



FORWARD IN FAITH



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

from the **Campaign Chairs**



Capital campaigns are good things! They are necessary events for the life of any vibrant and active institution, and capital campaigns in a church provide the maintenance to support ministry and mission. They secure a facility for service to its members and the community. Westminster is a significant symbol within our community. Our spire stands tall. Our 31 doors are open to all. We are a giving congregation in so many ways. We provide worship and spiritual growth, programs and lectures, musical concerts and other activities in our building. And we support efforts to bring food, clothing, and many more resources to people in need beyond our congregation. The more we grow, the more we can do and give.

Our church is our religious home. And, just like our own homes, it needs constant maintenance and repair. Our doors are open nearly 365 days a year to all ages. That's a heavy usage. Much of the everyday care for our building is done by volunteer members. Did you know that a group meets every Thursday morning to work on the building and grounds? In fact, two men are painting somewhere in our church almost every week, all year long. Stewardship abounds! But doors and windows, soffit and fascia, sidewalks and driveways, and major equipment are all items that go "BB" (beyond the budget).

Westminster was founded on a firm vision of Faith, Commitment, and Outreach. Let's work together to lead this congregation and community Forward in Faith with an over-the-top successful capital campaign!

Harry & Linda Serene, Mike & Deborah Lee

Moving Westminster Presbyterian Church Forward in Faith

Session has approved a campaign to raise funds in support of three main purposes:

- **IN this house**, it's time for some necessary repairs, deferred maintenance, and capital improvements to our church home
- **BEYOND this house**, we want to keep growing in outreach with our partners in mission
- **for the FUTURE**, our capacity to sustain the next generation will be among our most important legacies

IN this house...

The Property Commission has developed a list of projects that encompass the interior and exterior of our church building and the surrounding grounds.

The sanctuary is where we gather for much of our worship, and for many special events. Planned improvements include re-leathering the organ and replacing the console; refurbishing the pews, including new cushions; and upgrading lights in the ceiling. Repairs are needed for ceiling leaks and some above-grade leaks closer to the ground. We'd also like to improve seating in the choir loft for worship, and to accommodate special musical performances.

\$766,000



IN *this house...*

The Fellowship Hall plays host to a great many events: Wednesday night dinners, family activities, lectures, community programs, and more. But with all that usage, the Fellowship Hall needs new carpeting and paint, a lighting upgrade, and new tables and chairs. The restrooms across from Room 107 need to be refurbished, and the kitchen needs a new dishwasher.

\$212,000

A number of audio-visual improvements for the sanctuary, chapel, Fellowship Hall, and north courtyard will enhance our use of these spaces for years to come. The air handler in the chapel and adjacent room is also due for replacement.

\$20,000

Our meeting rooms host Sunday school, new member gatherings, small group discussions, community events, Bible studies, and so much more. In many of these rooms, furniture, ceilings, floor coverings, and lighting need to be updated. The Memorial Parlor also needs some attention. Downstairs, the Westminster Early Childhood Education Programs (WECEP) offices and classrooms require some upgrading too.

\$60,000

Bridge service attendance has skyrocketed and the WROC hosts hundreds of events each year. But the north wing has some moisture problems and requires updates to electrical systems and the ADA-compliant lift.

\$26,000

THE STORY *of this house...*

1947



1953



 There are 31 doors into our building, and many of these doors and frames need to be replaced. Lots of exterior wood surfaces need to be repaired and repainted, including cupolas and eaves. Our tall spire requires extensive repair, and the columbarium needs to be refurbished and maintained, while some remaining plaques and other details have not been completed. Outdoor lighting also needs to be improved.

\$347,000

 The entire paved portion of the property is ready to be milled and repaved – including the north and south parking lots, driveways, and other parking



areas. Drains need to be cleaned and repaired, and parking lines will have to be repainted.

\$218,000



1958

1990



1994



2018+

?

IN this house...

The gutters, downspouts, and runoff elements need restoration, and in some cases replacement, as even a casual walk around the building will show. In some cases there are below-grade foundation problems to be addressed, which have caused leaking into lower level corridors. And all our lawns need to be renewed.

\$230,000



The north and south covered walkways and steps provide a picturesque balance to our sanctuary and spire, but they are also in need of repair. Ceilings have to be patched and painted, and light fixtures should be upgraded to more energy efficient LED lights. We need to rebuild and repair the walls near the south courtyard steps, and the steps in both courtyards need better lighting. Deteriorated brick and concrete sidewalks need to be repaired or replaced.

\$47,000

Other improvements include replacing exit and emergency lights and window air-conditioning units, and improving the balance and load on electrical systems, which will reduce electrical costs. Replacing hand-held radios will facilitate activities in this large building, and improved shop tools will help with daily repairs. The

main boiler requires a backup recirculating pump and controls, and new thermostats will help improve comfort.

\$562,000

Finally, a few important if mundane projects must be addressed: a full inventory of all church assets should be completed, and architectural, civil, mechanical, and electrical drawings should be scanned and archived electronically. Also, the senior pastor's office has not been refurbished in many years, and we should address the furniture, ceiling, floor covering, and lighting in that space too.

\$15,000

The total estimated cost of all of these improvements to God's house is \$2,503,000.

