 years. In describing the modern design of Life Community Church, building designer Hugh Sprague has said he envisioned the spires of the church as a crown sitting atop the hill and at the high point in Pontotoc County.

There are plans for a glass breeze way connecting the church to the memorial chapel and onsite gardens and water features. The church itself will seat approximately 650 people on two levels with easy access from floor to balcony. There will also be an advanced onsite production center to provide for broadcast capabilities from the church.

The memorial chapel will be staffed by an administrator and will be accessible whether the church is open or not. The interactive facility is designed to integrate technological functions with a warm and inviting environment that allows visitors to share and store their experience and recollections of loved ones.

On behalf of the church, Stonecipher has also agreed to utilize his 40 years of entrepreneurial leadership in developing and conducting his own Biblically based development program entitled, “Blueprint for Success.”

“People can manifest the life they choose if they will follow the blueprint for success. I believe that blueprint can be found in scripture and this is a ‘teaching’ I want to explore in my affiliation with Life Community Church,” Stonecipher said.

### **About Life Community Church**

Life Community Church of Ada, Oklahoma was founded by Pastor Mickey and Glenda Keith in February 2006. The Keiths have been active in full-time church ministry since 1980. The Life Community Church vision is to bring people to Jesus and membership in his family, while helping them develop a Christ-like maturity in the ministry and service to others.

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