



---

## Progress Report: Fundraising Campaign

*A Journey of Generosity and Community Spirit*

### Introduction

As we reach the end of the second year in our Faith In Our Future (FIOF) capital improvement fundraising campaign, we are thrilled to share with you the remarkable progress we've achieved together.

This campaign is not merely about raising funds; it's about harnessing the power of the congregation to meet challenges, create opportunities, and bring positive change to the physical church we love so much.

### Current Achievements

- **Total Funds Raised**

Thanks to the your incredible generosity, we have reached an impressive milestone: over 80% of our Phase I target goal has been raised! And we still have 1 year to go! Your unwavering support of Community UMC reflects our shared belief in the importance of our cause.

### Campaign Impact

While numbers may paint a picture of progress, it is the effect on our church that is of special concern. Our original capital improvement plan prioritized the Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning systems for immediate attention since we know how difficult it is to put our kids (and ourselves) into an uncomfortable building and expect full engagement with teachers and preachers! Thanks to you, we have been able to begin to provide the funds to do just that.

Some of you will remember our plan to fix the Youth Classroom Wing HVAC first; the emergent leaking roof in the 2-story Adult Wing derailed that priority. However, that was not a serious deviation from our overall schedule – the roof was always part of our long-range plan. We just had to fix it earlier than we thought.

We are so pleased to report that the collection of capital improvement funds through FIOF not only led to the fully paid-for roof replacement, but also permitted us to adjust to the recent failure of the Social Hall HVAC without delays.

Again, the Social Hall was always on our list – an adjustment in project priorities by the Leadership Team is exactly how we envisioned the flexibility your generous efforts would afford us.

Don't despair! Youth Wing is next.

The Numbers

Phase I of FIOF seeks to raise \$500,000 over 3 years. This May was the end of year 2.  
As of May 31, 2025:

Item	Amount	Total	Comments
Pledges Received	\$262,990		60.5% of pledges
Non-pledged Donations	<u>\$170,979</u>		
Total Raised as of May 31, 2025		\$433,969	87% of goal!
Total Pledges Outstanding		<u>\$171,500</u>	
Total Potential as of May 31, 2026		<b>\$605,469</b>	121% of Phase 1 goal!
Expenditures:			
Centimark Roofing	\$109,600		
Vasant & Gusler Engineering Design	\$ 24,628		
Miscellaneous Charges	<u>\$_____5</u>		
Total Expenditures		<u>\$134,233</u>	
<b>Total Potential for next Phase 1 projects *</b>		<b>\$471,236</b>	
* \$108,477 of Total Potential for next Phase 1 projects loaned to operating account in 2024. Being repaid.			

Project Expenses Estimated (from our long-range capital improvement plan priorities)	Amount	Total
Social Hall HVAC	\$117,212	
Youth Classroom Wing	\$80,000	
2-Story Classroom Wing	\$40,000	
Sanctuary/Adult Wing Fuel Tanks	\$65,000	
Sanctuary Boiler (main mechanical room)	\$48,000	
Engineering & Design	\$32,000	
<b>Total "Do-able" in Phase 1</b>		<b>\$382,212</b>

What a great outcome! Tremendous progress in fixing our aged and fragile HVAC systems!

## Next Steps

- **Emergency Fund**

One thing we've learned in this campaign is to expect the unexpected. So, our goals include establishing an emergency fund to allow us to take immediate action if events damage our church or property without "breaking the bank." An emergency fund is not to fix problems, but to preserve the church until we can address the problems. An example might be tarping the roof if a hurricane blows part of it away.

We planned to reserve 20% of our donated funds for this purpose. That would be about \$100,000 per phase. You can see we are in a position to do a lot in Phase I – but with \$382,212 in projects and \$471,000 potentially available, that leaves only \$88,788 in reserve. That's still a good result, but we hope you will see the wisdom of the emergency fund as you consider renewing your pledge or donation.

- **The Semi-Final Stretch**

As we approach the end of Phase I of our campaign, we are calling on everyone to help us cross the finish line. Whether by renewing your pledge or making a direct donation, every action brings us closer to our goal. Together, we can make this dream a reality.

## Phase II and Beyond

It is worth remembering that our total effort, in 3 Phases, is to raise enough funds to fix what needs fixing AND to establish a workable long-range capital improvement plan that would replace equipment and building structures BEFORE they crumble. So, while we're well on the way for fixes, we still face the challenge of other building structural improvements. Things like our steeple, phone systems, video systems for both security and for education, lighting systems, etc., are all on the list for attention.

### Thank You

We cannot express enough gratitude for the kindness and dedication shown by you and the rest of the congregation. Your contributions are not just monetary; they represent hope, solidarity, and the belief in a brighter future. This campaign has truly demonstrated the strength of CUMC, and we are deeply touched by the overflowing generosity witnessed thus far.

If you would like a member of the FIOF committee to talk with you or your small group, you can reach out to us at [FaithInOurFuture@cumcvb.org](mailto:FaithInOurFuture@cumcvb.org).

*The Faith In Our Future* Committee

Pastor Scott Rimer, Andrew Kissell, John Elliker, Sherry Zaneski, Megan Dunn,  
Diane Frascella, David Collins