



Campaign News

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church

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Frequently Asked Questions

Capital Campaign and Annual Stewardship Drive

We have compiled all of the frequently asked questions that have arisen since we began the campaign. Please read this newsletter over carefully. If you still have questions, you can ask the Campaign Ambassador when he or she contacts you before Commitment Sunday, December 9, 2012.

Which of the capital improvements will be done first?

Replacing the Sanctuary roof is our most pressing need and will be done as soon as we have the money to do so—



approximately \$18,000.

After that, we will upgrade the HVAC, renovate restrooms and replace the doors and security system.

The order of the other items will be determined later.

Are there plans to make any changes to the sanctuary interior?

No. When we talk about “reconfiguring the sanctuary entrance,” we are only referring to the lawn entrance exterior.

What is the goal of the capital campaign?

We have two goals:

First, we want every OPC individual and family to make

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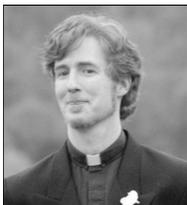
A Message from Marthame

Open our hearts and minds to your Spirit that we might discern your plans for us.

From the Prayer for Our Capital Campaign

Dear friends,

I have often commented on how much I think the Prayer for Our Capital Campaign reflects who we are as a spiritual community and how we care for



and help one another.

We said at the beginning of this campaign that the key to its success is prayer and knowing what God would have each of us do to support the campaign and ensure the future of OPC.

So my message to you today is simple. Pray!

On Commitment Sunday, December 9, you have the opportunity to make a pledge to the Capital Campaign as well as supporting OPC in 2013 with your time, talent and treasure.

This newsletter contains many questions and answers that have arisen in our campaign events and other meetings.

Please read it over carefully, pray and then discuss with your family how you can support the campaign to ensure our future.

In Christ,

Marthame Sanders

Marthame Sanders
Pastor

CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

Sunday, November 18

Stewardship sermon
Stewardship testimonial
Sermon discussion focusing on elements of the Prayer for Our Capital Campaign—immediately following service



Sunday, November 25

Sermon discussion focusing on elements of the Prayer for Our Capital Campaign—immediately following service



Friday, November 29

Campaign pledge packets mailed



Saturday, December 1, 5 pm

Dinner celebrating our Past, Present, and Future (Fellowship Committee Event)



Sunday, December 2

Stewardship testimonial



Monday, December 3

Campaign Ambassadors begin contacting all OPC members and friends to answer final questions about the campaign

DECEMBER 9

COMMITMENT SUNDAY



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a commitment to the campaign—no matter the amount.

Secondly, our monetary goal is \$555,000 over the three-year period.

Why is Outreach part of a Capital Campaign?

Our capital campaign is about maintaining our physical facility and about ensuring the viability of OPC. We need both a well-maintained building and a stable membership. Outreach ranked number four in priorities by respondents in the Feasibility Study.

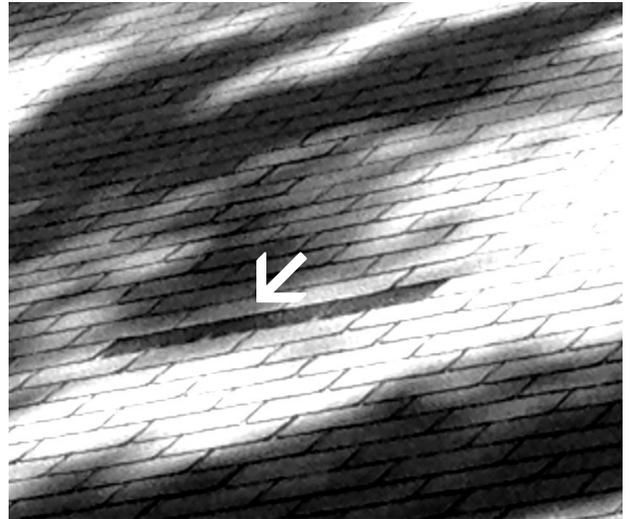
Can the funds raised through the capital campaign be used for operational expenses?

