

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is the “A New Horizon” Capital Campaign?

The “A New Horizon” Capital Campaign is a focused, time-bound effort to raise funds for significant investments in the future of our church. This campaign is designed to support key initiatives that will expand our ministry, strengthen our facilities, and position us for long-term growth and impact.

2. Why is this campaign necessary?

This campaign is necessary to address current needs while also preparing for future opportunities. It allows us to:

- Enhance and maintain our facilities
- Expand ministry programs and outreach
- Create space for growth in worship, discipleship, and community engagement
- Invest in the next generation of leaders and members

3. What does the Bible say about giving and debt?

Scripture consistently teaches that generosity is an act of worship and trust in God. We are encouraged to give joyfully and sacrificially: “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).

The Bible also speaks to the weight of debt, reminding us that “the borrower is servant to the lender” (Proverbs 22:7). Because of this, many see freedom from debt as a way to release resources for God’s purposes and to live more fully into faithful stewardship.

Together, these teachings call us to a life of generosity, trust, and wise stewardship—seeking to honor God with all that He has entrusted to us.

4. What will the funds be used for?

Funds raised through the campaign will be directed toward our primary goals:

- Retiring approximately \$1,000,000 in debt on our property
- Upgrading the Sanctuary with new paint and new chairs
- Additional sanctuary improvements as funds allow

If we exceed our primary goals, the Trustees are prayerfully considering several secondary enhancements, including:

- *A new large altar designed for future sanctuary use*
- *A digital sound board*
- *A parking lot golf cart*
- *A digital pipe organ*
- *A Steinway grand piano*

These additional items will only be pursued after our primary goals are fully achieved.

A detailed breakdown of projects and allocations will be provided to the congregation.

4. When is Commitment Sunday?

Commitment Sunday will be held on May 3rd. We will receive pledges during worship and then gather for a celebration lunch in the Family Life Center.

5. How much are we hoping to raise?

Our goal is to raise approximately \$1,100,000. We have set this goal prayerfully based on our current needs and vision for the future.

At the same time, we trust fully in God's provision and will be grateful for whatever the Lord chooses to entrust to us for His purposes. Our commitment is to steward every gift faithfully for His glory.

6. How long will the campaign last?

The campaign will run for three years, with the first monthly gifts beginning July 1, 2026. The campaign will include key phases of prayer, education, commitment, and celebration.

7. What is a First Fruit Offering?

A First Fruit Offering is a special, one-time gift given on Commitment Sunday to "jump start" your overall campaign commitment. It is an act of faith and gratitude, offering the first portion of your pledge as a sign of trust in God's provision.

8. How is a capital campaign different from regular giving?

A capital campaign is separate from regular tithes and offerings. While regular giving supports the ongoing ministry and operations of the church, a capital campaign focuses on one-time or short-term investments in major projects.

9. Am I expected to give to both my regular offering and the campaign?

Yes. We encourage continued faithful giving to the church's general fund while prayerfully considering an additional commitment to the capital campaign.

10. What happens if I shift my giving from the operating budget to only the capital campaign?

If giving is shifted away from the operating budget, our ongoing ministries, missions, and staffing will be directly impacted. We would not be able to maintain our current level of ministry or care for our beautiful campus in the way we do now.

For this reason, we strongly encourage everyone to continue their regular giving while making a separate, prayerful commitment to the capital campaign.

11. How do I decide what to give?

We encourage every member to:

Pray for guidance

Reflect on God's blessings in their life

Consider a sacrificial yet joyful commitment

Discuss giving as a family or household

12. Do smaller gifts matter?

Absolutely. Every gift matters and every act of generosity is significant in the life of the church. When we all participate faithfully, God uses our combined gifts to accomplish far more than any one person could do alone. This campaign is about shared sacrifice, unity, and stewardship—no gift is too small to make an eternal impact.

We also encourage families to prayerfully consider how they might stretch a smaller gift into something more significant through intentional sacrifice and thoughtful budgeting.

13. What if I'm just barely making ends meet and can't contribute?

We understand that there are seasons in life when finances are tight. In those times, your participation still matters deeply. You can support the campaign through prayer, asking God to guide and bless the efforts of the church.

We also encourage you to consider blessing the church with financial gifts when your situation improves. This can be a meaningful season to set goals for financial health and growth, trusting God to provide and lead you forward.

