



# 2025 Building Fund Campaign

## OVERALL PROJECT

### Q: Why should we build a Fellowship Center?

**A:** Building community is essential to our mission and long-term growth. Many churches are designed with social spaces to foster connection, but we currently lack such a space. We are blessed with a beautiful courtyard, but the high temperatures in summer make gathering there near impossible. We need a space for connection in a temperature-controlled environment that we can use year round.

### Q: Why NOW?

**A:** With the division and uncertainty our world is experiencing, connecting with our spiritual community is more important now than ever before. Covid isolated people, and they are longing to have a place for community ... particularly young adults, who are craving connection beyond their screens. Further delaying this project will only postpone the benefits.

### Q: Should we be building this when we have such a tight budget?

**A:** All churches (like all nonprofits) continuously face tight budgets, but that shouldn't block growth and expansion. Our feasibility study revealed that our congregants would be willing to give to give to this building project because of the extraordinary benefits it would provide.

### Q: What is the cost of the project?

**A:** \$2.25 to \$2.5 million.

### Q: How much of that amount will we need to break ground on the building?

**A:** While we are still not completely certain of this number, we anticipate needing to have at least \$2 million before we can break ground.

### Q: What happens if we do not have enough money to finish this project?

**A:** Church leadership is prepared to borrow money, if necessary, to complete the building.

## BUILDING USAGE

### Q: How will the new building be used?

**A:** Its primary use will be as a fellowship area where congregants can gather before and after services, and will be designed to host a variety of activities from community events to classes, small groups, meetings and workshops. It will also serve as an easy-to-find Welcome Center where newcomers can get more information about our ministry, and it will expand our ability to host rental activities that can help our bottom line.

### Q: How many people will fit in the new building?

**A:** The building will comfortably accommodate up to 125 people. Of course, sometimes that number will vary depending on the configuration of furniture (e.g., tables and chairs as compared to classroom style).

## BUILDING FEATURES

### Q: How big will the building be?

**A:** The new Center will include the current Bookstore space and extend all the way out to the brick pathway. The fellowship area will be 3,104 square feet. The lobby will be 503 square feet. It will also include restrooms.

### Q: Will there be engagement spaces?

**A:** Yes! We would love to have areas where people can connect with one another over activities like puzzles and board games. WiFi will definitely be available.

The Center will also be equipped with A/V equipment and screens where we can promote activities with digital messages and show presentations, movies and other entertainment.

### Q: Will any part of the Bookstore remain?

**A:** No. However, we plan to have points of purchase where congregants can still buy tickets, books for Circles and classes, and other items related to church activities.

### Q: How will congregants access the building?

**A:** There will be two entry points into the building, at least one directly from the courtyard. Access to the Administration building will also be available from the Fellowship Center. It will be fully ADA compliant.

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## FUNDRAISING QUESTIONS

**Q: What happened to the Vision 2020 donations, and why wasn't that project completed?**

**A:** We did not raise enough money with the campaign to build all five elements that were part of the plan. A significant portion was used to create the landscaping improvements and courtyard expansion that transformed our campus into beautifully scenic grounds with ample space for congregants to (weather permitting) enjoy fellowship, meet up for classes, gather in small groups, and enjoy prayer or meditation in quiet, sacred locations.

Additional Vision 2020 money was used to complete long overdue maintenance projects on our 20-year-old buildings. We also beautified our Sanctuary platform; made significant improvements to our sound and lighting equipment; refreshed our Sanctuary rest rooms; and replaced the ministry's A/C, phone, software and other systems.

In addition, we currently have about \$700,000 saved to be used toward the chapel project that was part of Vision 2020.

**Q: Can we apply the \$700,000 we have saved for the chapel to this Fellowship Center, instead?**

**A:** Donors chose to direct their Vision 2020 contributions to five specific options, one of which was the chapel. By law, we cannot apply those funds to anything other to where they were designated unless we have express written permission from the donor. We are in the process of contacting those donors now to see if they wish us to transfer those funds to this campaign.

**Q: How much are you asking each congregant to donate?**

**A:** We are suggesting that each congregant give 3% of their annual income for each of the next three years, or a one-time gift of 3% of their total assets. But how much you give is up to you! Remember: whatever you decide to give, it should be in addition to the amount that you already regularly give to the church.

**Q: How does this campaign differ from previous campaign?**

**A:** With this campaign, we have only one specific focus—our Fellowship and Welcome Center—as compared to five different options in the last campaign.

**Q: In addition to pledges, will there be opportunity for in-kind donations and other fundraising?**

**A:** Yes! Furnishings and equipment for the new Center would be a great option.

**Q: Will there be naming opportunities?**

**A:** Yes! Naming opportunities will be structured based on giving levels.

## COFFEE & FOOD

**Q: Will the new Center be a coffee shop?**

**A:** Though the center will have the same warm, connecting “feel” of a coffee shop, the primary purpose of the Fellowship Center is for people to gather comfortably indoors to connect with one another.

**Q: Will the Center be open throughout the week?**

**A:** It will not be open every day, but it will be open beyond Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings when we can have staff available.

**Q: Will we be charging for coffee?**

**A:** We will have free basic coffee just as we do now, but will also have specialty coffees like cappuccino, Espresso and more available for a fee. In addition, we are exploring the possibility of additional beverage choices and/or vending machines for food and snack choices.

**Q: Will the building have a kitchen?**

**A:** The space will not have a professional kitchen, but it will be designed to easily accommodate caterers and others bringing in hot boxes to serve meals.

## CONSTRUCTION

**Q: How long will it take to complete the building once construction begins?**

**A:** We anticipate about a year.

**Q: Will the Administration Building be open during construction?**

**A:** Yes! The Administration building will remain open and fully accessible during the construction process.

**Q: Would it be more cost-effective to create an entirely new building rather than adding to existing space?**

**A:** No. Utilizing some of our existing space (the Bookstore and storage room) for the new Center will definitely make it less expensive.

### How can I help make this campaign a success?

- ▶ **Share the Vision** – Engage in conversations, attend campaign events, and help spread awareness.
- ▶ **Volunteer for a Team** – Whether it's helping with events, communications or outreach, there's a role for everyone.
- ▶ **Pray & Reflect** – Keep this campaign in your thoughts and prayers, and discern how you can contribute.
- ▶ **Give Generously** – Every contribution, large or small, plays a crucial role in realizing this vision.