

KEY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

THE CONSTRUCTION

Q: What are the factors driving the need for a building project?

A: We have been challenged for years to respond to critical space needs to accommodate our growing membership. In fact, there are strong indications that our growth is already being hindered due to inadequate facilities spread across eight (8) buildings on our campus. Furthermore, SBC has been in two morning worship services since July 1998. Church planners advise that when worship centers are 80% full, guests are likely not to come back. Our current 11:00 a.m. worship and special services at Christmas, Easter, Vacation Bible School, Revivals, etc. are often far above this 80% capacity. In addition, child care space is very limited. Finally, SBC's facilities are dated and have already become increasingly costly to maintain.

Q: Shouldn't our focus be on bringing people to Christ?

A: Yes, our mission is "To bring people to Jesus!" We also want to have room for everyone to worship together as a family and be reached by the SBC ministries.

Q: What are we building?

A: After years of prayer and planning, the Church decided that a worship center and child care area would best honor the Lord and allow us to be good stewards as we reach our community for Christ. This is Phase 1 of the Church Master Plan.

Q: How much growth will the Worship Center and Child Care Area accommodate?

A: We will have the opportunity to more than double our current average attendance in both worship and child care.

Q: When will construction begin?

A: \$1 million is needed to begin construction. Then, once final construction documents are approved by the Church, we will schedule groundbreaking.

Q: What was the process for selecting the architectural and construction firms?

A: The SBC Building Committee met with several architects and investigated various construction firms before selecting CainRashWest Architects and GRC Construction both of Kingsport. The Church approved the Building Committee recommendation during special business sessions held in Fall 2009.

Q: What will become of the existing Worship Center and Child Care Area?

A: Phase 2 of the Church approved Master Plan calls for renovation of the existing worship center. The existing Child Care Area will be utilized for Children's Department Sunday School classrooms. These renovations are not included in this campaign and must be approved by the Church at a later date.

THE COST

Q: What is the total estimated cost?

A: Phase 1 will cost an estimated \$2.8 million.

Q: How will the building be funded?

A: The funds will be the receipts of above the tithe commitment pledges made by the faithful stewards of SBC. The Church, as needed, will research several financing options (bonds, loans, other) to complete construction once the initial \$1 million groundbreaking goal is met.

THE COMMITMENT

Q: When will someone ask me for money?

A: No one from the campaign will personally ask you for a specific amount of money. The purpose of the campaign is to: (1) Help everyone hear and embrace the vision. (2) Answer questions about the project. (3) Encourage each person to engage with God as to how He would lead them to participate in the campaign. (4) Respond in unity to support God's vision. This commitment is about more than money. God wants you to use the gifts He's given you to be obedient.

Q: How will the commitments be made?

A: Giving commitments will be for a three-year period, over and above regular budget gifts. These pledge commitments will be presented before the Lord at a special Covenant Sunday to be held March 21.

Q: Will our pledge commitments ever be made public?

A: No. Absolutely not. However, the grand total of our 3-year commitments will be announced on Sunday, March 28.

Q: Can pledge commitments ever be changed and when does pledging begin?

A: A regular pledging schedule is recommended, not just for faithfulness, but for ease of budgeting (for instance, weekly or monthly). You may increase or decrease your pledge at any time. Covenant pledges will be presented March 21. The first three-year gift will be given on *Firstfruits* Easter Sunday, April 4.

Q: What else should we be doing during this commitment period?

A: *Pray* for the campaign, its leaders and workers and its success in reaching both spiritual and financial objectives.

Serve in the campaign organization, work in the campaign activities and encourage others to get involved.

Talk positively about the campaign and the new ministry, underscoring the objectives and expected results.

Give both now and throughout the three-year giving period, as you join the members of our church in making SBC a place of *Faith, Family, and Future*.

Q: Can I give gifts other than cash?

A: Yes. There are several other non-cash donations that can be made. Transferring of stock is one way, that not only allows you the benefit of realizing the full value of the stock, but it also prevents you from having to pay any capital gains tax on stock transfers. You may also make land donations, estate donations, and other asset donations. The church office will have more information in the future about ways you may give other than cash.

Q: Can I make one large gift instead of giving over the 36 month period?

A: Yes. You may determine other scenarios in making pledges and subsequent gifts. Any schedule you select will be a help to this campaign.

Q: What is the 40 Days of Spiritual Preparation?

A: This is a period of spiritual enrichment, growing, and understanding. We will engage in daily scripture study and concerted prayer. Special worship emphasis will be held weekly as well as small group meetings in Sunday School. Sacrificial, faith giving will be practiced for the six week preparation period. We will then offer a giving commitment on March 21.

40 Days OF Spiritual Preparation

SULLIVAN BAPTIST CHURCH

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THE CALL

We at Sullivan Baptist Church who are *Sharing the Truth in Love* have been called to follow God's will for expansion of our current facilities. We have launched a capital stewardship campaign to fund this vision. The theme for our campaign is **Building on His Promise** based upon First Thessalonians 5:24 (KJV) which says,

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

We must remember that ultimately we are not just constructing a building. **Building on His Promise** is about **Faith, Family**, and the **Future**. We believe that God desires to glorify His Name by working through us. If we by **Faith** give sacrificially, then the Worship Center and Child Care Area will become a reality. The **Family** of God will be strengthened and increased as we obey the call of God. As Jesus taught that giving was an investment in eternal values, our gifts to the **Building on His Promise** campaign are investments in the **Future**. Remember, "It's not about us, it's about Jesus."

