

Brandenburg
United Methodist Church
Brandenburg, Kentucky

Potential & Possibility
Feasibility-Readiness Study Report

Horizons Stewardship Co., Inc.
183 Arena Road, Suite A
P.O. Box 627
Cabot, AR 72023
501-843-9448

INTRODUCTION

Brandenburg United Methodist Church – Brandenburg, Kentucky

In May 2019, Horizons Stewardship Company was asked to conduct a Feasibility-Readiness Study to determine the Potential and Possibility of a capital campaign for Brandenburg United Methodist Church in Brandenburg, Kentucky. The tested campaign would be to raise about \$1,750,000 to undertake significant remodeling and upgrades for the church building in order to provide better ministry facilities for the church's youth and children.

Working in a typical time frame, Horizons has discussed the project with the Senior Pastor and a few key lay people, reviewed significant statistical data, and contacted approximately 70 households from a representative sample of the committed core of the congregation. These households were responsible for over 85% of the church's operating income in 2018. Twenty-nine (29) individuals from 18 different households were interviewed, and fifty-one (51) respondents completed online surveys by the deadline. These combined figures, representing 69 households, show adequate attention to our survey.

Brandenburg United Methodist Church is on a journey of faith. The church is passionate about serving Meade County and reaching a community filled with potential for Christ. The church has a strong desire and calling to bring God's vision into reality. The ability to do this is only limited by the current facilities and particularly the lack of space for a growing population of youth, children, and young families. There is a growing belief that now is the time to fulfill God's vision, modernize and expand facilities, and move confidently into God's future. Brandenburg UMC continues its desire to leave a legacy of faith and service in Meade County, the surrounding area, and into the world.

At the end of 2018, membership at Brandenburg United Methodist was 903 with an average worship attendance of 229. In 2018, the church received \$533,587 in contributions toward the annual budget from members.

A further analysis of giving patterns shows both strengths and room for growth. Of 168 households contributing to the church in 2018, the top 14 (8.3% of giving units) gave 39.5% of contributed funds. The top 59 (35.1% of giving units) gave 83.4% of total contributions. The loss of just a few of these leading givers would have a noticeable impact on the church's ability to fund ministry.

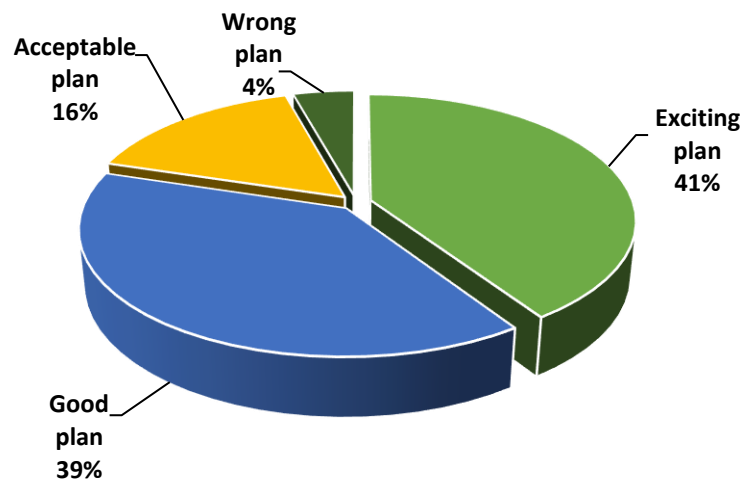
Brandenburg United Methodist Church is continuing a rich history of building the Kingdom by considering this campaign. Adding bigger, improved, dedicated facilities for youth and upgrading the areas used for children will help secure future ministry for the church. This survey and related discussions show broad appreciation for the church, its pastoral leadership, and its ministry, both in the past and looking toward the future.

STUDY RESULTS:

69 total responses

1. How do you feel about the capital plan, as described in the Case Statement, to meet the needs of Brandenburg United Methodist Church?

Exciting plan - 28
Good plan - 27
Acceptable plan - 11
Wrong plan - 3



ANALYSIS:

There is clear support for this proposal and the changes it would make to the existing building. Eighty percent (80%) of those who responded see this as an exciting or a good plan. A significant majority of the church favors this idea.

Most of the questions/concerns have to do with needing more information to fully understand the plans; and affirming the church's commitment to children and youth.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

Is this a big enough dream? Does it meet all our needs?

We need to refine the details.

It is important to make the spaces flexible so they can have multiple uses.

Adding more youth and children's space is critical, but how we provide it doesn't matter to me.

Does this prevent us from expanding the sanctuary if we need to?

I think the reparations planned are essential for maintaining the space that we have currently.

I also think that there needs to be a very clear plan for how the space will be shared across different groups. I think we have a lot of space in the church currently, and we don't always do the best job of utilizing it appropriately or to its fullest function.

Concerned about the cost considering that we only have a congregation of less than 250. That is a lot of money for a small congregation. We aren't drawing in a lot of new people from the community. Our church membership is not growing.

Why don't we demolish the old education wing and rebuild it from scratch?

I'm glad this plan does not make any changes to the original building. We do not need a new church building.

I understand the great focus on children's ministries but, there are other items the church needs to consider, namely the poor and unchurched in our community. There are a generation of unchurched in our town, and a lot of people who, for one reason or another, have needs. So those things need attention as well.

I'm worried that relocating the Sunday school class will create noise in the sanctuary.

First of all, I have not been active in this process. I realize a great deal of time and energy has been expended to date on this project. Having said that, my only reservation is about modifying a nearly 70 year old building and what the useful life of it will be upon completion.

Our parking situation will keep us from growing very much.

I think we should consider moving the church to a new location.

My biggest concern is finding a way to raise the money.

Our worship attendance seems to be declining which makes me wonder if we can do this.

There are other, more basic problems that need to be addressed such as adding an Associate Pastor and increasing the size of our sanctuary.

The new plant that is coming to town will help our church grow.

I wish the dream were bigger!

