

“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 1:2-5 NRSV)

Thankful. there is one word that comes to my mind when I think of our church it would be that one. I am thankful to be a part of a church that has been a blessing to the Kingdom of God and to our community since it’s very beginning.

I am thankful for the incredible worship we experience every Sunday. Thankful to see children to our oldest adults worshiping God together an seeing their lives transformed. Thankful every time I walk a baby up and down the aisles for a Baptism. Thankful as we gather at the Lord’s table.

I’m thankful for the care this church gives to those in need in our community. Thankful that three days a week we provide a free lunch to anyone who decides to join us. We have become a church where people in our community know they are loved and cared for, even if they are not members of our congregation.

I’m thankful to be a part of a church that regularly does outreach programs in order to let others know about the love of Christ, especially those who would never come into a church otherwise. Thankful to see so many people in our community cared for by a church willing to go outside of its walls. I’m thankful for those who gather on Second Saturday to bring the love of Christ to others, and Thankful for our mission teams.

Yes, I am thankful for our church. And I am sure you are as well. I’m sure you echo Paul’s words from his letter to the Philippians at the top of this page, “I thank my God every time I remember you”

As we enter into this capital campaign I hope we come with a sense of thankfulness. My prayer is that this campaign will be one we come to prayerfully and with thanksgiving. As you will find this campaign is not simply about meeting some very real needs at our church. It’s about being thankful for all others have done before us, and thankful for the opportunities God give us today. Bu it’s also about being thankful as we look to the future. This campaign will allow our church to continue to impact not only our community, but the world, for the Kingdom of God.

What we do today, especially when we are sacrificial, will have an impact for generations to come. I am confident that our campaign will not only be successful but a blessing to us and those who come after us. Let us go forward together and be thankful.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Brian Jones <><

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.

II Corinthians 9:11

Foundation for the Future

Our capital campaign will be carried out through the Spring of 2022 to gather at least \$1.5 million in pledges. Financial commitments will be paid over three years (2020—2022) and are considered over and above annual giving for operating costs.

All commitments will be gathered on May 19th.

April 21
Gratitude Sunday

April 28
Prayer Sunday

May 5
Ministry Sunday

May 12
Generosity & Sacrifice Sunday

May 19
Commitment Sunday

June 2
Announcement Sunday

June 9
First Fruits Offering



A Capital Campaign



Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**II Corinthians 9:7
NRSV**

How can you participate?

Pray! *Dear Father God: All we have is a gift from You. We thank You for the generations of blessings that You have bestowed upon First United Methodist Church. Stir up our passion, courage, and commitment for the work ahead of this campaign. Let a zeal for Your church consume us, not for our glory, but Yours.*

Help us remember that this is your project, not ours. Open our hearts and minds, now and always, to respond to the calling “Lord, what do You want to do through me.”

Encourage us to give up our worldly desires and possessions to make more room for Jesus in our lives. Inspire us through the Biblical story of the widow who gave her last coins, knowing that God recognizes the giving of not an equal share, but an equal sacrifice.

By listening to Your will, may this campaign leave a legacy, not of pipes and plumbing, but of Your love for this community.

Thank You for all the blessings that You give, and for this exciting new journey.

Amen.



How can you participate (con’t)

Plan! Church leadership and the campaign team are prayerfully planning the future of our church. Each member of our church family is invited to pray in order to seek God’s guidance. Please plan your calendar around the special events that are designed to provide information and celebrate this campaign. Participation in the events and activities associated with this campaign will be a blessing and encouragement to others in our church family.

This is primarily a spiritual endeavor, rather than a financial one. God does not focus on the size of our gifts alone, but on the proportion we offer in relation to how we’ve been blessed and the attitude of our hearts. We are not asking every family to give an equal share, but to consider making an equal sacrifice. Prayerfully plan your personal three-year commitment to the “Invest in the Future” campaign. Together with God’s blessings, we can accomplish great things!

Not an equal share,
but an equal sacrifice.

Equal giving is never the goal at our church, but rather to come together as a church community – each sacrificing to achieve our vision. There is a role in this capital funding campaign for every member of the church and each contribution enables our success. You will not be pressured or told what you should give, but rather encouraged to pray to discern God’s will for your giving. We ask everyone to pray the campaign prayer: *Lord, what do You want to do through me?*



Why are we having a capital campaign?

We need to make repairs to our mechanical systems—heading & cooling and plumbing that will impact our ministries for years to come.

The purpose of the capital campaign is to raise at least \$1.5million

