



KEEP SAYING *YES*

APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

NEWSLETTER N<sup>o</sup>. 4

## Loving ALL People: Still Saying Yes

To love ALL people into relationship with Jesus Christ sounds simple when we say it, but it has always asked something deeper of us. It means noticing the person who feels out of place, staying present when things get messy, and choosing to care in ways that are personal and costly. That kind of love is not abstract. It shows up in ordinary moments, in interruptions, and in the quiet decision to treat someone with dignity when it would be easier to look away.

That was part of who our founding pastor, **Tom Shipp**, was from the very beginning. Long before there were systems or programs to support people struggling with addiction, he opened his home, answered late-night calls, and walked with people through some of their hardest days. He did not see people as problems to solve, but as people to know. Over time, that steady, relational care helped shape early support for *Alcoholics Anonymous* in Dallas and set a tone for this church that still carries forward today .

Lovers Lane UMC

*"Loving ALL People Into Relationship with Jesus Christ."*

Mission Statement

That same spirit continues to shape who we are. When something good needs to happen, this church has a way of showing up, creating spaces where people can belong and grow, even when it requires sacrifice. It is part of our DNA, formed over generations of people who chose to respond with faith rather than hesitation. **Made for More** is not a departure from that legacy. It is a continuation of it. It is how we take care of what we owe, strengthen what we have, and keep saying yes to the people God places in front of us, so that those who come after us will find the same kind of welcome we once received.

**Rev. Tom Shipp** *(middle)*  
Groundbreaking at  
9200 Inwood Rd.  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1970



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# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT OUR COMMITMENTS

**Q:** How much money are we trying to raise with this campaign?

**A:** We are asking for commitments to help reach our three-year Capital Campaign goal of \$8.5 million.

**Q:** How do I decide how much to give?

**A:** We ask that you engage **Made for More** prayerfully and intentionally. We invite you to pray about what God may be calling you to do. Please understand that your gift, whether large or small or given once or spread out over time, matters deeply and will continue to the shared future we are building together.

**Q:** How is giving to the campaign different from my regular giving to the church?

**A:** This is a unique opportunity to give above and beyond what you have been giving to support the ongoing budget and ministries of the church. This is an invitation to all of us to sacrificially give for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God through Lovers Lane.

**Q:** Can I give to the building project I like instead of giving to debt reduction?

**A:** No. We believe the order in which payments will be made for debt reduction, building upgrades, and a refresh of the family ministries space allows us to give appropriate attention to the various needs this campaign is designed to address.

**Q:** How do we make our **COMMITMENT** toward the campaign?

**A:** Most commitments will be made during the worship service on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 *or online*.

**Q:** When do I start **GIVING** toward my commitments?

**A:** We begin giving toward our commitments on First Fruits Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> (*although early gifts are always welcome*).

**Q:** Will I be asked for a commitment publicly?

**A:** No, and your commitment is confidential.

**Q:** What if my finances change and I need to revise my commitment either up or down?

**A:** You may revise your commitment at any time during the three-year period by contacting our Finance Office.

**Q:** Can we make a family commitment?

**A:** Yes, by all means, if this suits your situation better.

**Q:** Can I give toward my commitment once a week, once a month, or once a year?

**A:** Whatever is best for you.

## *First Fruits Offering*

Our first step toward our future plans begins on **May 17<sup>th</sup>** with the giving of our **First Fruits**. This begins our three-year giving for the Capital Campaign. A strong response on this day will provide the financial resources to move decisively forward.

# COMMITMENT SUNDAY

ON SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, each of us will be given an opportunity to make our financial commitments to the three-year **MADE FOR MORE** Capital Campaign. The commitment card (shown below) will be distributed during worship and we will be asked to fill them out. Ample time will be allotted for this act of worship.

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

**MADE FOR MORE**  
KEEP SAYING YES

I am unable to give financially at this time but I will support Made for More through prayer.

*This statement of intention may be revised should circumstances make it necessary.*

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Because we believe in the future of our church and want to be a part of its success, we will commit to give to the **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**:

\$ _____	<b>WEEKLY</b> for 156 weeks:	<b>FOR A TOTAL OF \$</b> _____
\$ _____	<b>MONTHLY</b> for 36 months:	<b>FOR A TOTAL OF \$</b> _____
\$ _____	<b>ANNUALLY</b> for 3 years:	<b>FOR A TOTAL OF \$</b> _____
Or a single gift of:		<b>TOTAL \$</b> _____

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS / CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**MADE FOR MORE**  
KEEP SAYING YES

Lovers Lane United  
9200 Inwood Dr. L

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*Not equal giving...  
but equal sacrifice.*

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**“I love being a volunteer!”**

“The opportunities here helped me become a better person while also learning life skills in preparing me for the things outside of the church.”

I didn’t expect to step into this leadership role and just have so much fun with it.

What keeps me *saying yes* is how willing we are to evolve and adjust to something new.”

**Justina Weato, Student Leader & KIDS Ministry Volunteer**

**MADE FOR  
THE MORE**  
**KEEP SAYING YES**

## *Upcoming* EVENTS:

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Final MFM Gathering  
6:00pm Watson Hall

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Commitment Sunday

**Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**  
First Fruits Sunday  
and Offering



Tom Shipp Gathering



Celebrations Team



Prayer Vigil

**Lovers Lane UMC**  
9200 Inwood Rd  
Dallas, Texas 97220