If the preschool Sunday school is moved, will it create noise in the sanctuary?

With regards to the method of procurement of professional services I am not in favor of a separate architect and contractor. I think it is more prudent to receive proposal from a turnkey D/B partner. The previous use of this application was not procured or managed correctly. The high potential of cost overruns and lack of accountability after the work is a significant risk with the hiring of a separate architect and contractor. We would be less likely to support if that path is pursued.

Converting the gym to worship space every week is lots of work. I wish we had a dedicated room for contemporary worship.

I need to understand more about how we will use the existing pre-school rooms.

We need to make sure to ask the youth what they want in the way of a youth space.

There are positive things in it.

We don't know what we don't know ... for instance, can the existing foundation support new construction on top of it?

We need to continue to grow our youth program.

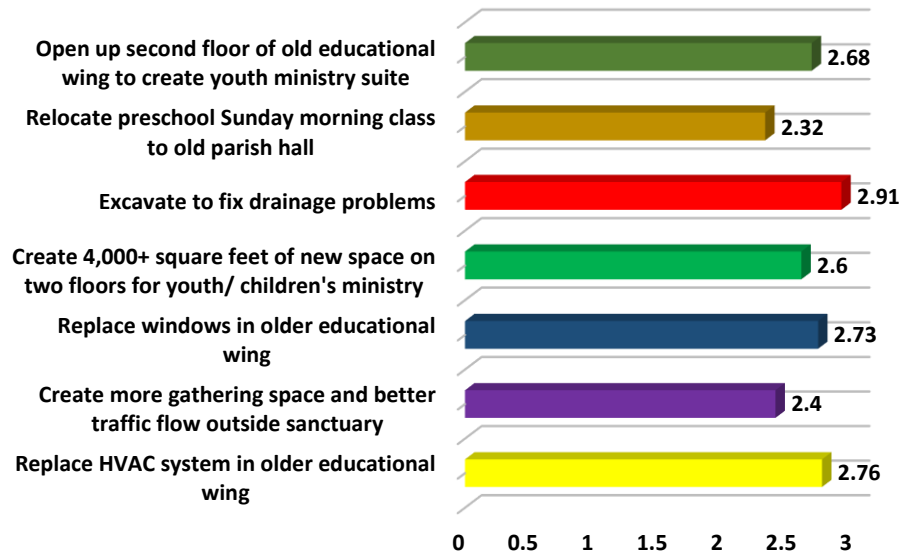
I am excited our church is taking a serious look at improving space for our children and youth.

With the costs associated with such an endeavor, I'm not real excited about the old parish hall renovation and only a small amount of new square footage being added. It seems like a lot of money for rehabbing old space.

My only concern is about how we will raise this much money.

I think that there is a need for expanding children/youth spaces, but I'm not entirely convinced this is the best way to do so.

2. Please rate the needs below as to their importance for inclusion in the proposed capital campaign (3=Very important; 0=Not important at all):

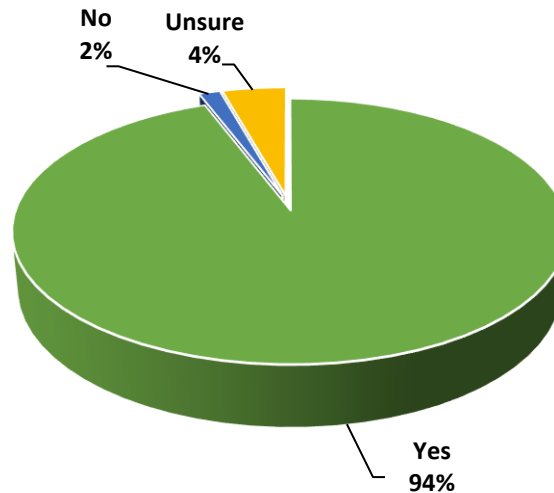


ANALYSIS:

All the elements of the proposed capital improvements are not only supported, but they all receive strong support. In the chart above, the higher the number, the stronger the support. So, "Excavate to fix the drainage problems" at 2.91 out of 3 receives the most support while "Relocate preschool Sunday morning class to old parish hall" receives the least support, but is still supported at 2.32 out of 3.

3. Do you believe this proposed plan is aligned with Brandenburg United Methodist Church's mission and ministry?

Yes - 65
No - 1
Unsure - 3



ANALYSIS:

When asked if the plan aligns with the church's mission and ministry, there is a near unanimous belief that it does. The comments affirm this belief but also call attention to the church's outreach ministry and the wish that even more could be done in that area.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

Generally yes, but it has some holes. Some of our more successful ministries (kitchen) are not included.

This gives us more space for youth.

Wasted capital making more gathering space at gym entrance, because you have to move all the air handler and equipment, also we need storage near kitchen.

Also, a kitchen remodel needs to be included in the plan.

We need washer/dryer as well, and a shower.

It is aligned with our mission and ministry, but it is incomplete.

This will make us more welcoming and open.

This will help us to welcome new members. The changes will help to create more interest and draw new people to the church.

These plans will make the youth more excited to be here.

I think that this falls in line with our mission and vision, but I think that we need to also keep in mind the need for expanding our Love in Action outreach program. I think there is a need for facilities that serve the homeless and/or transient population.

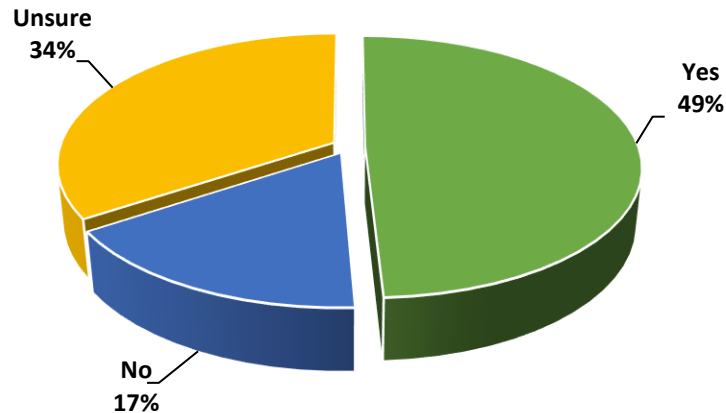
4. Do you believe most people in the congregation are aware of the need regarding expanding and upgrading the current church building?

