

Walking by Faith Stewardship Plan Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Why are we embarking on this Stewardship Plan starting in 2025?

A: Prior to this, our primary focus had been on eliminating the mortgage debt, maintaining & replacing critical systems (e.g. HVAC, etc.) and performing other necessary smaller repairs and updates. While we have done our best to be good stewards of our buildings and grounds, there are a number of important issues that require our attention including, but not limited to, frayed, worn and torn carpeting, inoperable blinds in the sanctuary, crumbling and damaged sections of concrete in the parking lot, torn and damaged pew cushions, wobbly, rusted and damaged tables and chairs in the Great Room, damaged ceiling tiles throughout, a security system is needed, repair and updates to road sign, etc.

Q: How long will this stewardship plan last?

A: Walking by faith, we anticipate this will be a multi-year effort. In 2025, we hope to raise approximately \$200,000 to address our highest priority projects. Tremendous success in 2025 will definitely reduce our timeline.

Q: Can contributions to the stewardship plan be in lieu of my/our regular tithes and offerings?

A: The Walking by faith Stewardship Plan is above and beyond our regular tithes and offerings. Our campaign Bible verse is 2 Cor 8:12 – “For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.”

Q: When does this initiative start?

A: We will officially launch our Walking by Faith Stewardship Plan in January 2025.

Q: How will we “kick-start” the Walking by Faith Stewardship Plan?

A: In October 2024, a letter was sent to Greater Consistory (current and former Elders & Deacons) asking them to make pledge commitments to set the pace for this campaign.

Q: Are we going to borrow any money to pay for these improvements?

A: No! Improvements will only be made as the funds from the Stewardship Plan become available. We will not be taking on another mortgage!

Q: When will we see upgrades?

A: When we have enough money to begin a project & pay for it in full.

Q: Why haven't the Stewardship Plan projects been dealt with in our normal budgeting process?

A: For more than 30 years, the mortgage has been a significant consideration in our budgeting process. In addition, we have been able to maintain our building throughout the years such as painting, some deep cleaning, replacing broken items, updating technology, remodeling staff, children's wing & restrooms across from the library, upgrades to the HVAC system & still have more to go. New energy efficient lighting has been installed throughout the church and issues with our septic system were addressed. Currently, we are in the process of replacing worn out fire doors. Some windows have been replaced with the help of private donors.

Q: Is the current Pledge card for 2025 only?

A: Yes - It is likely we will also have a 2026 Pledge card given the number of projects we are trying to complete as part of this Stewardship Plan.

Q: At what point will the Stewardship Plan be considered complete?

A: At the end of 2025 & 2026, we will evaluate Stewardship Plan progress to date and determine where we stand versus the projects identified.

Q: How did the Stewardship Plan team identify the project and project costs?

A: The team met with many members of Staff, Leadership and various other members who have knowledge and experience in the respective areas. Multiple quotes were received for these projects.

Q: How will updates be communicated?

A: Updates will be provided via the e-News, in the worship folders (i.e., bulletins), and/or special announcements.

Q: Who are the Stewardship Plan team members?

A: Kelley Blacken, Vicky Gernaat, Art Hartman, Kristin Klok, Rob Perks, Adam Tuinstra

Walking by Faith Stewardship Plan Projects

- Our Parking Lot is crumbling and there are numerous areas in disrepair that also present safety concerns.
- The Carpet throughout many areas of the church is worn out, stained, and/or frayed.
- Inoperable Blinds impact worship and programming in the worship center.
- Tables and Chairs in the Great Room and other areas are peeling, off-balance, rusted and stained.
- Ceiling Tiles are stained, damaged, and need to be replaced.
- The Bathrooms by the nursery are in need of new fixtures and other updates.
- A Security System is needed to deter break-ins at the barn and other vandalism.
- Numerous Pew Cushions have torn fabric and need repairs or reupholstering.
- Painting high areas in the sanctuary requires specialized equipment.
- The Road Sign needs to be replaced to address structural and technological issues.