

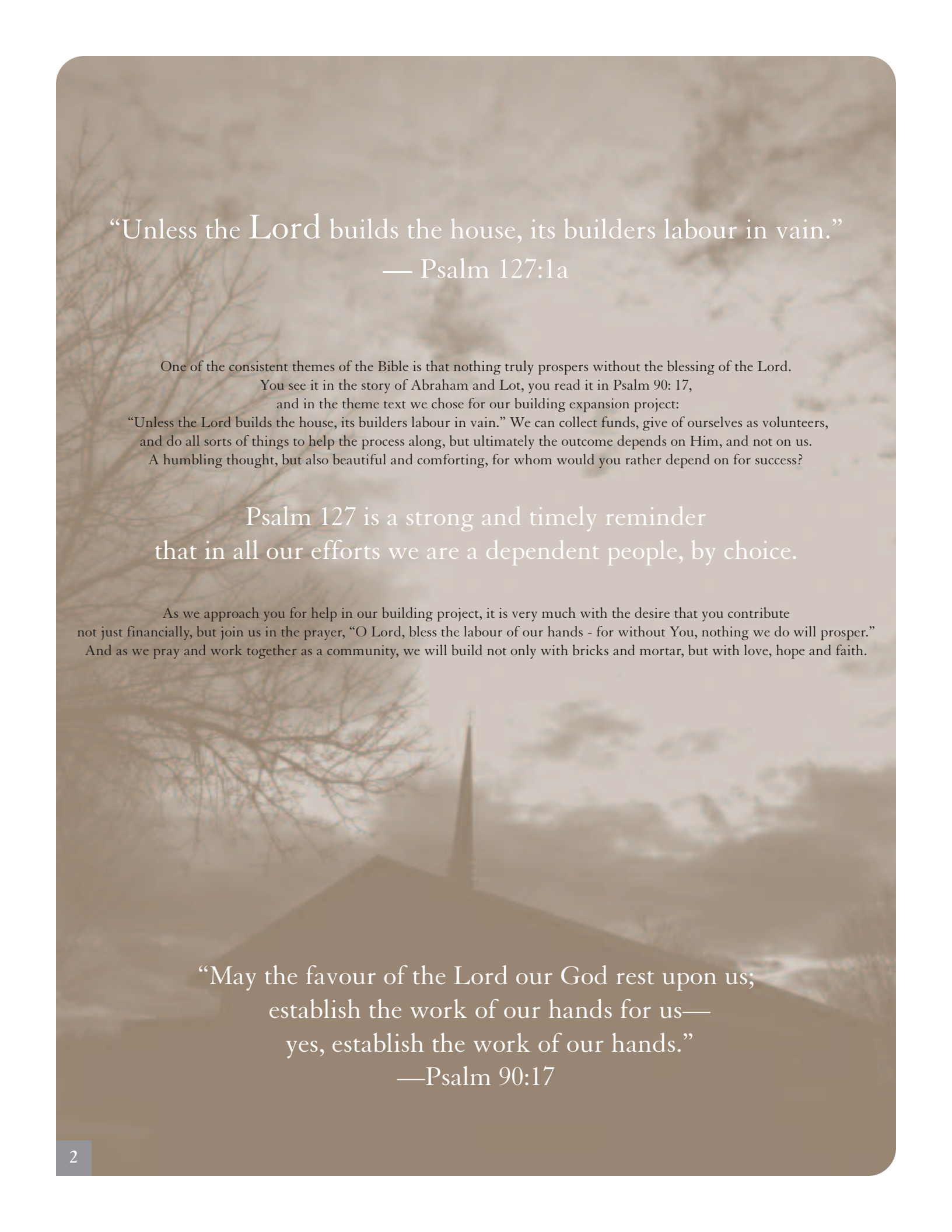


FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  OF KEMPTVILLE

It's time to build!

“Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.”

— Psalm 127:1a



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— Psalm 127:1a

One of the consistent themes of the Bible is that nothing truly prospers without the blessing of the Lord. You see it in the story of Abraham and Lot, you read it in Psalm 90: 17, and in the theme text we chose for our building expansion project: “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.” We can collect funds, give of ourselves as volunteers, and do all sorts of things to help the process along, but ultimately the outcome depends on Him, and not on us. A humbling thought, but also beautiful and comforting, for whom would you rather depend on for success?