God loves you, and I love you!

Jeff Strong, *Pastor*

PREPARATION IS ESSENTIAL

Our church has a God-given Vision to fulfill the Purpose and Mission of the body of Christ. The Vision, based on the fact that people need Jesus, includes building a new Worship Center and Child Care Area. Raising as much of the funds on the front end and eliminating as much debt as possible will enable us to have resources to reach more people and fulfill God's purpose for our church.

In order to follow our God-given Vision, we need a time of spiritual preparation. We want to enlist every member in prayer, the study of God's Word and financial support to build our new building.

When God's people prepared to possess their Promise Land, Joshua spoke these words, **Consecrate yourself, for tomorrow God will do wonders among you. Joshua 3:5**

Joshua didn't ask them to practice with war weapons or even learn how to march. Joshua knew that the success of the effort depended upon the spiritual preparation and the spiritual condition of the people, not their ability to do battle.

This same truth applies to our church today. The financing of our new building is first and foremost a spiritual matter. You are asked by your Lord, and Church, to prepare yourself spiritually. Your support of this Vision, both emotionally and financially, is primarily centered on spiritual realities.

40 DAYS OF SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

WHAT YOU ARE ASKED TO DO

You are challenged to faithfully do four very simple acts of spiritual preparation during 40 Days of Preparation. These four acts embody the spiritual disciplines that the Bible teaches as essential for Christian growth.

The four acts of devotion and their purpose are as follows:

First, read the daily Bible studies found in 40 Days of Preparation. Day One will begin on January 31. Reading God's Word and praying daily will give you understanding and direction in your life.

Secondly, participate in 40 Days of Preparation Sunday Schools the six Sundays, February 7-March 14. The Sunday School style on these six Sundays will be innovative and interactive, much like the practice of the first Christians described in the book of Acts in the New Testament.

Thirdly, prepare a "Try/Prove God" sacrificial offering each Sunday, February 7-March 14. This offering will be above and beyond your regular gifts. Together, we will experience again the joy and faith of sacrificial giving.

Lastly, worship each Sunday morning with fellow Christians, celebrating and strengthening each other in our spiritual preparation. These four acts of preparation, done faithfully and prayerfully, will prepare us for all God has for us in the future.

DAILY READING GOD'S WORD AND PRAYER

You will be given a copy of, 40 Days of Preparation, prepared by Archer Thorpe. Archer is a widely published author and our consultant. His booklet will help us discover more of the secret of joyful giving.

40 Days of Preparation is a study of Scriptures that teach us how to invest in people and eternity. This is the core of our spiritual preparation as we move to the next level of reducing and eliminating the debt on our new building.

40 Days of Preparation is a six week experience in discovery from God's Word. Each week the experience is divided into seven days of individual study. Each day's study includes biblical content, commentary and interactive learning activities. Day One of Week One is Sunday, January 31.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bible study and worship is at the heart of our relationship with God. The six Sunday School hours, February 7-March 14, are at the heart of our spiritual preparation for our capital stewardship campaign.

Each Sunday morning we will gather in Sunday School for the study of God's Word and to hear what He is saying to us. We will gather in our Sunday School rooms, and share insights we have discovered from our reading of God's Word, and reflections from our daily devotionals from the 40 Days of Preparation. We will praise God for His blessings in our lives, and encounter the truth of His Word. We will seek to enlist you into one of the Sunday School groups/classes. Please plan to participate and be faithful to be present each Sunday.

SIX "PROVE ME" OFFERINGS

Each Sunday we are asking everyone to bring a sacrificial offering that is above and beyond your regular gifts.

Six **special offering envelopes** will be provided for this purpose.

The offering will be used to raise the funds needed for our new building.

This is a key learning response by you. This is the most tangible thing you will do in your spiritual preparation for our capital stewardship campaign.

God's Word teaches us that our giving is an accurate reflection of our spiritual condition. Sacrificial giving is giving beyond the comfortable limits of our lives. It is giving something of great value, something not easily replaced. We soon learn that the gift that starts as a sacrifice for us often does not end up being a sacrifice. God's blessings come to assist us in our gifts. However, it is important that your weekly gift begin as a sacrifice. Remember, where God guides, God provides. Giving is one area of our faith where God says, "**try/prove me and see.**" Malachi 3

Look for the ways God blesses you as you give. Share your stories with your small group, friends, Pastor or church gatherings. Encourage others by your witness. Begin asking God to show you how and what He wants you to give on these six special Sundays.

UP-COMING EVENTS

*Key dates during our **Building On His Promise** capital stewardship campaign:*

40 Days of Spiritual Preparation Devotions Begin.....	Sunday, January 31 st
40 Days of Spiritual Preparation Sunday School.....	Sunday, February 7 th
Challenge Leadership Fellowship.....	Monday, March 1 st
Church-Wide Vision Celebration.....	Sunday, March 14 th
Covenant Commitment Day.....	Sunday, March 21 st
Firstfruits Great Day of Giving.....	Easter Sunday, April 4 th