Yes - 33

No - 11

Unsure - 23

No response - 2



ANALYSIS:

Almost half of those responding feel that the congregation is adequately informed at this stage, even though we are very early in the capital campaign process. For this number of people to express their satisfaction regarding “what the congregation knows” is a positive place to be as the church begins to share information. Having said that, there are still a meaningful number of people who feel that, though the information has been shared it has not yet been heard. As we move into a capital campaign, it will be critical to over-communicate and to share information in clear and compelling ways.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

We have shared a lot about it, but not everyone is paying attention.

In order to get people on board and excited, we need to share more information and much more detail.

It has been explained and shared often.

I want to see some pictures or drawings of what is being built.

We’ve had lots of opportunities to hear the plans.

I’m not sure that I feel informed as of yet because I missed the meeting.

We need to be able to see drawings of the plans.

Most people have not seen plans/drawings so it is hard to visualize.

There have been several communication meetings, letters, announcements in church bulletins and newsletters; but, many persons still say they don't know about the building program.

Some efforts have been made, but a lot of people are still uninformed.

Some of our older members don't seem to be up to speed.

It has been talked about a lot in worship.

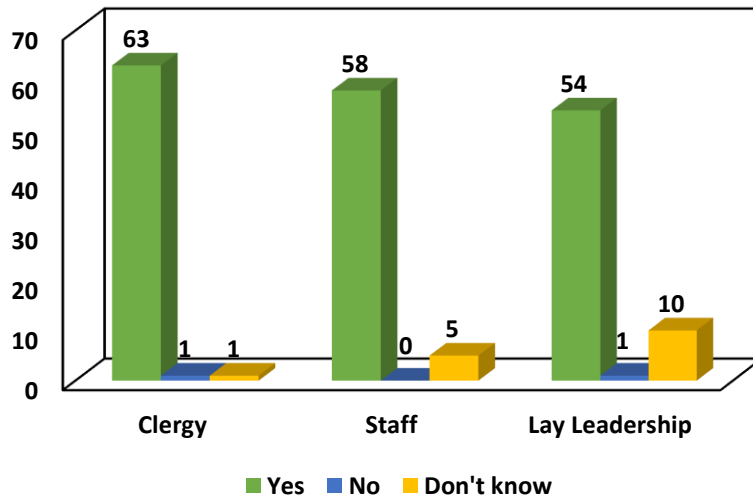
The effort has been made, but people haven't participated fully.

We need to share the information we have with the larger congregation.

No, I think people prefer to stay blissfully unaware, and don't notice things until it's too late. I think that a lot of people come to church on Sundays and Wednesdays, and, if they choose, stay for small group meetings, but don't ever notice the real need for structural repairs or the in-between phase that the children and youth are in right now.

5. Do you feel that your church has the right leadership in place?

	Yes	No	Don't know	No response
Clergy	63	1	1	4
Staff	58	0	5	6
Lay Leadership	54	1	10	4

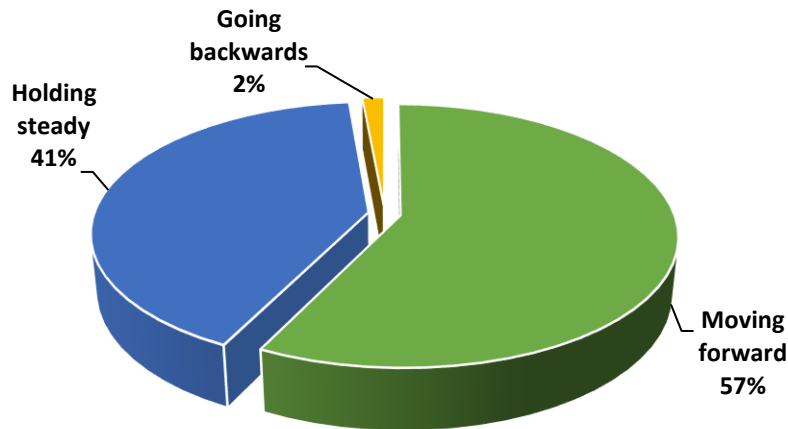


ANALYSIS:

There is affirmation for all three areas of church leadership. Pastor Jeff is strongly affirmed. There is also belief in both the staff and the lay leadership. These two groups received a bit less affirmation primarily from those who do not believe they know these people quite as well. Still, there is a strong feeling that Brandenburg UMC's leadership is adequate for the job. It is notable that, in all three areas of leadership, the "no" responses were almost non-existent.

6. In your opinion, for the last 12 months, has your church been:

Moving forward - 39
Holding steady - 28
Going backwards - 1
No response - 1



ANALYSIS:

People have a positive feeling about their church. Ninety-eight percent (98%) see Brandenburg United Methodist as either moving forward or holding steady, and in today's world, holding steady is not a bad thing. Having almost 60% who see the church as moving forward is an affirming response to this question. In most churches, "moving forward" falls under 50%. This question speaks to people's perception of the overall health of the church, and it is clear most people see BUMC as a healthy congregation that is making a difference in people's lives.

