



Lotterywest program manager Jo Wilkie, South Perth MLA John McGrath and South Perth Church of Christ operations manager Graham Faulkner, with members of the church in the background. Picture: Bruce Hunt

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Church expands

SOUTH Perth Church of Christ's plans to expand will become a reality in coming months after receiving \$500,000 from Lotterywest.

Members of the church accepted the \$500,000 cheque from Lotterywest representatives last week. It will allow them to begin construction on a community hall.

Church operations manager Graham Faulkner said the church had been planning to expand its facilities for four years.

It had not been able to secure funding until now.

"We applied for the grant because we needed more space for the groups using the church and we didn't have a suitable area for youth to kick a ball around without doing a lot of damage," he said.

"Lotterywest was originally going to pitch in half of the \$620,000 price tag, but after surveying our members about how they would use the hall, they came back with a \$500,000 contribution."

Mr Faulkner said the new hall would be about half the size of a basketball court.

It would provide more opportunities for groups who could not access facilities.

"Community groups currently use the church almost every day of the week and we hope to run more groups from the new building, such as after-school care, gym groups and mothers' groups," he said.

Mr Faulkner said he hoped it would be available for use from the beginning of August.

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APRIL 10 - 16, 2007

Southern Gazette

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