Absolutely not! These funds will be kept separately and can be used only for the capital improvements such as replacing the HVAC.

Why did we begin the campaign so quickly?

First, the Feasibility Study showed that OPC members strongly supported moving ahead with the campaign.

Secondly, we had immediate needs that had to be addressed—the Sanctuary roof had exceeded its life expectancy and our HVAC was continually breaking down. Plus, we had other needs outlined in the Feasibility Study.



Missing shingles are visible on the Sanctuary roof

Session decided it was time to act and voted to move ahead with the campaign and not lose the momentum generated by the study.

What happens if our capital campaign is not successful?

Again, there was such a positive response during the Feasibility Study, we expect a successful campaign!

Will everyone at OPC be asked to pledge?

Yes. All members, friends and former members will have the opportunity to make a pledge. In addition, Pre-school parents have indicated their willingness to donate to the capital campaign.

Can we specify the project for which they want their pledge or donation to be used?

All funds received for the campaign will go to a single fund that will be allocated to the projects as they are scheduled.



Replacing the outdated HVAC system is one of our first projects

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What if I am on a fixed income?

The amount you pledge is between you and God, and every pledge is welcome—no matter the amount.

Each one of you must give as you have decided in your heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

How long do I have to pay my 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 should I make my pledge payments?

You can authorize automatic bank draft from your checking or savings account. The authorization form is available from the church office.

If you are paying by check, be sure to write "**Capital Campaign**" on the memo line.

How do I know my pledge is going 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:



Replacing the entrance doors is essential for safety and security

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

You will also receive a periodic statement of how much OPC has credited to your capital campaign pledge. You are urged to keep a record of your payments in case of any discrepancy in OPC's records.

OPC has an open books policy. You are welcome to see the books at any time.

Is the amount I pledge confidential?

Yes. Just as with your regular offering, only those with fiscal responsibilities at the church, such as recording pledges and generating financial statements, will know the amount you pledge.

Prayer for Our Capital Campaign

God of the past, present, and future, we come to you in prayer with grateful hearts.

Your steadfast love and faithfulness have been our foundation and hope. You have molded Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church into a loving and serving community. You have filled our lives with the light of your living Spirit.

Open our hearts and minds to your Spirit that we might discern your plans for us. Bless our endeavors to provide sanctuary and a welcoming home for all. Shine through us, that we may reflect your love into the world.

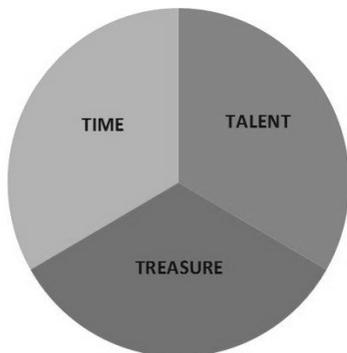
We pray that our present actions will honor those who have come before us and bless those who come after us. In your holy name we humbly pray.
Amen.

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)

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Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you. Deuteronomy 16:17



Is my pledge to the capital campaign 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. It is important that you do not reduce your annual financial pledge to give to the Capital Campaign.

This year, you will also have the opportunity to volunteer on one of OPC's many ministries as part of our Annual Stewardship Drive.

Does OPC really need an Annual Stewardship pledge from "me?"

Yes. While membership has virtually stayed the same in the past ten years, the number of giving and pledging households has decreased.

The potential growth opportunities for Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church ministries and programs have been constrained by lack of additional funds. While the church gains some additional members each year, our resources have not kept pace with

the OPC budget.

Making an annual pledge allows Session to more accurately project our revenues for the year.

Can't OPC pay for its staff and programs out of its reserve funds?

No. OPC does have invested funds. We are required to keep a certain amount in the bank and we are now getting close to the minimum amount required on reserve.



**DECEMBER 9, 2012
COMMITMENT SUNDAY**