

BUILDING A MORE WELCOMING CHURCH

Jordan Klotz

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

-Romans 15:7

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."-Matthew 22:37-39

*Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place
-Hymn 301, Let Us Build a House, Marty Haugen*

As Christians, we are called by our scripture, by our song, and indeed by ourselves—in our recently adopted Vision and Mission Statement—to love and welcome all people.

This basic tenet of our faith was the catalyst that led to "Our Hope for Years to Come," the capital campaign which Session has voted to undertake this fall. A feasibility study conducted by Richard Rogers of Horizons Stewardship, our campaign consultant, determined that the congregation is incredibly unified; 97% of respondents in the congregation-wide survey agreed that a capital campaign to fund the proposed projects aligned

with FPC's vision to "Love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves."

One of the greatest joys of serving this congregation has been how it intentionally welcomes all people, regardless of ability, to participate in worship, learning, and mission. While there are many reasons to be excited about taking this step together in faith, I am personally most eager that we will be able to live our values in our physical space. No longer will physical limitations be a barrier to full participation for those present in worship.

When future generations of our congregation look back on this time, may they see a legacy of unconditional welcome, of sacrificial generosity, and Christlike love.

A PRAYER FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Gracious God, You have been so faithful to our church family, and we thank You for everything You have already done in our lives. As we look to the future, help me to trust You more deeply. Take away any worry or hesitation in my heart, and replace it with Your peace. This season isn't just about a project; it's about my relationship with You. So I simply ask: God what do you want to do through me? Give me the courage to listen to Your voice, and the faith to follow wherever You lead.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TEAM

With much gratitude, we introduce to you the Capital Campaign Team, and we ask for your prayers and support for the big endeavor ahead.

Amy Bellisano

Gary Ostermueller

Lori Kellner

Bob Rosko

Heather Koball

Maggy Cook

Brenda Day

Jane Meyer

Margo Gunsser

Cathy Ostermueller

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Niall Corbalis

Dan Cook

Rev. Khayla Henry

Paul Gunsser

Deb Teall

Rev. Leksmana Leonard

Virginia Shaw

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