



FORWARD IN FAITH

JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Frequently Asked Questions

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Q: What is “Forward in Faith?”

A: “Forward in Faith” is the title we have given our capital campaign because it speaks to our purpose for the campaign and mission for John Knox. The money raised will help us better serve our church members and the Lord now and in the future through worship, study and fellowship. It will also allow us to grow our ministries outside our church to help the community and others in need.

Q: What is the goal of the capital campaign and how was it determined?

A: Our church leaders and the capital campaign executive team discussed the needs of the church and prioritized them based on importance. The executive team is continuing to work on estimates but initial evaluations place the cost at approximately \$3 million. The needs have been broken out into two phases;

Phase 1: includes an HVAC system replacement. The current system could stop working at any time and replacing it is an unavoidable need. John Knox requires a more reliable system that is energy efficient and better conducive to the daily activities of the church. The second priority in phase one is to eliminate our \$650,000 debt. We currently pay nearly \$4,300 a month towards this debt and paying it off would free up money to help others through missions and other evangelism activities. Additional items in phase one include interior upgrades such as roofing repairs, parlor renovation, bathroom renovation, adding a classroom and various office improvements.

Phase 2: includes improvements such as adding an electronic key system, landscape updates, adding signage, new paving and outdoor lighting.

Q: Why a capital campaign now?

A: The simplest answer is that it is time. Most of our church facilities have not been updated in many years and we need to make the improvements now before certain facilities deteriorate further. Though we are in



a time of transition with our search for a new senior pastor, and have been having conversations about the upcoming General Assembly this summer, the funds raised during this capital campaign are for immediate needs within the church. These improvements are necessary for John Knox to continue operating and serving the Lord. If you have any specific questions about the transition, please speak with one of our John Knox session members.

Q: One of the goals is debt elimination, why is paying off this debt important?

A: We currently owe \$650,000 on a debt we incurred building the fellowship hall and youth center. Our payment is roughly \$4,300 a month. If we continue this rate of payment over the life of the loan we will be paying \$250,000 in interest on top of the original loan. Paying off the loan now will save John Knox a considerable amount of money in the future by avoiding the added interest expense. Additionally, without the large monthly payment more funds can be allocated for missions, ministries, helping the community along with regular maintenance and upgrades throughout the church.

Q: Didn't we just do a stewardship campaign? What is the difference?

A: The stewardship campaign is specifically for the ongoing, day-to-day services and programs of our church and its outreach ministries. The Forward in Faith capital campaign is designed to raise funds over a three-year period and is above and beyond regular church giving. This special campaign will enable us to continue and expand these programs while maintaining our high level of benevolence giving.

Q: How much should I give?

A: Everyone is encouraged to prayerfully consider what might be an appropriate gift from your family. Donations can include money, stock, and other appreciated assets. Each person is invited to give as the Lord enables -- not equal gifts but equal sacrifice. Sacrificial giving requires a measure of stewardship



above and beyond regular proportional giving. It requires a reassessment of our spending and lifestyle priorities, readjustment of commitments, and reallocation of resources. Sacrificial giving costs the giver something. In II Samuel 24:24, David said, "I will not offer as a sacrifice to God that which costs me nothing."

Q: How do I make a commitment?

A: Each church member will have an opportunity to make a three-year pledge towards the goal of our Forward in Faith campaign. The commitment will be in addition to your regular giving and can be made via the pledge card or online. A celebration of our commitment to the future of John Knox will be held on Sunday, May 4. Pledge cards will be collected this day but those interested in making advance commitments may do so as well.

Q: Why have we hired an outside consultant to help us raise this money?

A: A capital campaign is a large endeavor that requires expertise we do not have internally. The Rev. Larry Sykora of The Columbia Partnership has led over 100 church campaigns and has much experience ensuring success.

Q: Who is paying for the Forward in Faith capital campaign?

A: Several years ago John Knox was blessed with a monetary gift and the session decided to set the gift aside to be used for an unforeseen need in the future. Today we are utilizing that gift to pay for the various expenses of the campaign. There is no money coming from the day-to-day John Knox operating budget to pay for this campaign.

Q: Will my commitment be confidential?

A: Yes – just as with annual stewardship giving, the only person who will know the dollar amount of your commitment will be the John Knox Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

