

Living  
IN FAITH  
Building  
OUR FUTURE

# Campaign News

## Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church

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### Kickoff Sunday at Oglethorpe

*Congregational Song, Baptism, Children, New Members, and BBQ Luncheon*



Please see pages 2 and 3 for question and answers about the Capital Campaign and the Annual Stewardship Drive

### A Message from Marthame

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for good and not for harm, to give you a future filled with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.* (Jeremiah 29:11-12)



Dear Friends,

We have been hearing how we are losing shingles off the sanctuary roof, that the HVAC is on its last legs, and the locks on our entrance doors are no longer reliable (all of which is true). And we have been hearing and talking about our efforts to raise the funds to rectify these deficiencies (which is necessary).

However, I think Jeremiah really describes we are doing. We have

prayed for guidance and now are implementing God's plan—our goal being "a future filled with hope."

Each time I attend one of the many meetings related to the campaign, I leave with renewed hope for the future of our wonderful church. I come away amazed at all of the creativity, deliberation, thought, prayer, and love that so many of you are putting into this effort.

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## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FAQS

### How long do I have to pay my three-year pledge to the Capital Campaign?

You will have three years, from January, 2013, to December 31, 2015, to pay. You may make your first payment on Commitment Sunday, December 9, 2012, if you choose.

### How often should I make a payment?

That is up to you. Many people choose to make 36 monthly payments over the three-year fulfillment period. However, you also can choose to pay it weekly, quarterly or annually—whatever works best for you.

### How should I pay?

You can sign up for direct payment from your checking account, or you can pay by check. Write “**Capital Campaign**” on the memo line.

### How do I know my pledge is going to for the capital projects and not for the annual budget?

All pledges will be recorded and tracked in a separate budget line. The pledges and pledge payments are restricted—they can be used only for the capital projects.

In addition, we will have regular reports on:

1. Amount pledged
2. Pledge payments received
3. Amount expended on the capital projects

## Why Should I Pledge to the Annual Stewardship Drive?

**S**tewardship acknowledges that God is the creator of all things, and we are but stewards of life and possessions.

We recognize this in part by giving a worthy portion of our time, talent and treasure to the Lord. God has blessed us, and stewardship is our opportunity to give back.

Giving has always been a mark of Christian commitment and discipleship. Pledging gives the church a priority in our lives. Making a commitment in the form of a pledge helps us to be regular and systematic in our giving. Our commitment becomes planned and not just a part of what is left over after all other financial obligations are met.

Pledging also lets OPC know that it can count on your financial support. These pledges are used to prepare the yearly operating budget.

Oglethorpe is committed to maintaining a balanced budget which is set by the Session in January. The Session strives to be efficient, spending money wisely and make each dollar go as far as possible. Each dollar spent is done so under the commitment to be faithful to Christ and to make a positive



impact on God’s world.

We count on every church member or household to support the church by making a pledge towards our annual budget. Your gift (along with all our members and friends) is vital to the continued strength of OPC and will help our church make a positive difference in people’s lives.

### Where does our pledged dollars to the Annual Stewardship Drive go?

Your dollars go to Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Mission projects such as: World Missions, home missions and benevolence for helping the homeless and hungry: the Bargain Shop, Food Pantry, Journey, and Habitat for Humanity.

Education expenses such as: Salaries, Sunday School Curriculum and supplies, Vacation Bible Camp and Child Care Workers.

Congregational Life such as: Congregational lunches and dinners, kitchen supplies.

Worship expenses such as: Salaries for Director

of Music, choir music and worship supplies, special music programs  
Building and Maintenance and Utilities: Salaries and general maintenance

Administrative Expenses: Minister’s salary, secretary’s salary, general office supplies, printing, postage, etc.

### Do we have revenue other than pledges?

Yes, we have rental income from the pre-school, other groups and use of the chapel.

In addition we receive non-pledged contributions during the Sunday collection. However, we have been in the red for the past several years.

### What is our pledge goal for the 2013 budget?

Over the past three years, pledges have decreased by 37 percent from 67 households to 51 households, and the amount pledged has decreased by more than \$42,000.

**Our goal** is to increase the number of pledges, and the total amount pledged. **We will have complete details on the budget and requested pledges in the final campaign.**

# How Will Capital Campaign Funds Be Used?

On Sunday, October 14, about 50 members, visitors and friends came to Fellowship Hall for lunch and information about the Capital Campaign and an answer to the above question.

