



LEGACY
CAMPAIGN

creating a better future for the next generation

Introduction

The Legacy Campaign is the next step in realizing the vision that God has for our church. It is fitting to remember how God has moved our church in the past to provide context for what God is doing in our church today.

- 1997 - Connections Community Church (initially called “The Prairie Chapel”) was launched to be a contemporary church that kids and guests would enjoy attending.
- 2002 - We decided to pioneer into the future of a fast-changing culture and be a church that would reach new generations.
- 2004 - We moved from meeting in the Schoolcraft Upper Elementary to the High School in order to accommodate growth and increase the quality of our ministry.
- 2007 - We launched the Revolution Campaign to purchase our current church property.
- 2008 - Externally, the national economy tanked. Internally, a battle broke out over the vision for our church. Our mantra became, “If we live, we will bear fruit.”
- 2014 - We launched the Revolution2.0 Campaign to pay off the land and do the master planning for our future ministry campus.
- 2016 - We began construction of the first phase of our ministry campus and raised the money to furnish the building. On December 17th, we conducted our first service in a home of our own.

We believe it is now time to embark on the next move in expanding our church’s capacity to reach people. This move is firmly entrenched in the conviction that God has called us to reach rising generations. *We want to create a better future for many people for generations to come.*

The Legacy Campaign Vision

We believe God would have us make the bold, strategic move of constructing a building dedicated to children and student ministries. There is simply no better way to influence the future than to invest in the very human beings who will write it!

The vision of The Legacy Campaign is to create a better future by building an attractive, engaging building dedicated to winning the next generation and their families to Jesus.

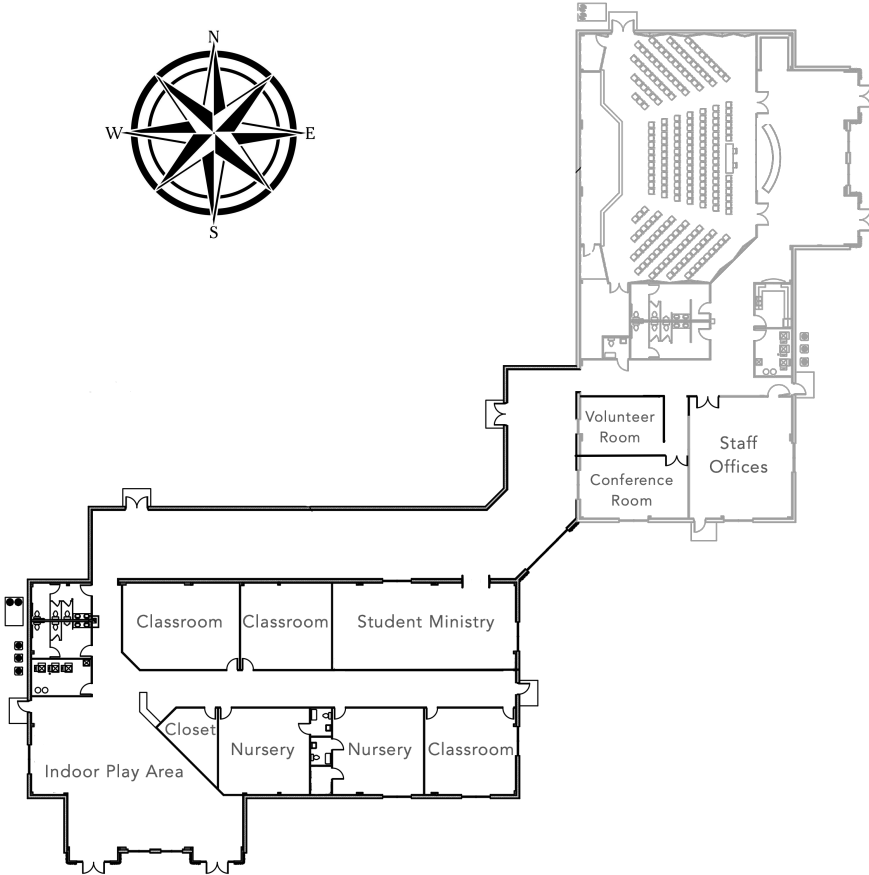
Here are some statistics that should influence any church who wants to be effective in fulfilling the Christian mission in our day:

- 80% of the people who choose to follow Jesus initially do so between the ages of 4 and 14.
- 10% of the people who choose to follow Jesus initially do so between the ages of 15 and 30.
- 42% of families with young children get involved with church for the first time, return to church after a prolonged absence, or deepen their involvement in church. These families choose churches that demonstrate a commitment to excellence in youth programming.

The facts make it clear: If you want to capture people's hearts for Jesus and His cause, it only makes sense to emphasize reaching youth. This is what The Legacy Campaign is about. We desire to make a bold move that will impact generations to come. We want to leave a lasting legacy in the lives of people that will enable the Jesus movement to intensify and keep changing the world, even after we are gone.

The Plan

Basic Floor Plan



The new building will be a mirror image of our current building, and have a connector hallway.

Artist Renderings



View from intersection of 131 and U Avenue



View from U Avenue

The Legacy Campaign Goal

To construct and furnish the new building, along with the remodeling of our current building, will cost approximately \$1.3 million. The goal of The Legacy Campaign is to raise enough money to begin this project by December 2019.

Our lender for both the church property (since paid off) and the first phase of our building, has agreed to loan us approximately \$850,000. However, *we are not comfortable borrowing as much as the bank is willing to lend*. Here are the parameters our leadership teams have establish for commencing with this construction project.