Psalm 127 is a strong and timely reminder that in all our efforts we are a dependent people, by choice.

As we approach you for help in our building project, it is very much with the desire that you contribute not just financially, but join us in the prayer, “O Lord, bless the labour of our hands - for without You, nothing we do will prosper.” And as we pray and work together as a community, we will build not only with bricks and mortar, but with love, hope and faith.

“May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.”
—Psalm 90:17

Pastor's Message



Brother and Sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ,

First Christian Reformed Church of Kemptville has truly been blessed! Over the past 50 years we have heard the Word of God preached every week. We have experienced children being baptized, young adults making profession of faith, couples uniting in marriage, and loved ones passing away who are now with their Lord. God's Word has gone out and it does not return empty!

By the grace of God, First Christian Reformed Church of Kemptville continues to minister to its members, guests, and its surrounding community. We continue this because, as our Vision Statement reminds us, "God calls us to worship and share His Word with all people as we gather in unity, love, and devotion to Christ." May God continue to bless this ministry!

YET we are at a point in time in which we must step forward in faith. And you are invited to join us in taking that step. Like the people of God we can see the "Promised Land" beyond the Jordan River, the place to which God is calling us. Not our "final home" but the next place in our journey. It is a place in which we, in unity with new friends and neighbours, will worship the Lord with gladness and come before him with joyful songs in a newly expanded sanctuary. It is a place with more classrooms where we and our children will "Know that the Lord is God" and that it "is he who made us, and we are his." It is a new hall that encourages fellowship, builds community, and where we will not be alone – knowing that "we are his people, the sheep of his pasture."

The people of God were afraid to enter the land that God had promised them. Those who lived there were "stronger" and "bigger" – they believed that there was no way that the challenges could be overcome. Yet there were some in their midst who, even in their fear or hesitation, were certain that they could take possession of the land – they knew that it was God's Will for them to enter into that Promised Land. And so they all entered the land together.

Following the Will of God has been central to all that takes place at Kemptville CRC. And it is so vital to the work of the building expansion committee that they chose Psalm 127:1 as our guiding verse, "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain."

Moses, seeking to encourage Joshua and the people of God as they were about to take their leap of faith into the Promised Land, said, "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

We are stepping forward in faith: Trusting that this is God's Will for Kemptville CRC; Believing that through an expanded building, our Lord will minister to the needs of all His people; Taking courage that the Lord himself is going before us and will remain with us forever.

I encourage you to step out in faith. I encourage you to continue praying for God's leading at Kemptville CRC and in this building expansion project. I encourage you to read through this material carefully. I encourage you to prayerfully seek God's will in the financial pledge that you and your family make toward this building project.

Finally, as we consider God's call upon the financial resources he has entrusted to us, Paul encourages us to, "finish the work so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:11-12)

May we be willing indeed!

May God continue to bless First Christian Reformed Church of Kemptville!

May our gifts be "a fragrant offering, and acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God"!

Rev. Benjamin Ponsen
Pastor, First CRC of Kemptville



A message from the building expansion committee

Our committee has been working on the building expansion project since May of 2004 and much discussion, debate and planning has taken place. Approval has been given by the congregation for the proposed plans and for the projected cost of \$720,000.00. Now, as the saying goes - "the rubber hits the road." Will you donate and pledge the amount required?

We believe the answer to this is a resounding yes. God has richly blessed our congregation and if we give as we have been blessed, the required amount will be raised. I encourage you to read 1 Chronicles 29, which is a beautiful chapter in the Bible about the gifts that have been received for the building of the temple. David is praising God and says in verse 14 - "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand." May this be the praise, which Kemptville Christian Reformed Church raises when the campaign is completed.

This project has been carried thus far on the basis of prayer, faith and action. These are all important and required elements of a building project. We serve an awesome and powerful God who will never fail us, and who is certainly able to provide all that we need. He calls each of us to be responsible stewards of the resources he has entrusted to us. May each one of us prayerfully and carefully consider what we are able to give for the building expansion project.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Jesus Christ throughout all generations, for ever and ever!" (Ephesians 3:20,21)

Mary Ritskes,
Chair of Building Expansion Committee

Timeline

December 2003

-Acknowledgment by Council: “that our current building facilities are not adequate for the ministries taking place and that a new, expanded and/or renovated facility is needed.”