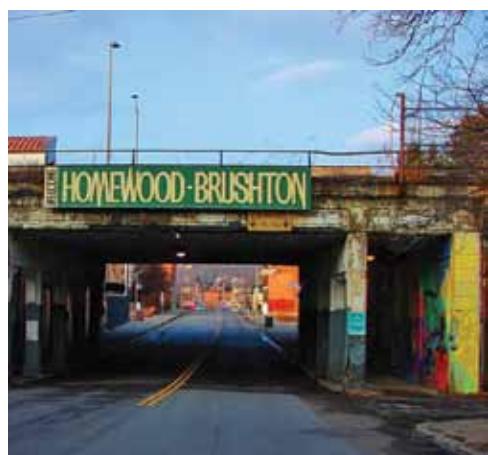
BEYOND *this house...*

From the very beginning, Westminster has been a mission-minded congregation. In fact, our concern for the surrounding community and the wider world has drawn many people into the life of the church.

Westminster's ongoing outreach supports local mission through the South Hills Interfaith Movement (SHIM), City Mission, the Open Door, and other ministries in and around Pittsburgh, plus international missions in Haiti, Malawi, and India.

Every so often, though, we can do bigger things through special efforts. The New Cornfield Campaign in 2008 built a school in Haiti that serves 1,000 children today, and provided startup funds for SHIM's case worker staff that cares for hundreds of our neighbors even now.

This *Forward in Faith* campaign will enable the Outreach Commission to support exciting new initiatives with some of our mission partners, ranging from SHIM to Homewood to Haiti. How much we can accomplish depends on the resources we raise.



for the FUTURE...

Westminster is the largest church in the Pittsburgh Presbytery, and among the largest 1% of PC(USA) churches the country. Our endowment lets us do things far beyond what we could accomplish through regular giving alone.

The New Cornfield Campaign ten years ago brought the endowment to a level where it could contribute to three main purposes: non-recurring capital needs at the church, special projects in outreach, and new initiatives in ministry and mission. Proceeds from the endowment are never spent on operating costs, but only for purposes "above and beyond."

Each year, 4% of the endowment's value is available for distribution. At the current level of about \$3.5 million, that translates to \$140,000 annually. With most of our capital needs built into the Forward in Faith campaign, and a portion of the campaign going to the endowment, we should be able to generate \$150,000 or more every year for new efforts in ministry and mission.

Think of the possibilities – for our own time and for future generations!



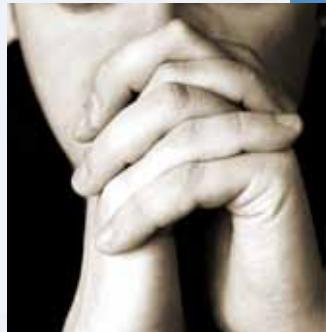
how you can PARTICIPATE...

Pray.

God answers prayer, and prayer is one of the most important things we do in church. Pray that God will guide Westminster in all things, and that God will move us Forward in Faith through this campaign.

Pray also for personal guidance:

“Lord, what would you do through me to accomplish your will?”



Help.

Hundreds of people volunteer in and through our church, caring for one another, helping each other grow in faith, and reaching out to serve beyond the congregation.

We can help in this effort by remembering how important the church has been in our own lives, and sharing our stories with others, by way of encouraging them to support the church's ministry and mission.



Give.

“From those to whom much has been given, much will be expected,” Jesus says.

Every good thing in life comes as a gift from God. What we give in return is a measure of our gratitude. The Bible says in Deuteronomy, “All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing that the Lord your God has given you.”

If each of us gives in proportion to our resources, then we will share not equal gifts, but an equal sacrifice. As we pray each day, “Lord, what would you do through me?” God will lead us to give with glad and generous hearts.



FAQs...

Q: Why are we doing a campaign now?

A: Ten years ago, Westminster members raised \$3.2 million in the New Cornfield Campaign, providing for a decade of repairs and improvements on our property, a tithe for mission, and enough investments to generate resources from our endowment. Now it's time to provide for the next 10 years of property repairs and renovations, plus new support for mission and the endowment.

Q: How will proceeds be distributed?

A: Up to \$3.5 million in total receipts, 80% will be allocated for property repairs and improvements, and 10% each for mission outreach and the endowment. Any funds in excess of \$3.5 million will be divided equally between outreach and the endowment.

Q: Who is leading the campaign?

A: Two generations of leaders are represented by our co-chairs, Harry and Linda Serene and Mike and Deborah Lee, with the assistance of staff and other volunteers.

Q: Where did the list of projects come from?

A: The Property Commission undertook a thorough assessment of projected property needs and obtained cost estimates, while the Outreach Commission has been working on projects in mission. Session has approved the overall campaign.

Q: What if I am already giving to the church?

A: The church's day-to-day operations are covered by our contributions through the general budget, but the budget does not have resources to fund large capital needs or major initiatives in mission. As in the New Cornfield Campaign, we hope members will make "second-mile" contributions beyond our regular gifts.

FAQs...

Q: When will commitments be received and for how long?

A: Commitment Sunday will be May 20. We'd like to receive most pledges on that day, though we anticipate additional pledges arriving for a few weeks afterwards. The pledge period can be up to three years.

Q: Will I be asked for a public commitment?

A: No. All pledges and gifts will be confidential.

Q: May I revise my commitment if circumstances change?

A: Of course!

Q: Can gifts be made in memory or in honor of someone?

A: Yes. Such gifts may have a great deal of meaning, and we're happy to discuss your request.

Q: Can assets other than cash be contributed?

A: Yes. Major gifts often come in the form of investment securities or other assets. In fact, you may benefit from favorable tax treatment by contributing appreciable assets.

Q: When will we know how much has been pledged?

A: We're planning to announce the total during a Celebration Day in worship on Sunday, June 24.

Q: Where do I go to ask questions or offer suggestions?

A: Contact Mandy Thomas: thomas@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x206.

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2040 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15241



FORWARD IN FAITH

Important Sundays

- May 6 Campaign Dinner
- May 20 Commitment Day
- June 24 Celebration Day