



# Generous Giving

Capital Campaign Newsletter

April 2010

## Achieving Generous and Sacrificial Giving

Sacrifice. It is not a pleasant word. It suggests suffering, pain and loss. Sacrifice is a word rarely used in today's society, a society that is too in tune to pleasures and self-satisfaction. It's a word that escapes the vocabularies of most people.

Christians see sacrifice from a different perspective. Suffering and pain remain but the end result is spiritual progress. Our salvation came only through God's sacrifice—the sacrifice of Christ on the cross for you and me. Now in this time and place in our life, He is asking all of us to be generous for Faith Church.

Faith Church has invested in a journey of faith that requires not just a few of our members, but all of us to participate. All of us are being asked to meet a great challenge that will demand the cooperation and sacrifice of each and every one of us. There are many ways to give—we can give our time, thoughts, wealth and guidance. Similarly, there are many levels of giving with the highest form of giving being selfless and unconditional. This form of giving is a powerful way of creating abundance in our lives because we invariably receive more than we give.

It has been said that the ultimate test of a person's character may be their willingness to sacrifice something for future generations whose words of thanks may never be heard. We may never see those faces nor hear the names of those individuals in future years that will enjoy the fruits of our efforts today. When we stop giving, we stop receiving. If we have clenched fists, we cannot receive. The moment we open our fists and give, we are also able to receive.

Each of us has our own definition of sacrifice and in most cases none of us enjoy making sacrifices—and parting with money is a major sacrifice! So the question is not, 'Are we willing to sacrifice?' We will always sacrifice for that which we love and desire. The question is, 'Do we love enough, and do we desire God enough in our hearts to help His church?'

In Christ,

Leigh Brown  
Pastor

Terry Krinke  
Capital Appeal Co-chair

Judy Vijums  
Capital Appeal Co-chair

*"...for if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—  
not according to what one does not have." II Corinthians 8:12*

# Generous Giving

## Our Achievements to Date

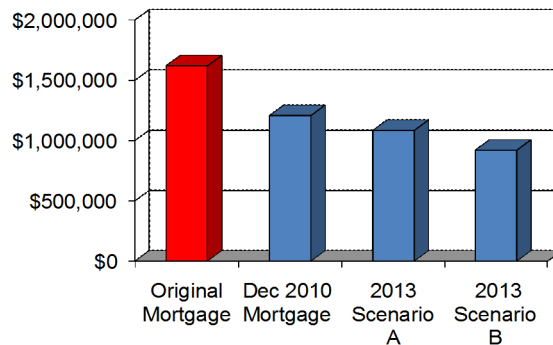
### Where we started

- The total cost of our building project was approximately \$2.0 million
- Our original mortgage was \$1,620,000, maturing in July 2010. The interest rate was fixed at 7.0% requiring monthly payments of \$12,256

### Where we've come

- In December 2008, we refinanced the original mortgage resulting in decreasing the interest rate to 5.95% and decreasing our monthly payments to \$9,181. Our current mortgage balance is approximately \$1.2 million
- We give thanks for these commitments to date:
  - 2004–2006: \$676,020 pledged; \$633,186 received
  - 2007–2009: \$470,275 pledged; \$455,158 received
  - 2010: \$108,481 pledged; \$18,141 received

## Impact of Generous Giving



**Scenario A** – Phase III appeal achievement of \$360,000; reduces mortgage to \$1,085,000 at the end of 2013

**Scenario B** – Phase III appeal achievement of \$500,000; reduces mortgage to \$920,000 at the end of 2013 and shortens the maturity of our mortgage by 5 years; therefore, our mortgage would be paid off in 2023 rather than 2028

**Results are dramatic when we stretch beyond our appeal goal**

*"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." Matthew 6:21*

# Generous Giving

## What Are Our 2011-2013 Capital Campaign Goals?

Our goal in this campaign to achieve **\$500,000** is two-fold:

1. To raise enough funds to make our regular mortgage payment for the next three years. This equals \$360,000, which is also why this is a three-year pledge campaign.
2. To raise additional funds to pay down on the principal. For any additional money we apply to the principal, we accelerate our loan pay-off and will save our church thousands of dollars of interest.