May 24, 2004

First Building Expansion Committee meeting held

November 18, 2004

Congregation Meeting –Presented “Prayer Bricks”
Recommended expanding at site, rather than buying new

February and March, 2005

Input Form created and distributed to congregation
Feedback received from 29 families and 9 church groups.

September 8 and 23, 2005

Congregation Meetings – Open Forum
Received input from 36 families
Plans expanded based on input received.

November 10, 2005

Congregation Meeting
Received approval for proposed plans.

February 2006

Input from all committees as to what furnishings are needed.

April 29, 2006

TnT Auction

June 29, 2006

Congregation Meeting
75% vote in favour of proceeding!

October and November, 2006

Capital Campaign, based on Prayer, Strong Leadership and Communication

Spring, 2007

The Lord willing – begin construction.

Fall, 2007

Construction Completed

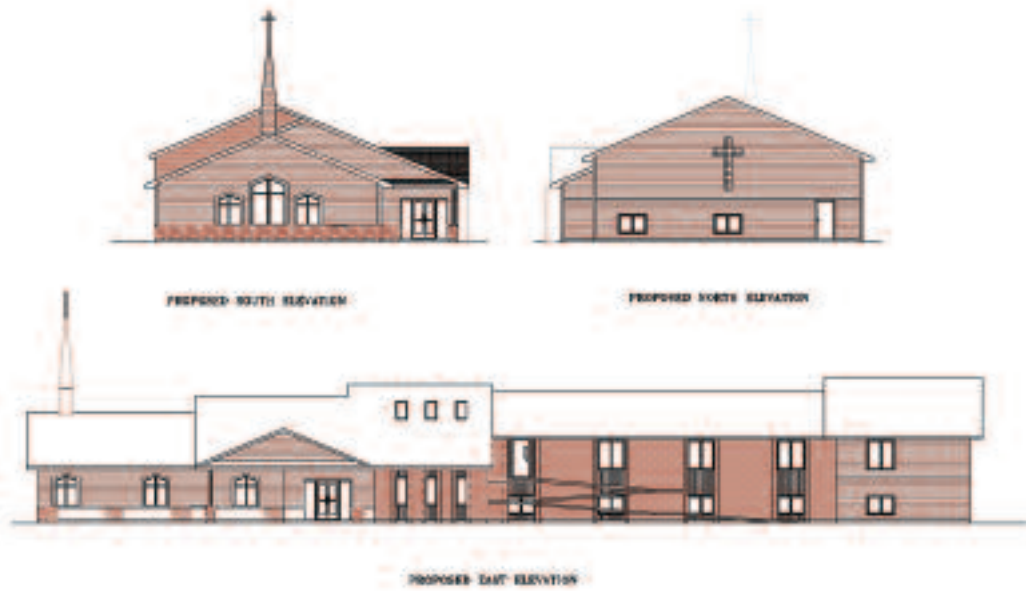


How will the new facility meet the needs of our congregation?

Congregation Determined Need	Status in Existing Building	Status in Expanded Building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Fellowship Space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellowship Hall is the largest room in the basement, which is 672 square feet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright New Fellowship Hall will be 2,100 square feet.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Meeting Rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 meeting rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 meeting rooms, larger than existing rooms • Expanded Nursery and new larger Council Room • New Pastor's Office • New Photocopier Room
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger Sanctuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the current sanctuary is 1800 square feet. There are a total of 24 pews, seating 192 people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctuary will be a total of 2,990 square feet. • Size increased by 66% • There will be a total of 32 pews, seating 256 people. • 33% increase in seating, with space for more benches in the future. • Increased space at the front for musical presentations and congregation participation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Storage Space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited to a few closets • The existing church building is a total of 5,214 square feet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional, larger closets have been included. • Storage under stairways and under new Council Room • Separate utility room