7. Do you believe a three-year campaign could successfully raise \$1,750,000 in your church?

Yes - 18

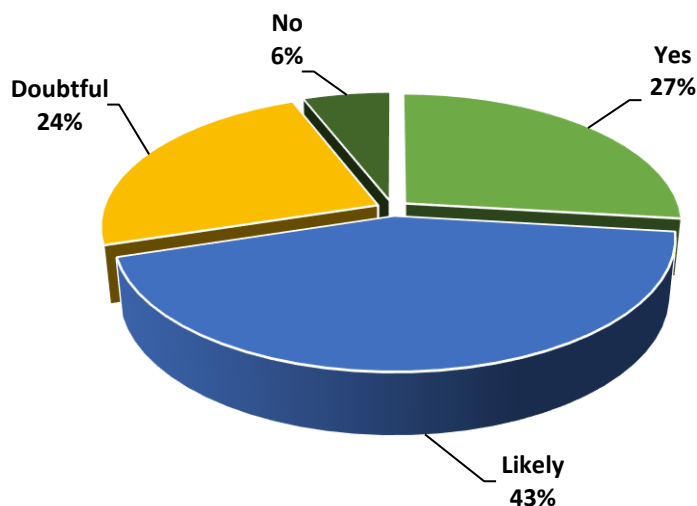
Likely - 29

Doubtful - 16

No - 4

No response - 2

If you answered “Doubtful” or “No,” please specify what you believe is a realistic financial achievement in a three-year capital campaign (provide an amount):



ANALYSIS:

Seventy percent (70%) of those responded “yes” or “likely” when asked if the church could raise \$1,750,000 in a three-year capital campaign. This does not guarantee that amount could be raised, but this level of optimism will create a positive environment for prayerfully seeking ways to fulfill God’s vision for the church’s future. This is a strong indicator of possible success in a capital campaign.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

\$500,000.

It would be tough, but it is possible.

Assuming a congregation of 250 that gives 50 weeks per year. Each person would need to give an extra \$47 per week to meet this goal. I would guess \$750,000 is more realistic.

It will sound like a big amount. I hope it doesn’t scare people off.

If we finance part of the cost it's likely. Raising all funds needed without borrowing is doubtful.

\$1,000,000.

Not sure.

Not certain.

\$1,000,000 only do windows (on separate bid) fix water problem including youth expanding 2,000 square feet.

\$800,000.

\$750,000-\$1,000,000.

\$750,000.

\$1 million.

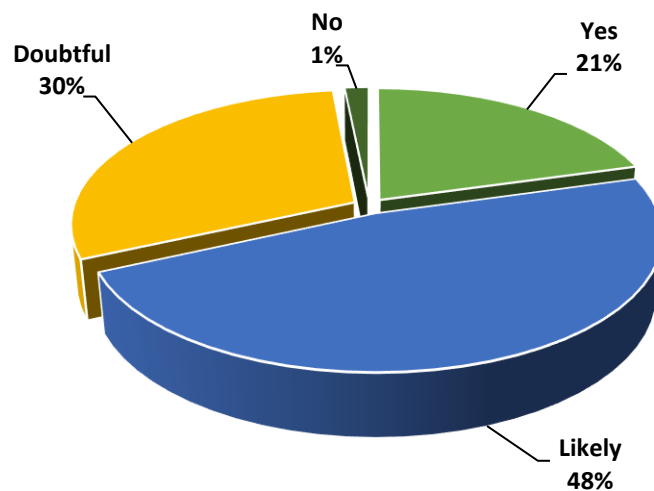
\$600,000-\$700,000.

8. The cost of renovation and new construction is estimated to be \$1,750,000. To successfully underwrite that cost, a capital campaign would not only require financial participation by most of the congregation but would also almost certainly require some combination of the following gifts (given over three years).

1 gift	\$200,000
2 gifts	\$100,000
3 gifts	\$60,000
5 gifts	\$30,000

In your opinion, are the size and number of these gifts available in this church for this proposal?

Yes - 13
Likely - 30
Doubtful - 19
No - 1
No response - 6



ANALYSIS:

For a capital campaign to raise \$1,750,000, the commitment of 10-12 "Lead Gifts" will lay a strong foundation, create momentum, and help to ensure success. It is often hard to anticipate whether such gifts are available in a congregation. At Brandenburg UMC, almost 70% of those responding believe that such gifts are available. This is a positive sign and a hopeful indicator of success.

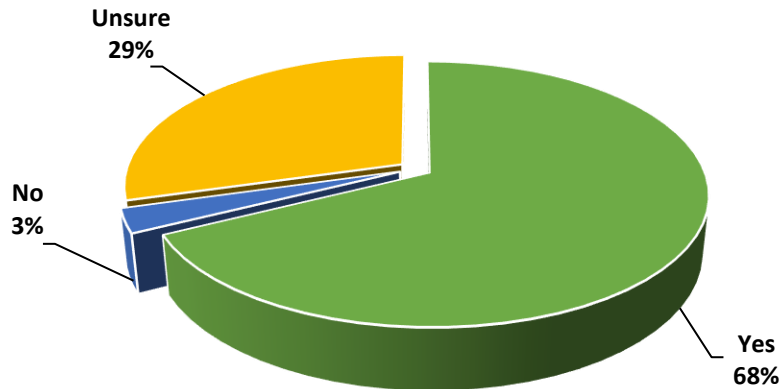
9. If asked, would you be willing to make a three-year financial commitment (over and above your annual giving) to support this effort?

Yes - 46

No - 2

Unsure - 20

No response - 1



ANALYSIS:

