



Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we launching this campaign now?

Inspection of our 1955 pipe organ revealed cotton-covered wiring that poses a fire hazard and no longer meets electrical code. Because the renovation will already open up the chancel and disturb the floor to address it, this is also the moment to address the chancel's inaccessible, stair-heavy design and shore up the foundation beneath it—problems that would only cost more to solve separately and would risk damaging a newly restored organ if tackled later. One project now accomplishes what would otherwise take three future disruptions.

Our campus has seen impressive growth over the past 15 years with the renovated Social Center, expanded Food Pantry, and recently installed new doors. Each project builds toward one goal: spaces where we can live our mission while being welcoming, safe, and accessible. This sanctuary project is the piece that completes that vision. Now we have an opportunity to come full circle and complete the work. Now is the time for us to pray, plan, and commit to creating a sacred space for the next 80 years.

When will this project begin?

Groundbreaking is projected to take place in April 2027.

What is included in the project?

This project will include a renovation of the chancel area for accessibility and flexibility, the restoration of our 1955 pipe organ, restored pews and new pew cushions, shoring up of the floor and foundation, a refinished floor, a LULA lift, and new windows.

How are we financing the project?

We are financing the project through a \$250,000 allocation from the FPC Preservation Fund, \$1.3 million through the “Our Hope for years to Come” campaign, and debt service, if needed.

If we received \$250,000 from a bequest to the Preservation Fund, why can't we use that to restore the organ and keep everything else as it is now?

The current chancel design with multiple steep stair segments poses significant risk for anyone of any age. Renovating the chancel and floors at a later time would threaten the newly refurbished organ from possible construction damage and debris. Because the pews need to be removed to shore up the floor and foundation, this is the most cost-effective time for pew refurbishment.

How will this impact our community?

Healthy facilities support healthy ministry. Our sanctuary is a beautiful place, and this campaign will allow its beauty to be matched in safety and accessibility. Our sacred space, our organ, and the most critical elements of our worship life, at the heart of our church, will be set on a path of success for decades to come. In the meantime, flexibility of use of our Social Center will allow regular Sunday worship to continue and limit the impacts on FPC's programming.

How much should I give?

Each household is invited to pray and consider, "God, what do You want to do through me?" There is no equal gift, only equal sacrifice. Every commitment is an act of faith and shared vision. There is no equal gift, only equal sacrifice.

Should this affect my annual giving?

Our annual giving is the lifeblood of our ministry and should always be our first priority. "Our Hope for Years to Come" asks us to prayerfully consider what we can give over and above our regular giving.

How does the broader congregation feel about the project? As excited as the pastors, staff, and volunteer team?

The comments received from the congregation are overwhelmingly filled with excitement and optimism for the "Our Hope for Years to Come" campaign and our effort to build for now and the future of FPC.

How will we be kept informed of the building plans and progress?

The team will keep our church family informed throughout each phase of the project through pictures and information on our website, social media feeds, newsletters, in-person reports during Sunday worship, and emails/letters sent to members. Please feel free to reach out to our leadership team with questions as we make all efforts to be completely transparent and keep everyone informed.