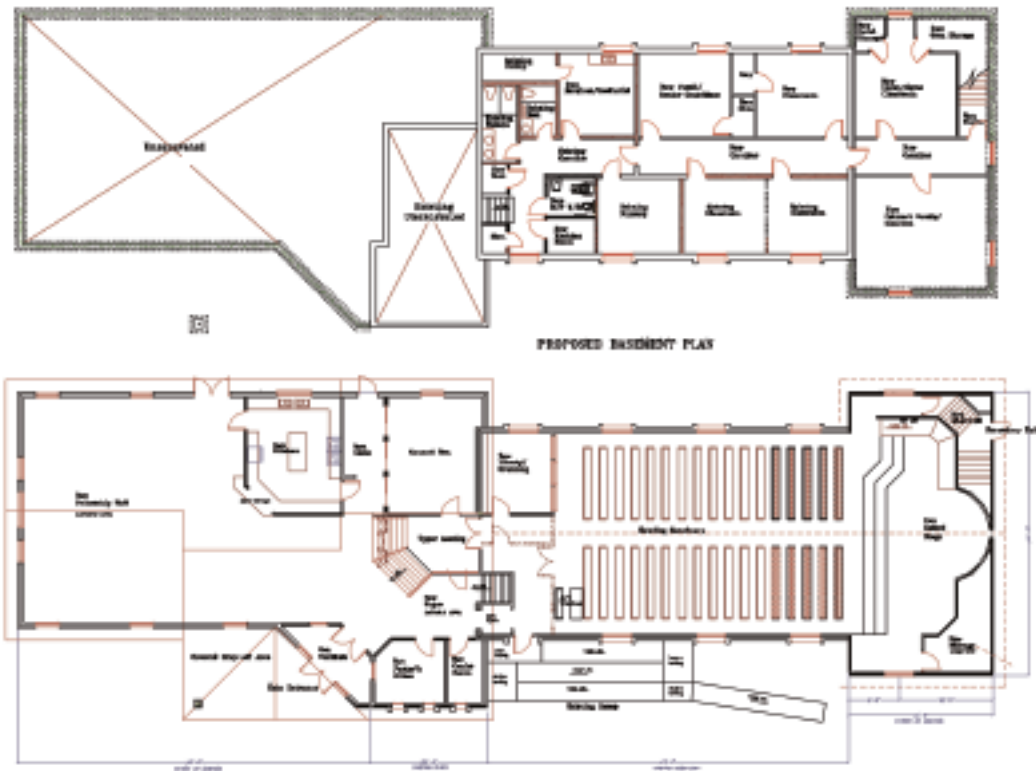
Our church's vision statement challenges us by saying: "God calls us to worship and share His Word with all people as we gather in unity, love and devotion to Christ." We feel that an expanded building will help us to do this more faithfully, and the Lord willing, more energetically in this community.

*With the new building we are adding 5,224 feet for a total of 10,438 square feet. The size of our church will be **doubled!***



When redesigning our church facility, the focus was on the flexible use of space and the stewardly use of our resources. Care was taken to respect the integrity of the current building as much as possible, which means minimal demolition and limited renovations being required downstairs.

We believe the other important considerations were for the church to look welcoming and attractive, to be more visible from the road, and to be fully accessible to the handicapped. It is our hope that these concerns have been successfully incorporated.



Messages

from committees

A newly expanded facility will be wonderful for the GEMS girls club program. More room in the sanctuary will give us better space to worship through singing and creative movement. As our group continues to grow, a larger fellowship hall will be great for our “large group” gatherings, lots of space for fun and fellowship nights, lots of room for the times we invite the girls families or the special friends to join us. More classrooms will mean a space. A space to call our own.

— Evelyn Dykstra
Gems Coordinator

All of our effort to expand the church does not mean that our existing support of missions should slow down. A capital fundraising campaign often results in the opportunity to attract new members to the church. This in turn allows us to give even more as a church to missions. The point of the expansion is to enhance ministry; enhanced ministry will lead to more mission awareness as well. Finally, let’s not forget the mission we have right here in our community.

— Luke Geelynse

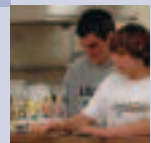
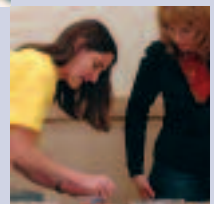
Over the years, the number of lives God has touched, through what He has allowed us to do, has grown exponentially. Let us think about the fact that we will have a spacious and welcoming facility where we can more easily invite the community, or host church-wide events year round. The new classrooms, larger meeting and common areas, better kitchen facilities and much-needed air conditioning will be of great benefit, especially to our largest and most renowned outreach program, Vacation Bible School.