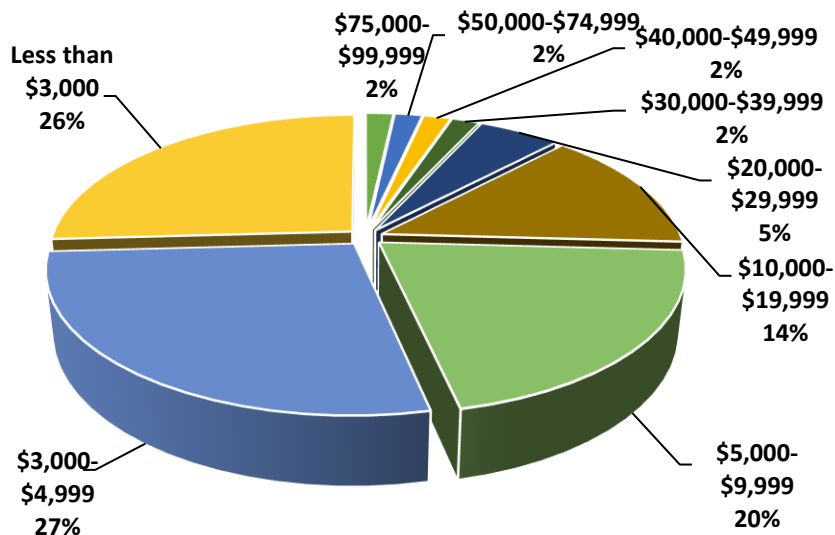
The willingness of a congregation's committed core to give is an important and foundational piece of any successful capital campaign. Over two-thirds of those responding said they would be willing to contribute to a campaign. It is also important that more than half of those "unsure" on this question responded positively on the next question. This is a very good sign of support at this very initial stage.

The 'unsure' replies here illustrate the need for more information about this effort and how it relates to future ministry. This is precisely why we undertake capital campaigns...to answer questions, present the vision of what can be done and the difference it will make, and connect all this to the ministry purposes of the church.

10. What range of giving might you consider for a three-year-total financial commitment (over and above your giving to the annual budget)? (ONE RESPONSE PER HOUSEHOLD.)

\$200,000+ - 0
 \$75,000-\$99,999 - 1
 \$40,000-\$49,999 - 1
 \$20,000-\$29,999 - 3
 \$5,000-\$9,999 - 12
 Less than \$3,000 - 15

\$100,000-\$199,999 - 0
 \$50,000-\$74,999 - 1
 \$30,000-\$39,999 - 1
 \$10,000-\$19,999 - 8
 \$3,000-\$4,999 - 16
 No response - 11



ANALYSIS:

Most of those responding are prepared to make a financial commitment to a campaign before it begins. Total considered gifts from 58 households at this point are between \$443,000-\$760,000. This is a significant first step to meeting the financial needs of a campaign.

Early recognition of major leadership gifts for the campaign will encourage others who can consider gifts in these ranges. God has placed in the hands of the people of Brandenburg UMC the resources necessary to accomplish these goals (median household income for Meade County in 2017 was \$53,732). If it is God's vision for the church to take this step of faith, then God is going to have to lead persons to consider making commitments that are higher than they are willing to consider at this point. **This is the purpose of a capital campaign.**

One of the greatest values of a capital campaign is the leading of people through a process by which they are encouraged to pray and discern their financial response to the vision/need of the church.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

\$200.

With my limited income I can't set a definite amount.

\$2,000.

I only have my retirement and social security to live on. I will give what I can.

Not sure.

\$1,000.

\$500/year.

\$1,000.

\$500 a year.

\$1,500-\$2,500.

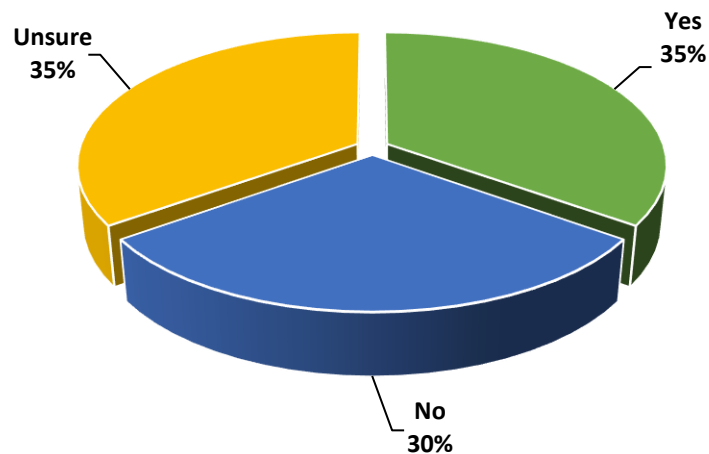
11. If asked, would you be willing to consider serving in a well-defined and limited role on a committee for a capital campaign, if it did not involve asking persons directly for money?

Yes - 23

No - 20

Unsure - 23

No response - 3



ANALYSIS:

Responses to a question like this most often see 30%-40% of those responding saying “yes.” Brandenburg UMC falls squarely into this range. The willingness of members to give of their time is a key expression of how they feel about, not only the church, but their role in helping the congregation to prepare for the future. It is also an early indicator of support for a capital campaign. Often those people who are “unsure” are willing to come on board and help if they are invited to do so in a specific way.

12. Please note any additional comments you think would be helpful for us to know.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

There is such a need for growth in our church. Our youth is our future to teach the word of God. We have an awesome group of youth and an amazing youth leader. What better way to spread God's word than starting with our youth and having room to grow?

I believe we have a congregation that loves the church and would be willing to give to better serve our young generation.

As new jobs and people come to town, I wonder if we are dreaming big enough. We need to continue to add young families and this will require a state of the art nursery.

I am concerned about the sanctuary roof, wondering if it needs to be replaced.

If we are to continue to be good stewards of the buildings that we have, it is critical that we do this.

I will not support this if it we do not ask for and receive multiple bids.

Have we considered all our options?

This is a great plan and would like to help in any way I can.

There are some fairly specific numbers being given about the amount of new space we are creating. I'm not sure what the use case is that led to those numbers. Also, is there speculation that the congregation will grow as a result of these efforts and that there will be more congregants to contribute to the campaign?

Worship space is paramount to me. Everything flows from there. Having an "ok" space for contemporary worship and building a new space for what comes out of that seems backward to me.

Specific plans would be helpful in generating excitement about the project and willingness to financially support the project.

Our family doesn't have the financial means to significantly contribute to the building project. This is our home church. We recognize that work needs to be done to the church. But we lost a significant population of the church and haven't rebuilt that. There definitely needs to be space for the youth and kids but I don't understand spending over \$1 million for 70 kids. And my kids are part of that group! How else can we accomplish a renovation without it costing that much money?!