Additionally, we recommend families consider participating in a financial discipleship resource such as Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University if they are not currently experiencing financial freedom or are burdened by excessive consumer debt.

14. What is a pledge, and is it binding?

A pledge is a prayerful commitment to give a certain amount over the course of the campaign. While it is not a legal obligation, it is a spiritual covenant—much like other significant covenants we make with God—entered into prayerfully and faithfully.

15. Can I change my pledge if my circumstances change?

Absolutely. We understand that life circumstances can shift. You may adjust your pledge at any time as needed.

Additionally, if you are blessed with unexpected financial increase—such as a bonus, a successful investment, or an inheritance—we would be grateful for any prayerful consideration to increase your pledge as you are able. Every gift helps further the mission and impact of our church.

16. Can I include the church in my will or estate planning?

Yes. One meaningful way to support the long-term mission of the church is by including a bequest in your last will and testament. Planned giving allows you to leave a lasting legacy that will bless future generations and continue the work of ministry beyond your lifetime.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider blessing the church with a tithe of 10% in your estate planning as an act of faith and generosity.

You may also consider including your capital campaign commitment within your estate planning now as a way of helping to protect and strengthen the church's future.

If you are interested in this option, we encourage you to consult with your financial advisor or attorney and to notify church leadership so we can express our gratitude and ensure your wishes are honored appropriately.

17. Is there a plan for how gifts will be divided among the campaign objectives?

Yes. The first 80% of gifts received will go directly toward paying down the principal on our debt. After that, 10% will be used for capital improvements in and around the sanctuary, and 10% will be held in reserve for the Trustees to allocate as needed.

18. How can I give to the campaign?

You may give in several ways:

- One-time gifts
- Recurring contributions (weekly, monthly, etc.)
- Online giving
- Stocks, assets, or other non-cash gifts (consult with leadership for details)

19. Will there be updates on the campaign's progress?

Yes. Regular updates will be shared through worship services, newsletters, and church communications so everyone can celebrate progress together.

20. Who is leading the campaign?

The campaign is being led by church leadership, including clergy, staff, and a dedicated campaign team committed to transparency, prayer, and stewardship.

Funds received will be overseen by our Capital Campaign Leadership Team, Finance Committee, and Trustees to ensure faithful and responsible stewardship.

Your gift will remain confidential, with the exception of church staff who may need access for accounting and record-keeping purposes.

21. How can I get more involved?

You can participate by:

Praying for the campaign
Attending informational gatherings
Volunteering to help
Encouraging others to participate

There will also be several home gatherings where you can learn more, ask questions, and connect with others:

April 13 – Home of Marilyn Allen (6:00 PM)
April 16 – StoneCreek of Copperfield (10:00 AM)
April 21 – Home of Russ & Charlotte Woodruff (6:00 PM)
April 26 – Home of Marilyn Allen (2:00 PM)
April 29 – Home of Sterling & Jennifer Allen (6:00 PM)

22. What is the spiritual goal of this campaign?

Beyond financial goals, this campaign seeks to:

Deepen our trust in God's provision
Strengthen unity within the church
Inspire generosity and stewardship
Expand our witness in the community

24. Why wasn't this debt handled before now?

When the church moved to this property, there were immediate needs to build facilities to support existing ministries. At that time, leadership made a strategic decision to prioritize constructing buildings to house and grow those ministries rather than focusing first on retiring the property debt.

This was not a bad decision, but a faithful strategy to support the ministry needs of the congregation during that season.

25. I wasn't here when the debt was taken on—why should I give?

That's an honest and important question. This campaign is not about the past—it's about our shared future.

By eliminating this debt, we can free up approximately \$140,000 each year in our operating budget. That means more resources can be redirected toward mission and ministry, including staffing, outreach, and discipleship.

This is an opportunity for all of us—new and longtime members alike—to make a sacrificial investment in what God is doing now and in the years to come.

26. Is it possible for someone to give a significant gift or pledge that retires the church's debt? What would happen to the campaign?

Yes. If a significant gift or pledge were made that fully retires the church's debt, we would celebrate God's provision with deep gratitude.

The campaign would not end; rather, it would be excitedly refocused to further glorify God through expanded capital Kingdom endeavors.

Following that, the Trustees and Finance Committee would meet to prayerfully discern and discuss additional objectives for the campaign that would help us begin taking the next steps in our capital growth plan.