

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. WHAT IS A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

A capital campaign is a way for congregations to raise funds for accomplishing large projects that cost more money than a congregation could generate through increases in annual giving. During a capital campaign, members are asked to consider making an additional commitment, over and above their regular giving to the congregation, in order to fund the projects. The giving period for a capital campaign is typically three years.

2. WHAT ARE WE PLANNING TO ACCOMPLISH THROUGH THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

We are planning to make our building more welcoming and accessible by creating an education and fellowship center in the space beneath the nave, and building a new addition with an accessible entrance and elevator servicing all levels of the original church building. We are also planning to finish repointing the stone masonry and repair the altar window.

3. WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR FINANCING THE TOTAL COST OF THE RENOVATION PROJECT?

The total cost of the project is estimated at just a little under \$1.48 Million. We plan to raise \$800,000 through the capital campaign, \$50,000 from friends in the larger community, and to finance the remaining renovation costs through a mortgage.

4. HOW DOES MY RESPONSE TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AFFECT MY ANNUAL GIVING TO THE CHURCH?

Your giving to this campaign is a totally new commitment, and is over and above your annual giving to the church. All the money received through this three-year campaign will be directly applied to the renovation project. We trust that you will continue to support the current ministries and outreach of our congregation by undiminished, ongoing giving through your offerings.

5. WHEN WILL I MAKE MY COMMITMENT?

If you are interested in helping to build momentum for the campaign, there will be an opportunity to hand in your confidential commitment form a bit early at a Leadership Giving Dinner on Saturday evening, March 18. Commitment Weekend is April 1-2, when commitment forms will be brought forward during worship services. (Your commitment form is included in this packet.) If you are not ready to make your response at that time or you cannot attend worship on that weekend, you can simply return your confidential commitment form in the envelope provided to the church office, Attention: Financial Secretary.

6. HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

This is a personal decision, but here are some guidelines for your consideration:

- ❑ Be informed by reading all the literature provided for you during this campaign.
- ❑ Study the Guide for Giving provided on your commitment form.
- ❑ Reflect on the blessings given you by a generous God and give out of joy and gratitude.
- ❑ Ask God for direction, pray and meditate, and be open to the Spirit.

7. HOW LONG WILL MY CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT CONTINUE?

Your commitment can be spread over three years and is over and above your regular giving to Grace. Your commitment form gives you options on how to configure the timing of your gift since not all people will want to give in the same way. Some people will give one up front gift while others will give so much each week, month, etc.

8. MAY I GIVE STOCKS, REAL ESTATE, INSURANCE, IRA TRANSFERS OR OTHER GIFTS IN ADDITION TO CASH GIFTING?

Absolutely! You are encouraged to think of assets in addition to cash. For many people this is the best (and smartest) way to give. Giving stocks, property or other appreciated assets as a charitable donation is beneficial to both you and the church. See the creative giving ideas page for more information on these options. If you think you would benefit from more information on this topic, call our Capital Campaign consultant, Pastor Renee LiaBraaten @ 207-751-7371.

9. WHAT IF MY FINANCIAL SITUATION CHANGES BEFORE THE END OF THE THREE-YEAR GIVING PERIOD?

If your financial circumstances change at any time during the giving phase, your commitment may be increased or decreased by notifying the financial secretary.