During the Feasibility Study, respondents prioritized seven projects and an “other” category that would be funded through the capital campaign. The campaign Management Team and Session have reviewed the priorities from the Feasibility Study and the needs and established the following project list. **Please note that the following contains updated information not available on Kickoff Sunday.**

1. **Replace the Sanctuary roof.**

This will be done as soon as sufficient pledges payments are received. The cost of this project is \$18,000. As of publication, we have \$11,000 from paid pledges available.



2. **Upgrade the HVAC.** We all have experienced the sporadic heating and cooling from our current system. This is number two on the list of projects. The full cost is \$110,000 which includes replacing the boiler. If necessary, this project could be done in phases.

3. **Replace the glass entrance doors.** We have two concerns: we can no longer get replacement parts for our current doors, and they are no longer secure. We need to make

sure our building is secure, and ensure the safety of the preschool children. We will include a new security system when the doors are installed. We are looking at a cost of \$8,500 for this project.

4. **Restroom upgrades.** This will include a new handicapped-accessible family restroom on the Sanctuary level. We



are also planning upgrades on other restrooms. The amount allocated to this project is \$40,000. **New information:** Upgrades to the other restrooms will be contingent on the location of an elevator.

The following items are not yet prioritized, and the order in which they are done will be contingent upon available funds.

**Elevator. New information:** We need to schedule a meeting with the DeKalb County Fire Marshal to make sure we are in compliance for the installation of any elevator. Once that is done, we can continue to work on other aspects of a design and location of an elevator. The estimated cost is \$75,000.

**Outreach. New Information:** We are researching consultants who might work with us on evangelism and new member outreach. This would not be a staff person, but a contracted professional. The estimated cost is \$60,000.

**Kitchen.** Plans are being developed to do some reconfiguration of the kitchen as well as some upgrades including plumbing, hot water heaters and a dishwasher. Estimated cost: \$10,000.

**Front (Lawn) Entrance:** This design is still a work in progress. We are working with the architect, and will be talking with a contractor soon. Estimated cost: \$170,000.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FAQs

**Will everyone at OPC be asked to pledge? What if I am on a fixed income?**

Yes, all members, friends and former members will have the opportunity to make a pledge.

The amount you pledge is between you and God, and every pledge is welcome.

*Each one must give as decided in their hearts, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corinthians 9:7

**Is this pledge in addition to my annual support of OPC?**

Yes. You will be asked for a pledge to the Annual Stewardship Drive at the same time. (See article on page 2). It is important that you do not reduce your annual pledge to give to the Capital Campaign.

**CAMPAIGN EVENTS**

Sunday, November 4  
9:00-9:55 a.m.

OPC Fellowship Hall  
Coffee & pastries  
Childcare available



Sunday, November 4  
Margy Jones' residence

3974 Bonnington Ct.,  
Atlanta, GA 30341

Supper provided.

Can accommodate 12 guests.

Please, adults only

**RSVP**

1. Call Linda Jones at  
770.457.7930

2. E-mail Linda Jones at  
[mmto6@comcast.net](mailto:mmto6@comcast.net)

3. Sign up in the narthex

## A Message from Marthame continued from page 1

I will confess that I was apprehensive at first as to whether we would have enough volunteers to help with the campaign. At last count, 57 people have stepped forward to serve in some capacity. If I were asked to rate the productivity of the campaign volunteers, I would say 12 on a scale of 10!

Here is what I'm talking about:

The **Communications Team** created and designed our campaign logo, which is now on the newsletter masthead.

The **Events Team** organized the Kick-off Lunch and four other campaign events.

The **Thanks Team** picked out a gift that will go to everyone who contributes to the campaign.

The **Prayer Team** wrote a Prayer for Our Capital Campaign and selected

the scripture which you see at the beginning of my column, and which will guide our worship for the next few weeks.

The **Children/Youth Team** is designing the thank you note that the Thanks Team will use.

The **Ambassador Team** is gearing up to contact all OPC members prior to Commitment Sunday, December 9, and they are also compiling a list of past members who may be interested in contributing to the campaign.

Our newly organized **Stewardship Committee** is heading up the effort for our Annual Stewardship Drive. Read more about this on page 2.

The **Steering Committee**, which met on October 11, provided valuable insights into the direction of the campaign.

Our **Campaign Events** have begun. They have proved very useful in answering questions and making sure the campaign leadership continues to stay focused.

Please keep yourself informed about the campaign through these newsletters and campaign events. If you still have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch with me or one of our Campaign Chairpersons, Jean Cox and Paul Reynolds.

If you have not signed up for one of the events, please do so. The schedule is listed page 3. Also, please pray daily for all who working on the campaign and all of our OPC family.

In Christ,



Marthame Sanders, Pastor

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
COMMITMENT SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 9, 2012**