The United Methodist Church is headed for a split which will have a negative impact on this.

We have to do a good job of communicating and sharing information.

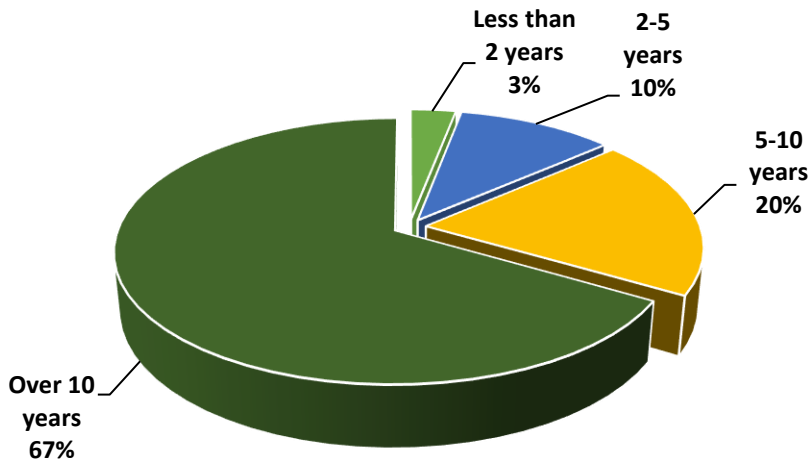
Some of our older members do not feel like they are important anymore. We need more storage in the kitchen.

Some of our members are concerned about the denominational stance on human sexuality.

Our lay leadership is stretched pretty thin. If we end up doing this in phases, the congregation needs to have an opportunity to prioritize the components.

13. How long have you been attending Brandenburg United Methodist Church?

Less than 2 years - 2
2-5 years - 7
5-10 years - 13
Over 10 years - 44
No response - 3

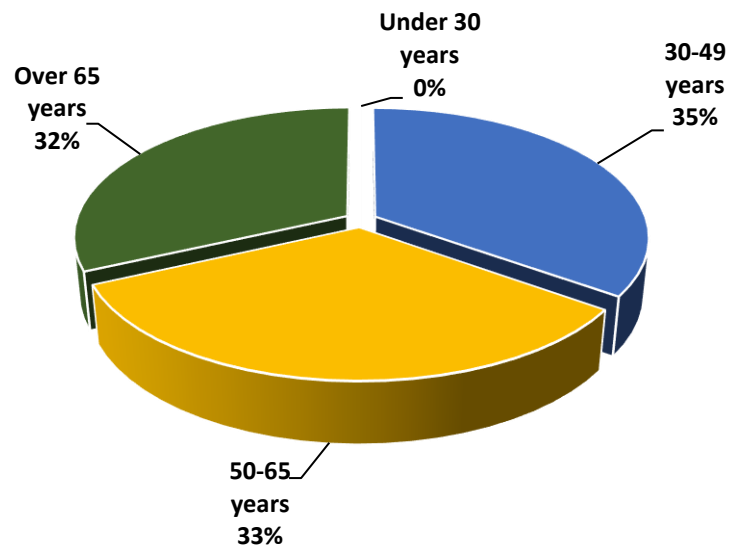


ANALYSIS:

It is not a surprise that most of those who responded to the survey have been a part of the Brandenburg UMC family for 10 years or more. Those who have been engaged for the longest periods of time tend to be the most invested in the church, its ministry, and its future. The other good news at BUMC is that one-third of those who responded have been involved for fewer than 10 years. That these newer members took the time to respond to this survey is a good sign for Brandenburg UMC's future.

14. In which range does your age fall?

Under 30 years - 0
30-49 years - 23
50-65 years - 22
Over 65 year - 21
No response - 3



ANALYSIS:

Based on most of the churches that Horizons works with today, these responses show a wider range of ages than is typical. This is a good indicator that the involvement in a capital campaign will represent a broad range of church members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

At this point, the church's leadership has estimated that \$1,750,000 will be needed to remodel and expand facilities. A project approaching \$1,750,000 would be a stretch based on the level of support and commitment that this survey reveals. To increase our chance for success, it will be necessary to get a better response than this survey indicates, particularly from the church's leading givers.

The survey presents several observations that should offer a level of encouragement to the church.

1. People understand the church's history and the role it has played in the community. They seem to want to see the church continue to serve and to expand that role.
2. There is a belief that the church is experiencing new growth, and that is perceived as good. Most people see it as critical to increase the rate of growth, especially by continuing to attract new, younger families. For the most part, people want the growth not only to continue but to increase.
3. There is confidence in the church's pastoral leadership. People view Jeff Carter as a good leader and there is a desire to follow him. A large majority also believe that the laity and staff at Brandenburg UMC are very capable of helping to lead such an undertaking.
4. The positive feelings in this church are evident. The number of younger families involved seems to be growing, and the expectation is that the church will grow even more and even more quickly when the Nucor Corporation plant brings 400 new full-time jobs to the county.

It is the conclusion of Horizons Stewardship that conditions currently exist for a three-year capital campaign in the range of \$700,000-\$1,000,000. This is based on information provided by those who participated in the interviews and surveys but this range can be impacted by the experience of a capital campaign.

Horizons would recommend moving forward with a campaign in the fall of 2019. Though it would be a stretch to raise the full \$1.75 million needed, it is important to note that, for many, it would be an option to raise enough dollars to cover most of the anticipated costs and borrow the remaining amount. A number of people who were interviewed expressed confidence in the church's ability to pay off such a loan in a timely and cost-efficient manner. The church's ability to reach this fundraising goal will be impacted by its attention to the factors mentioned above and to the keys to success listed below.

The church has the capacity to surpass this estimate but, for that to occur, it would be dependent upon early commitment of leadership gifts. The following keys to success will help the church move beyond this anticipated level of giving.