We understand this is a lot of money to raise. However, **we can do it** with prayer, hard work, and sacrifice. These are the keys to success.



*"Everything comes from you; all we're doing is giving back what we've been given from your generous hand." 1 Chronicles 29:14 (The Message)*

# Generous Giving

## Questions and Answers

**Q. How is this campaign different from the previous ones?**

A. It is still a debt retirement campaign, but the goal of this campaign is to raise the minimum needed to make our monthly payments.

**Q. How much is our current debt?**

A. Currently, the total debt is approximately \$1.2 million.

**Q. How much are we trying to raise?**

A. Our goal is to raise \$500,000. Minimally, we need to raise \$360,000 to cover our monthly mortgage payments for the next three years. Additional amounts raised will be used to pay down on the principal.

**Q. Why is a capital campaign necessary to make our monthly mortgage payment?**

A. The church operating budget does not include the additional expense of a monthly mortgage payment, which is why we are conducting this capital campaign.

**Q. Can we really raise this much money?**

A. YES we can! It will require sacrifice from not just a few, but from **all of us**. If we all do our part with a generous gift, we can do it.

**Q. Will I have an opportunity to make pledge payments as I desire?**

A. Yes! You can designate how you want to fulfill your pledge: weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannually, annually, etc.

**Q. How much will I be asked to give?**

A. You will not be asked to give a specific amount. Everyone is asked to reflect on his/her individual blessings and pray about a pledge to be paid over three years. Your pledge should be **over and above** your current giving to the church.

**Q. When will I have an opportunity to make my three-year pledge?**

A. May 9 is "Commitment Sunday." All pledges will be dedicated as part of our worship services.

**Q. How do I decide what I should commit to the "*Generous Giving*" capital campaign?**

A. Prayer and reflection! What each of us should give is an individual response. Although everyone cannot give the same amount, your gift should be motivated by a genuine level of generosity and sacrifice. Consider it a puzzle. If any piece is missing, the puzzle is not complete. Each one of us should pray and seek guidance on what our piece of the puzzle should be for our three-year commitment.

# Generous Giving

## 12 Guidelines for Generous Giving

1. **Give first.** Make the first use of my income an act of faithfulness to a loving God.
2. **Give gratefully.** Bring to mind God's gifts and ways this money can matter for eternity. Praise God, and remind myself of the joy and privilege not of giving, but of giving **back**.
3. **Give faithfully.** Cultivate the discipline of faithfulness regardless of how I feel at the time.
4. **Give proportionately.** Compare my gifts to no one else's and happily give from my resources.
5. **Give generously.** It seems like a natural law, and it is certainly scriptural, that the way we give and live is measured back to us. I will give as I would love to receive.
6. **Give sacrificially.** I know and God knows when a gift comes from my heart. Practice giving in a way that expresses my love for God's kingdom.
7. **Give cheerfully.** God delights in and loves a cheerful giver.
8. **Give freely.** Attach no strings or expectations; seek nothing—particularly public recognition—in return.
9. **Give personally.** Invest myself, my time, and my talent. Involve myself in the privilege of returning to God with the first of all I have. Step back and allow each member of my family the same opportunity for personal involvement.
10. **Give quietly.** Give without fanfare. God sees, and that is all that matters. Never seek to draw attention, but be prepared to explain why I give.
11. **Give expectantly.** Look for ways to share my gifts, bear another's burden, or contribute my resources to God's kingdom.
12. **Give worshipfully.** Our model is the Author of Giving: "For God so loved the world that He gave..."

*"...but each of you with as much as you can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you." Deuteronomy 16:17*

# Generous Giving

## The Power of Prayer

Prayer is the foundation of our “*Generous Giving*” campaign. Each of us is challenged to earnestly pray, seeking not only an understanding of the blessings entrusted to us, but what God asks us to do in the use of those blessings.



### **Our Campaign Prayer**

*We give thanks, Lord, for you are a generous and gracious God. Mindful of all your blessings, we ask you to give us the grace to share your love and the many gifts you have given us. We pray for all your creation that through our stewardship, all may be transformed by your loving care. We ask for your peace and protection. Blessed be God forever! Amen.*