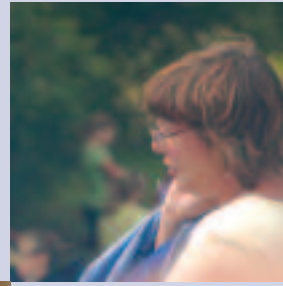
We offer our thanks to the Expansion Committee and we are committed to vigilantly support the church expansion so that we can more effectively touch the lives of those around us, in the name of Jesus. We encourage and challenge each member to see this project for what it truly is, the hand of our Lord opening to the community around us.

— Evangelism Committee

“How does the atmosphere of a room affect our ability to worship? The new sanctuary’s clean lines, vaulted ceiling, and clutter-free stage will help set the mood for minds and hearts to focus on worship.”

— The Worship Committee





What does this mean for *me*?

Everyone must decide individually or as a family what their faith pledge will be. Throughout this process, we have often discussed and prayed about our desire that this time would be a 'faith-stretching' opportunity for our community. This takes numbers and dollars out of the equation and challenges each of us to consider 'equal sacrifice and not equal gifts'. For many of us, this will be an opportunity to give to a greater purpose and make a difference with our resources while leaving a legacy for future generations. We encourage you to:

Begin with prayer. Ask the Lord for guidance.

Be diligent and patient in your journey.

Have open discussions with your family.

Once God has helped me to decide what the amount of my faith pledge will be, how do I give? There are a number of ways this might come to be, and for everyone, that will look unique and must be prayerfully considered. Begin by asking yourself the question "What can I do?". Spend some time jotting down ideas. These ideas may come quite quickly, so write them down on a piece of paper. These ideas may include things like cash gifts, cashing in Guaranteed Investments Certificates or stocks, selling the second TV, etc.

Once you're done with this list, spend some time struggling with a much more difficult and challenging question, "What ELSE can I do?"

Answering this question will take prayer and courage. This is the time faith stretching ideas come. It is from this list of ideas that we will find the sacrifice necessary to make our building project, and more importantly our ministries, successful. Ideas that come out of times like this are: selling or donating funds from an income property or cottage, selling the family boat, not going on that planned vacation, turning over your bonus or income tax refund, etc. When we delve into the "What ELSE" we begin to allow God to stretch our faith and lean on him completely.

It is precisely at this time, and this place that God wants us to be.

It is precisely at this time that we will begin to see the marvellous riches God has in store for us.

This is surrender; this is the beginning of a great journey, a journey of Hope and Faith.

Each and every gift, regardless of size, is important and desired by God for use in his Kingdom. All gifts will be used in our "It's Time To Build" Capital campaign. Thank you for your "What Else" experience!

Our goal: To raise \$500,000.00

How can this be achieved?

Our aim is to raise \$500,000 in the capital campaign, which represents approximately 70% of the \$720,000 that will be required for the entire project.

The following chart is an illustration of how this goal could be achieved by us.

# of Donors	Monthly Giving	Annual Giving	Giving Over 3 Years	Total Amount Raised
2	\$972.22	\$11,666.67	\$35,000.00	\$70,000.00
4	\$722.22	\$8,666.67	\$26,000.00	\$104,000.00
6	\$416.67	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$90,000.00
10	\$222.22	\$2,666.67	\$8,000.00	\$80,000.00
20	\$138.89	\$1,666.67	\$5,000.00	\$100,000.00
10	\$100.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,600.00	\$36,000.00
10	\$50.00	\$600.00	\$1,800.00	\$18,000.00
5	\$11.11	\$133.33	\$400.00	\$2,000.00
67				\$500,000.00

We anticipate everyone fitting into one of these approximate ranges. These amounts are BEFORE TAX BENEFITS are calculated! Therefore, in many cases, the amounts will be reduced by the tax credits given for charitable donations. (Please be sure to verify your own personal tax status, as tax credits are dependent on your taxable income.)

We have compiled a list of 54 families that are actively involved with the congregation and have also made a separate list of all young adults who are 16 or older, that have at least a part time job. We will be contacting these families and young adults, encouraging everyone to give as God has blessed them. Contact will also be made with some former members of our congregation, and with some members of the community.

With God's blessing – we believe this goal will be achieved!