Keys to Success in your Capital Campaign

If it is in keeping with God's vision for Brandenburg United Methodist Church to address this project, then God surely has a way for each member of the church to participate in this purpose. The following tasks must be successfully accomplished to build the faith required among the congregation to, without reservation, ask, "Lord, what do You want to do through me?"

1. Increase understanding and buy-in beyond the committed core of the church by connecting this project to the vision of making a difference in the life and ministry of the church. Effective communication, including printed and visual materials, sermons and lay testimonies, and conversations within the congregation will be critical for this to occur. Remember that studies show the average person needs to hear the same message more than 20 times before they fully grasp the material. Communicate and communicate often! The core leaders need to be equipped with the information needed so they become messengers of the facts and vision.
2. There must be a strong emphasis on leadership gifts by the Pastor and leadership team. It is extremely important that conversations take place with families with large donor capacity and invite them to consider making their commitment early in the process. To reach the potential that exists within the church will require a few significant gifts exceeding the typical lead gift rather than lots of pledges being raised by \$5,000-\$10,000. The impact this will have on other donors cannot be overstated.
3. Encourage wide participation in the campaign by members and regular attendees. Experience shows that personal involvement at some level in the campaign deepens people's connection to the vision as well as their financial response. It would be the goal of Horizons to engage most of the active church membership in some way through the campaign. This will help us reach beyond the committed core.
4. Create and produce communication in many forms. The campaign must communicate in a variety of forms (print, visual, oral, social media) that causes the congregation to understand God's purpose for Brandenburg United Methodist Church and how this initiative will enhance fulfilling that vision and impacting the church's life and ministry.

God will not call people to give sacrificially to simply upgrade and build buildings. Sacrificial giving always occurs in response to God's vision to reach people through life-changing events.

Feasibility Study Survey
Brandenburg United Methodist Church
Brandenburg, Kentucky

Your responses are confidential and will only be seen by the Horizons staff.

1. How do you feel about the capital plan, as described in the Case Statement, to meet the needs of Brandenburg United Methodist Church?

☐ Exciting plan ☐ Good plan ☐ Acceptable plan ☐ Wrong plan

Comments:

2. Please rate the needs below as to their importance for inclusion in the proposed capital campaign (3=Very important; 0=Not important at all):

_____ Open up second floor of old educational wing to create youth ministry suite
_____ Relocate preschool Sunday morning class to old parish hall
_____ Excavate to fix drainage problems
_____ Create 4,000+ square feet of new space on two floors for youth/children's ministry
_____ Create more gathering space and better traffic flow outside sanctuary
_____ Replace windows in older educational wing
_____ Replace HVAC system in older educational wing

3. Do you believe this proposed plan is aligned with Brandenburg United Methodist Church's mission and ministry?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Comments:

4. Do you believe most people in the congregation are aware of the need regarding expanding and upgrading the current church building?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Comments:

5. Do you feel that your church has the right leadership in place?

Clergy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
Lay Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

6. In your opinion, for the last 12 months, has your church been:

☐ Moving forward? ☐ Holding steady? ☐ Going backwards?

7. Do you believe a three-year campaign could successfully raise \$1,750,000 in your church?
- ☐ Yes ☐ Likely ☐ Doubtful ☐ No

If you answered "Doubtful" or "No," please specify what you believe is a realistic financial achievement in a three-year capital campaign (provide an amount):

8. The cost of renovation and new construction is estimated to be 1,750,000. To successfully underwrite that cost, a capital campaign would not only require financial participation by most of the congregation but would also almost certainly require some combination of the following gifts (given over three years).

1 gift	\$200,000
2 gifts	\$100,000
3 gifts	\$60,000
5 gifts	\$30,000

In your opinion, are the size and number of these gifts available in this church for this proposal?

- ☐ Yes ☐ Likely ☐ Doubtful ☐ No

9. If asked, would you be willing to make a three-year financial commitment (over and above your annual giving) to support this effort?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

10. What range of giving might you consider for a three-year-total financial commitment (over and above your giving to the annual budget)? (ONE RESPONSE PER HOUSEHOLD.)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200,000+ | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000-\$199,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000-\$99,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000-\$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40,000-\$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000-\$39,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000-\$29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000-\$19,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000-\$9,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$3,000-\$4,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$3,000, please indicate _____ | |

11. If asked, would you be willing to consider serving in a well-defined and limited role on a committee for a capital campaign, if it did not involve asking persons directly for money?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

12. Please note any additional comments you think would be helpful for us to know.

13. How long have you been attending Brandenburg United Methodist Church?

- ☐ Less than 2 years ☐ 2-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ Over 10 years

14. In which range does your age fall?

- ☐ Under 30 years ☐ 30-49 years ☐ 50-65 years ☐ Over 65 year

Your name (required) _____

Daytime phone number (for us to call in case clarification is needed) _____

Email address _____

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

¹⁸*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

¹⁹*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
²⁰*and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18-20

Our Vision

To be a church that is self-denying and life giving to others resulting in people coming alive in Christ and connecting to His church.

Our Values

Those who are far from God matter to us because they matter to God.
'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'

Luke 15:6

We value serving others more than being served.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Philippians 2:5-7

We value relationships and authentic community where ministry and spiritual transformation happen.

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works

Hebrews 10:24

Brandenburg

united methodist church

A Case For Facility Improvements

Where We’ve Been and Where We’re Going...

Since 1855 the Methodists of Brandenburg have been a steady presence offering Christ to the community and being a beacon of hope. Our current historical sanctuary stands today as a constant reminder of the commitment of those who paved the way for us and the unwavering commitment of our church to the people of Brandenburg. Throughout its history, our church has never stood still. There have been constant updates and upgrades to our facilities including major additions in the 1950’s, 1970’s, and in 2000. Every new ministry and building expansion along the way has made it possible for Brandenburg United Methodist Church to be the healthy and vital church we have today.

We want to ensure our story continues, and today we have the opportunity to build upon our long legacy and grow into the future.

