



Annual Stewardship & Capital Campaign Questions & Answers

1. Why are we doing a capital campaign?

The capital campaign's purpose is to raise funds for reconfiguring and updating our facility. These projects are critical to living our mission in Christ and ensuring Hilltop's future for generations. We are unable to fund these projects through our annual operating budget, making it necessary to conduct a capital campaign.

2. Does our congregation support moving forward with a capital campaign?

An outside firm recently conducted a feasibility study. The process invited all members to share their feedback on our proposed vision for building enhancements and expansion. Results from interviews and surveys indicated that 89% of those who responded said "yes" or "would consider" making a financial commitment, indicating broad support.

3. What will be accomplished with funding from the capital campaign?

Child and Youth Areas/Office Remodel – Offices will be relocated to provide increased space and security for safe and inviting childcare and youth classrooms. All these spaces will be remodeled with various improvements for function and appearance.

Sanctuary Upgrades – This will include remodeling our chancel area for greater flexibility of various types of worship or other events. We also hope to upgrade technology for optimal online and in-person worship, as well as refresh sanctuary decor as needed.

4. Who is leading the capital campaign?

We have enlisted a Capital Campaign Committee comprised of the following members:

- Campaign Chair: John Harrington
- Campaign Committee: Paulette Adams, Shanna Blomquist, Darrin Galinat, Tammy Maine, Burl Maker, Jeanette Phillips, Steph Putzier and Rev. Matt Sipe

5. When does the capital campaign begin and how long will it last?

An education process is underway and will continue throughout the next few months. Our plan is to distribute pledge packets in November of this year and ask for a three-year financial commitment over and above members' annual stewardship gifts.

6. What is the difference between annual stewardship and capital campaign?

The annual stewardship effort funds our operating expenses which includes: ministries, staff, insurance, office supplies, utilities and building maintenance. A Capital Campaign is over and above members' giving to our annual stewardship and will fund the proposed building projects. Since this effort is taking place at the same time we typically conduct annual stewardship, it has been decided to do both simultaneously. Hilltop's leadership felt it will be helpful for members to pray and decide what they can give to both efforts at the same time.

Continued...

7. When will construction begin on the building projects?

This depends on how much Hilltop UMC is able to raise and the timeliness in which pledges are collected. We hope to begin making improvements as soon as possible and will keep members updated on progress throughout the three-year campaign. The earliest we could reasonably hope to begin projects would be June 2024.

8. Is our congregation large enough to fund these projects?

The feasibility study estimated that Hilltop UMC has an ability to raise between \$600,000 to \$750,000 over a three-year period, above and beyond our annual giving. Our goal is to raise \$750,000 and hopefully exceed this amount. Based on what we learned, Hilltop's leadership has scaled down our original vision to address what is most critical and will not spend more than we can afford.

9. If the building projects don't affect me personally, why should I support a capital campaign?

As members of Hilltop, we are part of an extended church family that is called upon to actively support an array of worship, education, fellowship, and other activities. As disciples of Jesus, we are asked to provide tangible support for all needs within our community, not just those of personal interest. Although our focus will be on facility enhancements, the primary goal is to expand and deepen Hilltop's ministries in order to serve more people. These improvements will help people of all ages.

10. In what ways can donors give to the annual stewardship and capital campaign?

There are many ways to make a monetary gift. Here are some of the more common ways to give:

- Cash or Check
- Electronic Funds Transfer through bank account or credit card
- Stocks/bonds/mutual funds
- Qualified charitable distributions from an Individual Retirement Account
- Matching gift through an employer

11. How can I help?

There are numerous ways in which you can assist the Capital Campaign Committee in this effort:

- Pray for God's guidance as we move forward with this vision to ensure the future of Hilltop.
- Please pray our campaign prayer daily at 1:08 p.m. (because we're located at 108 S Manitou Dr.)

Campaign Prayer

Holy Spirit, blow the winds of joy and peace in our lives. Give us the eyes to see your goodness and grace in the world and in our neighbors. Help us believe this truth: God's love conquers sin and death, and we are more than conquerors through Christ. Provide the resources and courage to live this faith boldly. We place our hope in your power to accomplish this abundant work in us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

- There will be opportunities to give the gift of your time. Please be open to help when called upon.
- Begin prayerfully discerning what you can contribute to the annual stewardship and capital campaign.

12. How can I learn more?

More information will be distributed throughout the next couple of months before asking members to make a financial commitment.

Please plan on joining us for an informational gathering on either of the following dates:

- Wednesday, October 11 at 6:30 pm after the Community Meal (Choir Practice to Follow at 7:00 pm)
- Sunday, October 15 after worship (approximately 11:30 am)