- Maintain a full 3 month's operating expense in emergency reserve.
- Move \$200,000 from our surplus into the capital campaign.
- Raise \$500,000 from gifts over and above general fund giving.
- Take out a construction loan for the balance of \$600,000, providing the new loan payment, when added to all current expenses, does not take us closer than 5% of our current income level.

In other words, even with a new mortgage payment added, we will maintain a 5% buffer between current income and over-all financial obligation. We will not need to grow in order to meet budget.

At current giving levels, if we put \$700,000 toward the project and mortgage the remaining \$600,000, we will still have a 5% buffer based on 2018 giving.

What We Are Asking You

The church prevails when its people sacrifice to make a God-inspired vision happen. There's no other way. We are asking you to give generously toward the Legacy Campaign over and above your current giving. We are asking you to give as much as you think you possibly could. We would even challenge you to give a little more than you think possible, sacrificing other things and trusting God to bless you for your generosity.

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full - pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." (Luke 6:38)

We are asking you to give for the sake of our children and grandchildren; for the sake of rising generations; for the sake of the future we will leave to those coming behind us. And to give for the sake of Jesus, who sacrificed everything for us so that we might have eternal life, and so that through us others might come to possess that life also.

The Legacy Campaign kicks off in November 2018 and runs through December of 2019. This makes the campaign 14 months long. We are asking that you prayerfully determine how much you can contribute to this future-changing endeavor. You can give in several ways, or in a combination of these ways:

1. Make a one-time contribution.

Simply write a check marked "Legacy Campaign", use cash, or select the Legacy Campaign fund on the church app or website to donate to donate on-line.

2. Donate items of value.

You may choose to donate a car, jewelry, property, stock, etc. (Please check with us before donating non-cash items.)

3. Monthly Pledges

Monthly pledges are a great way to make significant contributions. What follows is a listing of suggested pledge amounts and how much they add up to over the course of the campaign. Also included is the number of each monthly pledge amount we would need to achieve our campaign goal. We would challenge you to pray about one giving one of the amounts list on this pledge chart. Pledge donations can be made by setting up a recurring donation on our church app or website, or by check. Please write "Legacy Fund" on memo line.

The Legacy Campaign

Monthly Pledge	Number of Months	Total Amount	Number of Pledges	Cumulative Total
\$50.00	14	\$700.00	12	\$8,400.00
\$100.00	14	\$1,400.00	12	\$16,800.00
\$250.00	14	\$3,500.00	10	\$35,000.00
\$500.00	14	\$7,000.00	10	\$70,000.00
\$1,000.00	14	\$14,000.00	4	\$56,000.00
\$2,500.00	14	\$35,000.00	2	\$70,000.00
\$5,000.00	14	\$70,000.00	2	\$140,000.00
\$7,500.00	14	\$105,000.00	1	\$105,000.00
			53	\$501,200.00



Campaign Kick-Off

We are kicking off the Legacy Campaign on with a **special Thanksgiving offering** to be taken on **November 18th and November 24th**. We are asking that you make your initial donation during this offering, as well as turning in your monthly pledge card.

F.A.Q.

Don't we need a new auditorium?

Our current auditorium can seat 225 people. If growth necessitates it, we can add a third service. This means that our church could grow well over 600 people and we could still accommodate everyone comfortably. We have also developed an overflow strategy (see below).

What else is included in this project?

The current children's ministry area will be renovated. CK3 will become office space for staff. The CK2 and part of the nursery area will become a volunteer lounge and conference room. (We want to provide our volunteers with a place to meet, get refreshments, and relax before, between and after services. We want to serve our volunteers well!)

The auditorium will receive some Audio/Visual upgrades. These will enable us to live-stream with greater quality and simulcast the service in the Student Ministry room, which will serve as an overflow area for weekend services. These upgrades will also enable us to increase the quality of our sight and sound in the auditorium.

What about the current mortgage?

We have been advised not to roll our current mortgage into a new one simply because the interest rate on our current mortgage is so low. It is cheaper money, so we will retain it.

*“Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones.
A legacy is etched into the lives of others
and the stories they share about you.”*

A Giving Challenge

Giving to the Christian mission is always an act of love that is given in faith. It is also an act that God promises to bless. Those blessings include people coming to faith in Jesus, lives and relationships being restored, fresh experiences of the presence and power of God in your life, and the joy of knowing you are playing a meaningful role in furthering God's work.

We believe you want to be generous. We believe you want to leave a legacy. Here are some practical ways in which you could practice a greater measure of generosity over the next 14 months. We challenge you to take one or several of these steps and just see if God doesn't *"throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough for you to store it."* (Malachi 3:10)

- **Financial Fasting.** Cut back on, or cut out, some discretionary spending and channel those funds to the Legacy Campaign. (Like new clothes, meals out, coffee, etc.) Or forgo a major expense in the next year and donate money to the Legacy Campaign instead. (Like a vacation, new car or appliances, etc.)
- **Double tithing.** For the duration of the campaign. Go "over and above" the 10% of your income that we are instructed to back to God and offer to God another 10% for the next 14 months.
- **Downsizing.** Sell some unused or unneeded items and donate the proceeds to leaving a legacy through the campaign.
- **Evangelizing.** Share the vision we have for reaching rising generations with relatives or friends who you know well. Ask if they might be willing to donate to our Legacy Campaign endeavor.



You are a restored human being.

You were made to imagine a better future
and work to make it happen.

This is your destiny.

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