



**By Carolyn Lee**

***The Imperial Republican***

Partly in celebration of the completion of an addition to the church and partly to show the movie "Fireproof," the Crossroads Wesleyan Church is hosting an open house Saturday from 7-9 p.m. and beyond. The public is welcome to attend.

There will be kids' water games, a slip-n-slide and a bounce house on the football field, as well as games for adults inside the church, at 1710 Wesley Drive.

A silent auction, featuring wood crafts, quilts and other items made by church members, will be held from 7-8:45 p.m., with the winners announced at 9 p.m. The money from the auction will go toward building costs, according to Pastor Todd Burpo.

The movie "Fireproof" will be shown in the church parking lot about 9 p.m. Pastor Burpo said it will be set up like a drive-in movie, and those in vehicles may tune their radios in to hear the movie. A seating section will also be provided.

Popcorn and root beer floats will be served during the movie.

In case of bad weather, events will be held in the big room in the new addition.

The church began its construction project by moving dirt in February, 2008. The addition is "pretty much done," Pastor Burpo said, and remodeling in the existing church was also completed.

The addition added over 12,000 square feet to the church, and includes a great room, kitchen, bathrooms, a youth room, Sunday School classrooms and an office. It is available for public events, Pastor Burpo noted.

An atrium acts as a new entrance to the church and connects the old with the new. The addition is handicapped accessible.

Pastor Burpo said a loan was taken out to construct the addition, at a cost of just over \$800,000. He said the church has paid off over half of that so far.

Originally, the congregation was contemplating an unconnected, 60x100 square foot building. As plans grew, so did the size, which is now 60x150 square feet. Part of the addition is a two-story building.

"I think the facility is something everyone can use," Pastor Burpo said. "Good stewardship is something you share."