

Stewardship Campaign Newsletter

General Fund & Capital Fund Debt Reduction

First Presbyterian Church

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A Message from Pastor Ben



Faith in Action. That is so much more than our campaign slogan. It is the mark of scripture. "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,

because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." (Philippians 1:3-5) These are Paul's words to the Church in Philippi as he remembers all that they have done.

They are my opening words to you as well. In my prayers I am constantly thanking God for your willingness to give and serve - all for the sake of our Risen Lord, Jesus. I cannot begin to thank you enough for serving: team leaders, team members, callers, those who prayed and especially those who have committed to give. No gift is ever too small.

Like Paul's word says, a good work has begun, but there is still much to be done to see it to completion and I am excited about that as well. You continue to spread the Gospel by how you serve this community through this church. Thank you so much.

Let me close with more words from scripture as we live out our Faith in Action. I want to use Eugene Peterson's "The Message" as I state Luke 19:17. "Jesus said, 'Good servant! Great work! Because you've been trustworthy in this small job, I'm making you governor of ten towns.'" Thank you again for being faithful in all that you do as we bring glory to God. Great work!!

In Christ,
 Pastor Ben

Stewardship Campaign Prayer

We thank you, Almighty God, for we know that all we have comes from you. We pray for your blessing and guidance as we seek to glorify and serve you. Guide us to be good stewards of all that you have entrusted to our care. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Faith In Action Campaign Summary

100% of our Session, Stewardship & Finance Committee, and Campaign Steering Committee made commitments to our campaign.

The total amount committed to our **General Fund** for the remainder of 2016 (8 months) is \$158,184. Projected over a total 12-month period, this exceeds our 2015 yearly pledged amount by \$25,000.

The goal for our Capital Fund Debt Reduction Drive was \$500,000. Over \$470,000 has been received so far in pledges and/or contributions, representing 95% of our goal. Bill Cordaro of SP&R reports that second campaigns generally raise 80% of the previous campaign. Our second campaign is set to raise a minimum of 89% of the 2013 first campaign, which included constructing an addition to our facilities. Our second campaign is for debt reduction, which is typically considered a less attractive campaign purpose.



2013 Campaign

Number of commitment cards received	115
Amount pledged to campaign	\$529,951
Total offered to date	\$581,150



2016 Campaign

Number of commitment cards received	116
Amount pledged to campaign	\$470,150
Total offered to date	\$109,544

Faith In Action Campaign Questions & Answers

Q: Who knows how much money I have committed and contributed to the church?

Your privacy is very important to First Presbyterian Church. Sherry Mayberry, our church secretary, is the only one who sees your pledge and knows your level of contributions.

Q: Will the money for the General Fund and Capital Fund Debt Reduction be kept separate?

Yes, they are kept separate in order to provide a full accounting of your money.

Q: Will we receive regular updates regarding our Faith in Action Campaign contributions?

Yes, you will be updated on your pledges and contributions through semi-annual summaries made available to our members.

Q: When do I start making my contributions to Capital Fund Debt Reduction and how often should I make them?

Members will have three years, starting May 1, 2016, to fulfill their commitments. You may make a one-time contribution, or fulfill your pledge through weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual payments.

Q: How should I designate my contributions?

Members may send one check with both your General Fund and Capital Fund Debt Reduction contributions. Please indicate on the check the amount of money going to each of the funds.

Q: What happens if I can't fulfill my pledge to the campaign or I want to change it?

Your pledge is very appreciated. We understand that members' situations may change. If you feel at any

time you cannot continue your campaign contribution or want to change it, please contact Sherry Mayberry in the office and let her know.

Q: Are we still accepting pledges?

Yes. Members can find copies of our campaign brochure and commitment card on our web page at www.fpcderby.org.

Q: May I still give something other than cash?

Donating appreciated stock or property (real estate, mutual funds, bonds, personal property, retirement funds and IRAs) is an optional way to give to support our campaign. There may be a capital gains savings and/or a tax deduction through this kind of giving. If you have questions about any of the alternative ways of giving to the church, please call the church office for more information.

Q: Will SP&R and Bill Cordaro continue to be involved with our church?

SP&R is committed to remain as a consultant for First Presbyterian Church in matters of stewardship and fundraising. They will be available to assist with our current debt reduction campaign, general fund drives and planned giving. Bill will also visit the church once a year over the next three years for the purpose of on site consultation.



Q: What is the advantage of giving most or all of our contribution at the beginning of the three-year Capital Fund Debt Reduction Drive?

There is a big advantage in paying early. Early contributions reduce the amount of money we pay toward interest on our loan, saving the church thousands of dollars.

The interest that we pay on our loan is based on the current principal; therefore, less principal means less interest cost.

Another major consideration is the sooner our loan is paid off, the sooner we will be able to expand our support of other needs.