“Before attending youth and church here in Brandenburg, I didn’t know Him and I didn’t even know I needed to. My youth group showed me what Christ could do in my life, and that is something I’ll hold on to forever.

– Caitlyn Calarco

For the past few years the church rented off-site space for our youth ministry. While helpful, it was not ideal for several reasons, and the church decided not to renew the lease. Since that time, there has been no dedicated space for our youth ministry. It has hampered our efforts to provide a top-notch attractational youth ministry for our community. In the face of this reality, the Leadership Council and Vision Team began to dream, pray and discern how God might have us address our current needs and prepare for our future – not only for the youth, but for the whole church and community.

Current Challenges and Opportunities...

There is a need for

- Top-notch, onsite space for our youth ministry
- Modern, convenient and secure children’s ministry space
- Adequate and functional space for future growth of Parents’ Day Out/Preschool Ministry
- Adequate space for welcome center, hospitality, and fellowship

Proposed project includes

- Improve energy efficiency of 1950’s educational wing
- Address drainage issues resulting in water intrusion to parts of the building
- Address numerous maintenance and facility issues from previous projects



There is a Solution...

A year ago a study committee was formed to look at possibilities and needs for future ministry and building needs. With the help of the McNight Group, a ministry building and planning firm, we completed a 15-page needs assessment tool. We interviewed leaders in our children’s and youth ministries. The Leadership Council and the Vision Team offered their input and ideas. Presentations and Q and A sessions were held within our Sunday School classes. As a result of all this input, we believe we have a solid, albeit still fluid plan on how to address our needs and opportunities.

- Open up second floor of old educational wing to create a youth ministry suite with various large and small spaces for youth ministry
- Relocate nursery and preschool Sunday morning class to old parish hall to be closer to worship spaces
- Excavate to fix drainage while creating approximately 4, 032 square feet of new space on two floors for youth and children’s ministry
- Open up floor plan outside of sanctuary to create more gathering space and better traffic flow
- Replace windows in older educational wing
- Replace HAVC system in older educational wing
- Address existing facility issues of current building

“Being a part of the youth group has allowed me to grow in my faith and fellowship with others, and that’s something I’ll never be able to replace.

– Abby Nelson

Estimated Cost of Renovation and New Construction is \$1.75 million

Now is the Time...

With faith, determination, vision, prayer, and God’s help, we can address our needs and move into the future. The congregation will engage in a capital campaign this fall under the guidance of Horizons Stewardship Consultants. More details of the construction and renovation (including updated cost estimates, artist renderings, etc.) will be communicated throughout the fall campaign. A financial feasibility study which will help us gauge our financial strength and set a goal for our capital campaign will be conducted this spring.

Jesus gave us our mission to make disciples. We’ve committed to a vision of being a church that serves others even before ourselves, and we affirm the value of children and youth in our church and community. God is now calling us to a time of action.

Jesus said, No procrastination.

No backward looks.

You can’t put God’s Kingdom off till tomorrow.

Seize the day.

Luke 9:62 (The Message)



Addendum to Case Study in Response to Questions

While we are in the initial phases of planning, and many questions remain, this addendum attempts to address some of the most common questions and comments that came out of our congregation meeting on April 30th. Space does not allow to address every comment individually.

What has been done:

- Study committee brainstormed needs, asked for input from youth/children's leaders and church leadership, and used McKnight Build and Design firm to help us come up with preliminary ideas and plans. The Leadership Council voted to establish an official building committee which met throughout 2018.
- Established highest priorities to be addressed: 1) High quality space for youth and children 2) gathering and hospitality space 3) maintenance and improvement of older facilities 4) address lower priorities as project budget allows
- McKnight presented three building proposals. The committee selected one proposal which most closely reflected the priorities that had been identified and fit within financial feasibility.
- Hired Horizons Stewardship Company to conduct feasibility study and conduct a capital fund raising campaign to raise funds assuming we decide to move after hearing results of feasibility study.
- Sought feedback from congregation and shared the vision for project through Sunday School and Ignite Night (April 30th) congregational meeting.

What Will Be Done:

- Building Committee will continue to meet, looking specifically at comments and suggestions from congregation and determining if any new ideas or priorities can or should be worked into a realistic scope for the project
- Conduct financial feasibility study with indications of level of financial support and how much can be raised. (Results will be shared by consultant on July 8th)
- Conduct a capital fund raising campaign in the fall with Commitment Sunday being November 24.
- Seek official approval from denomination and hold a Church-Wide vote before hiring architect.
- Interview and select architect and construction firm
- Work with architect on final plans incorporating new ideas as they emerge if deemed appropriate and fit within the scope of feasibility.
- Receive drawings and images from architect and share with congregation.
- Get firm construction costs and timeline for project from construction firm.
- Hold another church-wide vote before construction begins for final approve before moving forward.
- Develop plan for doing ministry and Sunday morning needs during actual construction disruption.
- Keep congregation apprised every step along the way as more information becomes available.

(more information on reverse side)

By the Numbers

Financials

Our 2019 church budget is \$570,000 (including Parents Day Out Ministry)

The church has \$168,500 in its operating account and an additional \$123,500 in a building project fund.

Our average attendance is 235. This number has been consistent over the past several years.

We currently serve approximately 40 youth in middle and high school and 45 children on Sundays and Wednesdays plus others from community. We have 33 children in our Parent's Day Out Ministry.

We hope to raise at least for 2/3 of the project in pledges to be paid out over a three-year commitment. It will likely be necessary to obtain a loan for the other 1/3.

Demographics

The 2018 population of Meade County was 28,658. The population is expected to grow 3.3% by 2023. This does not factor in any growth as anticipated by the arrival of a new steel factory and related business.

Demographic studies estimate that 61.7% of the population of Meade County is not involved in a faith community. It is estimated that on any given Sunday only 25% of the population of Meade County is in church. There are numerous opportunities to invite our community to faith in Jesus and church life.