What it takes to reach *your* gift commitment

Weekly	Monthly	3-Year Total	Tax Benefit	Actual Giving	Number of Coffees/Day*
\$500	\$2,167	\$78,000	\$31,200	\$46,800	81
\$400	\$1,733	\$62,400	\$24,960	\$37,440	65
\$300	\$1,300	\$46,800	\$18,720	\$28,080	49
\$250	\$1,083	\$39,000	\$15,600	\$23,400	41
\$200	\$867	\$31,200	\$12,480	\$18,720	32
\$150	\$650	\$23,400	\$9,360	\$14,040	24
\$100	\$433	\$15,600	\$6,240	\$9,360	16
\$75	\$325	\$11,700	\$4,680	\$7,020	12
\$50	\$217	\$7,800	\$3,120	\$4,680	8
\$25	\$108	\$3,900	\$1,560	\$2,340	4
\$10	\$43	\$1,560	\$624	\$936	2
\$5	\$22	\$780	\$312	\$468	1

Please Note for consideration: Due to taxable implications, you may want to discuss your giving with a financial advisor.

Example: By pledging \$18,000 over 3 years, you would actually be out of pocket approximately \$10,700 after charitable donation deductions are considered at the end of the giving period.

Pledge form

and methods of giving

People can contribute to the capital campaign in many ways. The most obvious would be an outright cash donation. There are other options that might make more sense in different situations. These will all help us to reach our goal. This could be a pledge of donations over 1 to 3 years. Another option would be an interest free loan.

Yes, I/We _____ would like to contribute to the Capital Campaign

I/We will provide gifts in the following Areas (Please check all that apply):

A one time gift of \$ _____
which will be given on or before _____
(Please indicate when this gift will be given)

A financial gift of \$ _____ over 3 years given:
Annually / Quarterly / Monthly / Bi-Weekly / Other
(Please circle one)

An Interest Free Loan of \$ _____ over _____ years

Prayer

Other Gifts (Please Specify) _____

Signature*: _____ Date: _____

Received by: _____

* Please Note: With your signature you are committing yourself to fulfill, to the best of your ability, the pledge you are making this day. You the donor also hereby authorize the church to use the designated funds for other church programs if the program or project for which the enclosed gift is designated has been fully funded or if the governing board, in its sole discretion, decides that the program or project for which the funds are designated will not be carried out.

“Life is a test and a trust, and the more God gives you, the more responsible he expects you to be.”

—From The Purpose Driven Life

It's time...

On June 29th, 2006, the congregation of Kemptville Christian Reformed Church voted 75% in favour of proceeding with the Building Expansion Project. We are exhorted in 2 Corinthians 8:11 to now, "finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means."

We voted with ballots; now is the time to vote with our hearts, prayers, and gifts.

Now is the time for each one of us to take a hard look at the gifts God has given us. Now is the time for each one of us to contribute to the Capital Campaign. We must do so with joyful hearts, according to ability, with gratitude and sincerity. For all of us, this is an opportunity to give in a concrete manner, a testament to our community of the many gifts our God and Father has given to us. We have been showered with blessings from Him, and all we have does not belong to us, but in fact to God.

It is critical that each member contribute something. No matter how small the gift, it is the giving that is important. In Luke 21:1-3 we read the well-known story of the widow: "As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

How many of us have read this story and been inspired to give freely and to do so joyfully? We are at that moment right now! This is where the buck stops; where the rubber hits the road. It is time to swim with the sharks.

Every one of us, whether we are students, children, teenagers, parents or grandparents, must contribute with gladness. The size of the contribution is irrelevant because all are the same in the eyes of God. All He asks of us is to give with the right attitude.

Through this time of change, which is sure to include trials and tribulations, we must inspire each other. The New Testament is filled with letters written by followers of Christ to encourage others going through hardships and turbulent times. We too, must inspire those around us to be like Christ.

Not everyone voted in favour of proceeding with our expansion project, but as members of the same body, we are all pledged to do what we are able, to fund the expansion with an attitude of love, in a manner worthy of the sacrifice God made for us; sending His son to die for us. In the realization of this truth, how can we do anything but give wholeheartedly with gladness to our King?

In Acts 4:32,33 we read, "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all."

It is our desire to build more than just a building. It is our hope that we are all surprised and come to a greater realization of the plans God has for us, not only as individuals but also as a congregation, throughout the process.

We are convinced that our building campaign will be a time of incredible spiritual growth for everyone involved, and we must look upon our work together as a blessing, and an honour.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9: 6,7).

We hope that this booklet will assist you in understanding the building expansion plans and help you in deciding what you are able to give.

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