

The debt started on August 11, 1993 when the original loan of \$2,650,000 was secured. By June 1996, the loan had been paid down to \$1,950,000, thanks in large part to the sale of the church building at Five Points to Historic Presbyterian Church for \$500,000.

Due to an increase in membership, especially that of families with young children, the educational wing (east of Wilson Hall) was added in 1999. With that addition came an increase in debt, however. An additional \$605,000 was needed to build the wing, bringing the total loan amount to \$2,250,000.

Over the next three years, the loan was paid down to \$1,828,540.44. But, the magnitude of the pay down was stifling Session's ability to fund other programs. The decision was made to refinance to get an interest rate decrease, but with the refinancing came a required balloon payment of \$1,342,305.53 due May 2009.

In April 2008, Session decided to modify the loan to do away with the impending balloon payment. The loan balance was then \$1,390,093, and the interest payments were to be a fixed rate of 6.15%. But, the fixed payments inhibited Session's ability to fund mission outreach and other important programs.

Over the next few years, Session debated whether or not to initiate a capital campaign to once and for all pay off the debt. The "Great Recession" played a large part in delaying that decision. Also, during that period of time the church membership and attendance had begun to drop. From 2010 to 2014, church membership dropped 3% and worship attendance dropped 17%. It definitely did not seem like an appropriate time to have a capital campaign!

But, that outlook was coming from the sad, cold, worldly view of reduced income, job loss, and financial burdens. What the members of FPC Franklin then experienced was a renewal, led by the Holy Spirit! In 2015 Session decided that the time was right for a capital campaign, the "All Things Possible" campaign. The campaign kicked off in July 2015. By November, what seemed improbable became POSSIBLE! Why did we ever doubt? For with God, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!