



NEWS LETTER



To the LCC congregation,

NEXT; it is a small word with huge potential for the life and growth of Lebanon Christian Church. Webster Dictionary defines the word *next* as an adjective: immediately adjacent (as in place, rank, or time).

While it is important to understand what the NEXT step is, it is also important to have a vision of where that NEXT step will eventually take us. For years, the leadership at LCC has attempted to develop a long-term plan that would help us align the resources of LCC to efficiently invest in our future. As hard as we tried, we did not have the expertise to develop that plan.

Two years ago, we began a relationship with Tony Morgan with The Unstuck Group and Mel McGowan with PlainJoe Studios. Tony helped us document the vision we were pursuing for our church, and Mel helped us design the long-term plan to achieve that vision. We began implementing the organizational structure to facilitate our mission and vision, as seen with the addition of our new associate pastor and now our NEXT step is to begin implementing the first phase of the long-term plan for our facilities.

As we began prayerfully thinking and planning what's NEXT for the facilities at Lebanon Christian Church, one of the recurring conversations was the desire to be intentional about future facility use and additions. The elders wanted to think further out than just the next need, to anticipate and dream with humility about how our property can be best utilized as a tool for accomplishing God's purposes. We wanted to have a master plan that honored our Master. In addition to a master plan, we wanted to be more intentional about properly maintaining our existing facility.

The initial NEXT step is to implement Phase One of our plan. Please read this newsletter for details on the four projects that make up Phase One.

We need your support in multiple areas. We are challenged to fund the NEXT facilities. We will require physical labor to do some of the work ourselves to help keep the cost down on the NEXT steps. We will need cooperation and temporary adjustments to efficiently utilize the children's worship space during the auditorium renovation. We will have to have three services on Sundays. We will continue to meet during the two normal times of 9:00am and 10:30am, and then add another service at 4:30pm. Please consider utilizing the temporary service at 4:30 to allow room for guests at our regular times. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can come along side us and support the NEXT step.

We are reminded of the parable that Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 1:14-30, The Parable of the Talents. In summary, just before his journey a master gave to three of his servants a challenge to invest. To one he gave five talents, to another he gave two talents, and to another, he gave one talent. Two servants invested and doubled the talents they were charged with, while the third servant was afraid and buried his so that he could return exactly what he was given. The master was angered at this servant because he did not wisely invest.

Together we can insure that Lebanon Christian Church is the Outpost of Hope, where our hurting community can learn how to have a meaningful relationship with Jesus.

*In His Service,
The Elders of LCC*

We want to have a
master plan that
honors our Master.

PROJECTS

1

Project 1 is the remodel of the Kids Auditorium. Much of the room that our elementary children use for ministry has been untouched over the last 25 years. And it's time to do something about that! The space needs to be brought up to date and be more kid-friendly. The remodel involves new flooring, paint, lighting, and updating the sound system by moving in the one currently used in the auditorium. Future improvements will add decorations around a theme and more. We began the Kids Auditorium remodel on September 10th, and plan to have it completed by October 1st so that we can temporarily hold our services in this area while we renovate the Main Auditorium in project 2. The cost for this remodel is \$25,000 and many volunteer hours.

2

Project 2 is the renovation of the Auditorium. Just over 16 years ago, our gym was built as a recreational facility. It was not built as a facility for worship, but that is exactly what happened when the church experienced quick growth. The constant wear and tear and growing pains have resulted in a facility that is falling apart. Our electrical, lighting, and audio/visual systems have not aged gracefully. The leadership at LCC believe it is essential to invest in this space, as it is an important tool in helping people encounter God. This fall we will renovate this space to bring it up to date as a worship facility. The renovation will include a complete overhaul of the audio/visual equipment and lighting, increased stage space, new architectural lighting, a movable baptistry, new flooring, and new seating. The project will take place from October 1 – November 30, at a total cost of \$650,000.



3

Project 3 is a new preschool play area. This project will take place in the Spring of 2019 and will include a new preschool playground and a large green space on the southwest corner of our parking lot. Our current preschool playground is beginning to fall apart as the plastic is becoming brittle. A dedicated team of parents has been working with Julie Mark to develop a master plan for this space. With the help of the Christmas Eve offering last year, we will see phase one of this project completed in the spring. There are more phases for future growth. What's really exciting about this playground is that it was designed from the ground up to be a place where all preschool children can play! From the very beginning, we've had the help of someone specializing in children with unique needs. This project will cost \$40,000 and will include the ability to add on to the playground in the future.



