



Growing Together

First Christian Church 2010

How we got here...

It would be impossible to name all the people who have had an impact on First Christian Church in its nearly 100-year history. There was the group of visionaries who first began meeting as a church in 1917 and built the first building on Elm Street. Another group saw an opportunity to grow on West Market Street, and built our current building in 1952. Other changes followed: two major additions – the elevator and the education wing – as well as countless other projects that improved the facilities and helped the congregation grow and change.

God has been leading First Christian Church from the beginning – from the early days on Elm Street to the prayerful consideration of this capital campaign. God has inspired the members of this congregation to love more deeply, serve more courageously, and give more generously than they ever thought possible. Over the past two years, it has become clear that God is challenging us again, to adapt to changing circumstances and to find new ways to be church in our time and place.

Where we're going....

Much work, prayer, and faith has gone into identifying and defining the projects included in this campaign. The feasibility study conducted earlier this year by Cargill Associates indicated that we could reasonably expect to raise enough money to support these projects, and showed broad support among the congregation for this campaign. The campaign itself will be directed by Zip Long, our Cargill Associates stewardship consultant.

We have set a campaign goal of \$480,000 to fund the following building projects. Some of these projects are ones that need to be done so we can be responsible caretakers of our facilities. Others will update the look and improve the functionality of our building so that as we grow, we can better care for one another and welcome newcomers. All of the projects will enable us to better do the ministry God is calling us to do.

Boiler System Replacement

Estimated Cost \$115,000

Our boiler has outlived its life expectancy and is operating at an estimated efficiency of less than 40%. A new heating and water heating system would be much more energy-efficient and would save the church a lot of money in energy bills.

Entryway and Gathering Space Renovation *Estimated Cost* \$200,000

This project would make our building more welcoming for newcomers and members alike. This renovation has three components:

1. Adding a portico to our main doors to allow for safe entry during rainy weather.
2. Redecorating the entryway, including adding a visitor welcome station and brightening the atmosphere.
3. Moving the administrative offices to existing office space and removing the interior office wall to create an informal gathering space outside the sanctuary.

It is our intention to first complete the portico, and then complete the interior renovations to the greatest extent possible with the funds available.

Kitchen Renovations and Water Remediation *Estimated Cost* \$32,649

Water intrusion behind the kitchen wall has been a problem for some time, and much of the kitchen equipment is original to the building and in need of replacement. This plan would include upgrading the kitchen facilities at the same time as solving the water problems.

Steeple Replacement *Estimated Cost* \$76,000

Our current steeple has a number of problems that make it more efficient to replace than repair. The new steeple will be made out of maintenance-free fiberglass and architecturally compatible with our building.

Gift to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North Carolina Regional Capital Campaign

9% of funds raised

Our region is conducting a capital campaign this year to raise funds for building projects at Camp Caroline (a multi-purpose building, kitchen renovations, among others), Christmount Assembly (an elevator at the guest house), and other ministry programs building projects around the region. First Christian Church has long been a supporter of and participant in regional activities; including this gift in our own campaign allows us to continue our strong relationship with the region.

How you can help...

Pray for our congregation, our leaders and members, and those who will have not yet found their way through our doors.

Participate in the life of the congregation through regular worship attendance, outreach projects, and educational opportunities.

Give prayerful consideration to your financial commitment to this campaign as well as your ongoing support to the ministries of First Christian Church.