



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

How did we decide on the scope of the project and appeal?

Many months of planning, reflection, discussion, and input from disciples and architects have led us to this vision for 2020. With the help of our capital consultant Kristin Wiersma from Kairos and Associates, St. John's began a formal listening process that included a lengthy survey sent to all members, leadership and staff input, and individual and group interviews in order to gather more in-depth information about the status of our congregation and our wants, needs, desires, and hopes for the future.

Several main takeaways came out of this listening phase which included:

- St. John's is a welcoming community that highly values worship and music
- There is a desire for deepened relationships and faith formation
- There is a strong sense that our current facility does not embody our sense of hospitality and community
- We have a strong passion for service and mission

These takeaways directed our focus for this project. They helped narrow the scope to include elements that addressed our need to move BOLDLY forward, but also allowed for us to incorporate a construction project that acknowledges what was expressed in the listening process.

Why are we doing this?

Three main concerns make this project a priority.

The first is that the need for additional staff in order to facilitate our growing and diverse congregation has been met with a severe lack of office space.

The second is that the monthly mortgage payments make achieving our vision difficult, however the elimination of the debt would allow for much more to be spent on the vision, staff, and facility.

The third concern is that the welcoming narthex by the sanctuary is not conducive to gathering and community building. It also currently reduces traffic flow and our ability to welcome visitors.

What are the elements that these funds will be used for?

- Vision and mission of St. John's
- Creating a hospitality space near the Sanctuary
- Expanding office space for current and additional staff
- Debt freedom by St. John's 150th anniversary in 2020

What are the next steps in the process and what might the timeline be?

Since the congregation has been very supportive of this vision thus far, leadership anticipates a strong investment. This response will shape next steps which will likely include:

- Congregational meeting for final approval
- Continued pay off the current debt at the current rate
- A Renovation Committee to work with architect and contractors
- Construction, which may begin as early as December 2017

The timeline for these steps is not completely fixed as there are many variables.

[MORE QUESTIONS ON THE BACK! ▶](#)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS, continued

What is the cost of the project and what happens if we don't raise the entire amount for this vision?

1. The first \$560,000 of pledge monies is to be allocated for the reduction of the existing mortgage, to be paid in monthly payments of \$15,498 from June 2017 through May 2020.
2. The next \$1.7 million of pledged monies is to be allocated for the completion of the Hospitality and Office Space Reconfiguration Project.
3. Anything over and above the first \$2,260,000 of pledge and unspent monies is to be allocated for the further reduction of the existing mortgage, to be paid at the completion of the three-year capital appeal.

If the entire amount needed isn't pledged, the project will be adjusted to match the pledges received. If we raise more money than expected, we should be completely or almost completely debt free, have a completely renovated and hospitable area for disciples, and a more efficient and safer work space for our staff.

How will we be asked for our commitments?

Please prayerfully consider your contribution, fill out your response card, and bring it with you when you come to worship Commitment Weekend, May 20-21, 2017. If you will be out of town on Commitment Weekend you may also mail in the response card. Or you can pledge electronically by going to www.stjohns-springfield.org and click on the **BE BOLD** Pledge Link. After worship on May 21, we will celebrate together and give thanks for what God is doing in our midst.

When does the giving period begin and how long will it last?

Responses for the **BE BOLD** capital appeal will be collected the weekend of May 20-21, 2017 and the pledge period will continue through June of 2020.

How much should I give?

Pray about what amount would represent a generous sacrificial gift to the **BE BOLD** capital appeal and would reflect your sense of God's blessing in your life and your commitment to the future vision of St. John's.

Can we give in ways other than cash?

Absolutely! You are encouraged to think of other assets in addition to cash gifts. For many people, this is an appealing way to give. Giving stocks, CDs, and bonds, or other appreciated assets as a charitable donation can provide tax benefits for you.

Information about some of these opportunities is on the Creative Giving Ideas guide that you will receive as part of the response materials. If you would like to discuss these opportunities, you may contact your financial advisor, our consultant Kristin Wiersma at (651) 815-1516, or her company, Kairos and Associates, at (800) 851-3019.

How does my gift to this appeal affect my annual giving to St. John's ongoing ministry?

It doesn't! Your **BE BOLD** gift is a new and totally separate commitment, above and beyond what you give to St. John's ongoing ministry needs.

What about the offerings I give to the current Building Fund?

Your Pledge to the **BE BOLD** appeal replaces any existing pledge to the building fund.

What if I have additional questions?

Feel free to talk with any of the following congregation leaders:

Mark Butler, Campaign Co-Chair
Hope Ryan, Campaign Co-Chair
Adam Reiss, Congregation President
Pastor Greg Busboom, Lead Pastor