4

Project 4 of this phase involves purchasing the white house in the front of our property. This is being accomplished currently at the cost of \$180,000. We believe it is in the best interest of the church to own this property long term.

FUNDING



Perhaps one of the biggest questions you are asking is “How much is this going to cost and how are we going to pay for it?” This is an important question.

The cost of the Main Auditorium renovation, Kids Auditorium remodel, and Preschool Playground is \$895,000. Here is the individualized breakdown of expenses: Main Auditorium Renovation (\$650,000), Kids’ Auditorium (\$25,000), Preschool Playground (\$40,000), and purchase of the white house (\$180,000). This is a sizable amount of money.

So how are we going to get that kind of money? The great news is that we don’t have to get all of it! When our mortgage on this part of our facility was retired in the spring of 2015, our stewardship ministry was intentional about helping us plan for the future. We’ve been able to not only establish emergency reserve money, but in addition to money given to the building and preschool playgrounds, we have been able to save almost \$500,000 over the last three years. We’ve already used some of that money to pay for the parking lot, design and architectural fees, in addition to the consulting fees we’ve incurred. That leaves us about \$425,000 short of paying for all these projects in cash.

This is where your faith and commitment come into play. We are challenging the people of Lebanon Christian Church to invest **above and beyond** our regular giving and our Faith Promise giving. We want to raise an additional \$425,000 over the next 12 months, to pay for the remaining costs of these projects.

We are committed to avoiding long-term debts like we have had in the past. We know that while it requires significant trust in God and sacrifice on our own part, together we can generously give this amount.

We aren’t asking for equal gifts. We are challenging equal sacrifice.

HOW DO I GIVE?

There are several ways you can give to the NEXT initiative. Simply make a donation and mark that amount “NEXT” in the memo line of your check. Or you can pick up a NEXT Commitment Card at the Welcome Center or the Hub and fill it out. You are welcome to remain anonymous; or if you’d like to track your giving, simply provide your name and information and you can follow along with your commitment in our database.

Prayerfully consider how you can be creative in your giving. Perhaps you commit to giving a portion of your 2018 tax return. Maybe the Holy Spirit is leading you to sell something to donate the money. Maybe sacrifice for you is choosing to forego Starbucks, several meals out, or your monthly golf game. You may be stirred to liquidate a mutual fund. You might decide to have a garage sale or donate income from a rental property. Sacrifice looks different to each person. We aren’t asking for equal gifts, but equal sacrifice.

Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Romans 12:1



Lebanon

Christian Church

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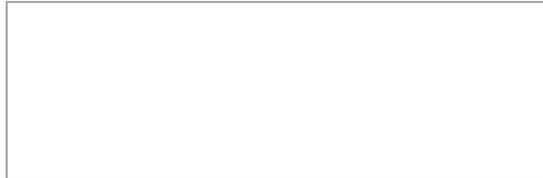
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TRANSITION

Preschool	9:00am	10:30am	4:30pm (Oct 7—Nov 25)
Monkeys	Nursery: 153	Nursery: 153	Nursery: 153
Alligators	Nursery: 157	Nursery: 157	Nursery: 157
Tigers	Class: 156	Class: 156	Class: 156
Zebras	Class: 155	Class: 155	Class: 155
Elephants	Class: 112	Class: 112	Class: 155
Giraffes	Class: 113	Class: 113	Class: 155

Elementary	9:00am	10:30am	4:30pm (Oct 7—Nov 25)
Grades 1-5	Room 117-118	Room 117-118	Room 117-118

Students	9:00am	10:30am	4:30pm (Oct 7—Nov 25)
Jr High Girls	Worship with us in 251 at the Overflow	Class: 253	Catalyst Study for Teens in the Student Center
Jr High Boys		Class: 254	
High School		Class: 251	

Temporary Services:

9:00am

10:30am

4:30pm

From October 7—November 25, we will be worshipping in three services in the remodeled Kids Auditorium: at 9:00am, 10:30am, and 4:30pm. There will be programs for kids of all ages at each service.

We realize that this is not the most convenient schedule for everyone. However, most of us have some flexibility and can sacrifice our convenience in order to make room for guests at our normal worship times.

If all goes according to schedule, we will be back in the renovated Main Auditorium beginning December 2.

*Pathway classes for adults will still be held at 10:30am.