



Campaign Prayer

Gracious and loving God, you have invested so much in us. Your blessings are bountiful and your gifts are generous beyond our understanding.

We give thanks for your spirit of selfless giving and lift our voices in praise of your holy name. This special campaign touches our hearts because it is our investment, not only in our future but also in yours.

In this time of challenge and opportunity give us wisdom of generosity that reflects your gifts. Remind us, O God, that stewardship is a lifestyle choice based on remembering who we are and remembering our God who gave us life.

Remain steadfast in our midst and guide us. May our gifts bring joy for generations to come. Make us stewards, Lord. Make us stewards. Amen

The Prayer Team has created the bookmark that has been inserted in this newsletter. The bookmark includes both the campaign prayer and a youth prayer for reflection and meditation during the campaign.

Frequently Asked Questions from Events

We have now had three of our five campaign events. Each event has been well attended with good discussion. Remember, if you have not attended an event, there is still an opportunity on Saturday, April 5th at 9:30 a.m. in Unity Hall and Sunday, April 6th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are encouraging every church household to attend an event.

The following are FAQ's from our first three events.

How long did it take to collect the \$748,390.36 from the first two capital campaigns?

It took six years.

- 2008-2011 Campaign #1
- 2011-2014 Campaign #2 (ends May 4th 2014)

What do we receive from Church Development?

We receive campaign consulting and management for the duration of the campaign; assistance with running the annual general operating campaign for 2014, 2015 and 2016; assistance with enhancing the church's planned giving program; and three years of overseeing the follow-up of the capital campaign including quarterly onsite follow-up team meetings.

Is it realistic that the church could raise \$830,000 in the third capital campaign?

Yes. The feasibility study clearly indicates that the church wants to pay off the remaining debt in a third campaign. Our consultant says we can pay off our remaining debt if 1) the church households that are currently giving toward the debt will increase their giving and 2) if those who are not giving toward the debt will make a pledge in this campaign. It will take all 263 church households giving sacrificially for us to pay off the debt by 2017.

Is there a plan for funds to be raised in the third capital campaign for building maintenance contingency?

No. However, if we pay off our debt in 2017, the church will be in a better position to fund a maintenance contingency fund.

Will members who are currently financially supporting the debt need to double their pledge in the third campaign for the church to pay off the debt in 2017?

We are asking each household to make a sacrificial gift to this third capital campaign.

(Continued on reverse side.)



Please prayerfully consider giving three percent of your household income for each of the three years of the campaign or a one-time gift of three percent of your assets. These gifts are over and above your regular giving to the church.

How were the amounts in the gift range chart determined?

The gift range chart is a blueprint of how First Christian Church can raise \$830,000 with 263 households in a three-year capital campaign. The amounts represent a wide range of gifts that will be needed to pay off the debt.

How many new church households have joined since the first and second capital campaigns?

We have 74 new households.

What happens if we don't reach the \$830,000 goal?

We could extend the campaign for one year to May 2018 or have another three-year capital campaign.

What if every household gave \$1,000 per year over a three-year period? Isn't that a more realistic approach to paying off the debt?

Church Development's experience indicates in every capital campaign there are a wide range of gifts that are given, just as there are a wide variety of members in each church. The gift range chart offers those wide ranges so each household can consider an appropriate sacrificial gift.

Should we turn in our pledge cards before Commitment Sunday, May 4th?

Each church household is asked to spend time in prayer and discernment asking for God's guidance in how they give to the campaign, and then turn in their pledge on May 4th. The two weeks leading up to Commitment Sunday (April 20 – May 4) are vitally important as each family reflects on how they can financially support the campaign.

Are we behind in paying off the debt?

We are not behind in paying off the debt as we are currently paying \$11,000 monthly toward debt retirement. We were informed in the first capital campaign that it would take three consecutive campaigns to pay off the debt.

What happens if I am currently fulfilling a pledge from Capital Campaign #2?

Capital Campaign #2 will end on May 4th which is also the start date of the new capital campaign. We are asking every church household to fill out a new pledge card on Sunday, May 4th.

Can I fulfill my capital campaign pledge by electronic fund transfer from my bank or by credit card?

Yes. If you are interested in giving by electronic fund transfer or by credit card, you may indicate by checking the box on your commitment card. Jenny Good from the church office will follow up with you on the specifics of how you would like to fulfill your pledge.

Thank you to the Communications Team for designing the Campaign logo featured on the front page of this newsletter.

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
1880 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, Kansas 66604