

Beyond the Building

Questions and Answers

As we approach Commitment Day for ***Beyond the Building*** this Sunday, November 5, we want to make sure that we provide answers to some common questions that we have received over the course of the last few weeks. We deeply appreciate and respect the trust and prayerful consideration shown by our family throughout this campaign. If you have any questions not addressed below, please do not hesitate to call Steve Burgess at 615.476.9070. He will do his best to answer your question or find the person who can.

Thank you again for being an integral and faithful part of the Fourth Avenue family!

The Elders

Isaiah 43:19 – "See, I am doing a new thing!"

What is the purpose of the ***Beyond the Building*** campaign?

As a congregation, we desire to provide a safe and inviting place for those who call Fourth Avenue home. Our building is used extensively to serve the needs of our congregation, The Little School, and many other ministries in Franklin. We have deferred maintenance for many years and we now find our house is in serious need of repair and updating. Our goal is to address these repairs now so that future funds can be used to grow and expand our ministries as we continue to be a vital part of the downtown Franklin community.

What is our financial goal for this campaign?

\$2.9 Million, \$2.4M and \$1.8M

The \$2.9M goal provides a comprehensive solution for the needs of our building.

These improvements allow us to once again focus funds away from maintenance and towards impacting the lives of others through our missions and ministries.

We are a "young" congregation. Half of our family joined us in the last 3 years. As such, we do not yet know the giving capacity of our church. This will be a learning experience for all of us. Our desire is to let the Spirit lead and respond accordingly. The lower goal amounts reflect adjustments to the list of improvements based on lower commitment amounts. Some areas of the building will still require future attention. Our sincere hope and desire is for our family to see the need and be unified in both our view and response to the need.

How will the funds be used?

Primarily the funds raised will allow us to:

- Renovate our auditorium by updating the décor and overall sound system and acoustics
- Enlarge and remodel the welcome lobbies on both the Fourth and Fifth Avenue entrances
- Create a dedicated and safer children's check-in area
- Upgrade Little School playground
- Improve kitchen area in the fellowship room
- Replace carpet and new paint throughout the building to make it more current and inviting
- Address handicap accessibility issues
- Install fire suppression system in remodeled areas of the building
- Improve outdated bathroom facilities
- Add exterior landscaping and resurface select parking lots

When will remodeling and updates to the building begin?

At the completion of the campaign and we know the total funds committed, we will complete architectural and construction design work. This will allow us to complete the construction bid process and begin construction as soon as possible.

How will we pay for construction if our campaign commitments are fulfilled over three years?

The church is in the process of talking with banks who would provide a construction loan secured by the credit worthiness of the church and based on the overall commitment amount of the campaign.

Will there be parts of the building that cannot be used during remodeling?

There will be times that sections of the building may not be accessible. However, this will be minimized as much as possible by proper construction planning and management. Areas used by The Little School and use of the Auditorium is our primary concern. The Little School is in session September through May. Construction and remodeling in these areas would have to be planned around this date range as much as possible. Our consultants work frequently with churches and will help minimize the disruption.

What is happening with the 840 Property?

The church has been actively trying to sell the 840 property for quite some time. We have a contract on the property with earnest money that is at risk if they do not close. As with all real estate transactions, the deal is not closed until it is closed.

What will happen with the proceeds of sale of the 840 Property?

The proceeds of the sale of the 840 property will be used to pay off the current \$900,000 debt of the congregation. This debt is not just the debt from the 840 property purchase but reflects the consolidation of multiple loans. If the net proceeds of the 840 sale exceed the \$900,000, the elders will make a determination at that time if the excess will be assigned to the capital campaign or for other ministry uses.

What impact will the campaign have on our regular contribution? Will we have problems making our regular budget?

We have been very encouraged about the answer to this question as we met and talked with our giving consultant, Impact Stewardship. The average congregation has seen a 15% increase in the regular budget after a capital campaign like ***Beyond the Building***. As we each give sacrificially, we all will see and learn that God has a remarkable ability to provide as we trust Him. We find that there are many areas of life that it is freeing to simplify and get rid of the “stuff” and the “extras.” God’s economy is a different economy. It is one of provision and not scarcity!!

What if there is a major change in my life during the next three years? What if I cannot fulfill the commitment I made?

Each of us is being asked to sign a commitment card. At the bottom of the card, you will find the following statement:

This is a statement of intent which you may change as circumstances warrant.

We are not signing a legal note. We are signing a commitment based on today’s circumstances and God’s leading. We are a family. We understand that every family has emergencies and challenges.

Have the design plans been completed for this project?

The plans have not been finalized. All plans and drawings are tentative. After the campaign is complete, architects will begin work on the final plans. Staff and ministry leaders will be able to review the plans and give input as it relates to their ministries. Plans will also have to be reviewed and approved by a number of different codes departments from the city of Franklin.

Can you share specifics about children’s check-in?

We have worked with building planners to design a “nursery suite” that would open up the entire hallway on the 5th avenue side.

For children ages 2 through 4th grade, we have designed one central check-in area where current families and visitors would sign in their children for drop-off. This would streamline our drop-off and pick-up system, making our children’s area safer and more user friendly. All design ideas would be subject and contingent to city of Franklin codes and fire department codes.