



IT'S TIME

frequently asked questions

Why now?

Our last building campaign took place 22 years ago in 1996, which resulted in the second phase of the current building (offices, gym, and classrooms). Since that time, our ministry needs have grown and changed, especially in the areas of children and small groups. After several years of conversations and prayer, our leadership has a conviction that God is leading us to undertake this campaign to meet our current needs and to enable more effective outreach to our community.

How much do we need to raise?

Our goal is \$5 million. What we build in the end will depend on the total amount pledged.

What is the timeline?

The pledge campaign will run through the first week of June. Giving will take place over three years. Construction will begin based on a combination of factors such as the pace of giving and the cost of construction.

What are the priorities of the project?

Our top priority is new, secure children's space and an enlarged lobby. The children's space will provide both large and small group meeting space for nursery through 5 year olds. The enlarged lobby will enable much better flow into and out of the building and provide a more inviting space for people to connect.

The second priority is remodeling the existing classrooms to better meet our current needs.

The third priority is refurbishing the sanctuary by updating the worn out carpet, providing

new seating and improving other aesthetics in the sanctuary to make our worship gatherings as inviting, inspiring and effective as possible.

How will we use new and renovated facilities to reach people?

We will use new facilities much like our current ones: witnessing to the goodness of God, teaching the gospel, encouraging one another and meeting peoples' needs. New, comfortable, appropriate space adds more capacity for the kingdom work we are currently doing.

What is the impact of the school moving?

Stillwater Christian School relocated to the building across the street last year. This has given us full-time access to several classrooms, however it falls far short of accommodating the needs of our small group meetings, especially on Wednesday nights when we have groups meeting in hallways, offices, closets, etc. It also does nothing to provide appropriate and secure space for our youngest children.

Our building seems adequate. Shouldn't we focus our energy and resources for missions?

Sunnybrook has a history of generous support for and involvement in mission work, both locally and globally. In the last 15 years, we have collectively given somewhere between \$2.5 and \$3.4 million to missions. We will give 11% (close to \$200,000 this year) of our annual budget to support mission work. Further, our people participate directly with and give generously outside the church budget to many missionaries and organizations doing kingdom work both locally and abroad.

We believe that our current level of activity with respect to missions constitutes a faithful response to God's call on us collectively. We need to invest in the home front from time to time to maintain a vibrant base from which to support mission work. We believe the campaign is an appropriate, balanced approach to meeting our responsibilities.

How will the new children's and pre-school areas improve safety and security?

At present, our children meet in a space that has multiple entrances and exits and that is virtually impossible to secure properly. The new space will enable us to implement proper controls that meet current best practices for churches in the US.

Shouldn't we retire any debt we have prior to raising money for a new building project?

Our current debt (\$600k) is for the building across the street and was financed at an attractive rate. Early payoff provides little advantage financially. We also face the possibility of continually rising construction costs the longer we wait, which could cost significantly more than the interest on the existing debt.

Does the fundraising include any consideration for increased cost of operations?

"It's Time" is a capital campaign for the purpose of creating new and refurbished meeting spaces. Once complete, we will integrate ongoing maintenance into the annual operating budget.

Will any of the money be used to improve the parking lot?

The current plan does not include the parking lot. However, if the campaign exceeds our goals, this could be a wise use of the money.

What if we don't raise enough money?

We will not put ourselves in a financial bind in order to build new facilities. If the campaign falls short of the amount needed, we will not force it by taking on large amounts of new debt.

Why haven't we heard anything about needs for expansion before now?

If you attend on Wednesday nights or serve with children or youth, it would be hard to miss the need. We have made the most of our current assets for a long time and, until now, did not have a conviction to take this step. Now that we have the conviction, it is time to communicate the need more broadly and raise the capital.

Will more adult Sunday School / Bible Study classes be offered with the new space?

We are likely a couple of years away from having new space, so it's premature to make plans now. New facilities will create the possibility of additional classes and life groups. Starting them will depend on having teachers willing and able to lead them.

Does this plan address the HVAC system and roof leaks?

The scope of the campaign does not include ongoing maintenance.

How can I / we help?

Above all, pray and ask God what he would have you do. Trust him and give generously. Get in touch with our ministry team to find out more about what you can do to assist with the campaign – we have teams working on various aspects of it.