

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

NEWSLETTER



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



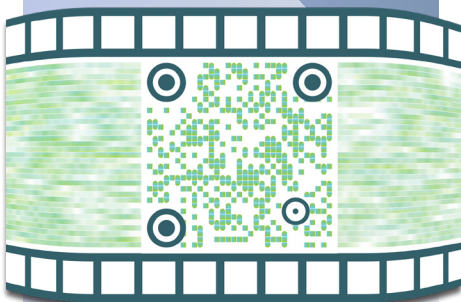
Commitment Sunday is May 31!

WATCH OUR VIDEO!

As part of our Foundation for the Future campaign, we have created a video that explains our needs and our plans, as well as how you can be part of our important future.

To learn more, go to

SALEM-COVENANT.CHURCH/CAPITALCAMPAIGN



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

\$2.6 MILLION PLEDGED!

Last Sunday, Salem officially launched its **Foundation for the Future** capital campaign—an effort to ensure that our building continues to serve as a home base for equipping all generations to **connect, grow, and go** as disciples of Jesus Christ.

At the Stewardship Thank-You Lunch, campaign co-chair Steve Walker shared that while the church facility has been carefully maintained over the years, many of its major systems and structural components have now reached a point where significant reinvestment is needed. Portions of the roof, now more than 50 years old, have begun to leak. In addition, replacement parts are no longer available for the commercial

dishwasher—an essential part of Salem’s hospitality ministry.

Beginning in March, Pastor Mark and a team of volunteers worked behind the scenes to gather early financial support. These initial efforts helped build momentum, strengthen confidence, and inspire a generous response across the congregation.

That early support was evident in Sunday’s announcement: to date, more than \$2.6 million has already been pledged, with over \$900,000 received. Most commitments have been made as three-year pledges, allowing many to give more than they initially thought possible. ✚

CARING FOR OUR FACILITY

The **Foundation for the Future** capital campaign was launched so that Salem can continue to serve as a strong home base for ministry for years to come.

Taking Care of Our Infrastructure

Several areas of our facility infrastructure now require comprehensive attention. The roof—some portions of which are more than 50 years old—has begun to leak due to normal wear. The original cedar shakes and fascia have weathered over time, and many windows, particularly in the preschool and office areas, have deteriorated.

Our parking lot has also endured nearly fifty Minnesota winters. Cracking, heaving, and settling have created uneven surfaces that can make walking difficult and increase

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CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we worship you, knowing that everything we are and have are gifts from you, the Creator and Giver of every good and perfect gift. Thank you for your loving, gracious, and faithful provision for all our individual and corporate needs.

Thank you for providing Salem as a place for worship, Christian education, and service. We are grateful for those who gave lovingly and unselfishly of their resources to make the building possible.

Now it is our turn to demonstrate our love and commitment to you by giving to maintain Salem as a place where you will be honored in worship and service by both current and future generations. We want Salem to remain a source of your light to the surrounding community.

We are thankful for those in our congregation who have worked to identify the current maintenance needs. We ask that you, Father, will move within our hearts to provide the needed resources.

We also ask that you guide and protect all those who will perform the work of repair and restoration.

Thank you for hearing our prayer and for the assurance that you will answer.

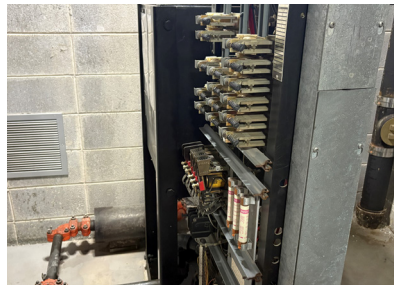
We ask these things in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen



We have maintained the parking lot and curbs through routine upkeep, but after nearly fifty Minnesota winters, the parking lot requires a full mill and overlay, and deteriorating curbs must be replaced.

A ceiling tile in the kitchen has been removed to catch water from a leaking roof. At times, kitchen volunteers must work around buckets placed on the floor to collect dripping water.



The elevator controller (pictured to left) is essentially the “brain” of the elevator. It receives signals, determines where the elevator should go, controls its speed, starting and stopping, ensures the doors open and close safely, and monitors key safety and emergency systems. The controller must be replaced to comply with new regulations being adopted by the State of Minnesota. Importantly, the elevator cab itself does not need to be replaced.

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the risk of trips and falls. With limited accessibility points, it can be especially challenging for those using walkers or wheelchairs. Addressing this will improve both safety and accessibility for everyone who comes through our doors.

Updating Essential Systems

Behind the scenes, several essential building systems are also in need of replacement. Our HVAC system relies on outdated refrigerant that is no longer available, and the equipment cannot support modern upgrades.

The elevator controller must be replaced to meet updated state regulations, and our commercial dishwasher—vital to meals and fellowship—can no longer be repaired due to unavailable parts.

In addition, while improvements have been made to security in some areas of the building, our office spaces still require updates to ensure a safe and secure environment for staff.

Strengthening Our Worship and Welcome

Our worship spaces also reflect needs that are both practical and meaningful. The Holtkamp organ, a central part of our worship life, can no longer be properly tuned and requires both mechanical renewal and stabilization.

Technology has become essential to how we worship and stay connected. Our current camera system, assembled during the pandemic, needs to be integrated and upgraded. The house lights in the sanctuary are not LED-compatible. The stage lights in the sanctuary and gym shine directly into the eyes of those up front. We also need updated systems to support ministry operations, communication, and financial stewardship.

Finally, the west entrance—used regularly for contemporary worship and youth—does not reflect the warm and welcoming first impression we hope to extend. Thoughtful improvements will help ensure that every person who arrives feels invited and valued.

Looking Ahead

Together, these needs represent more than repairs—they are an opportunity. By addressing them now, we are caring for what has been entrusted to us and preparing our church to serve future generations.

Just as those before us invested in a place where people could connect, grow, and go, we now have the opportunity to do the same—laying a strong foundation for the future. ✚

CHALLENGE GOAL

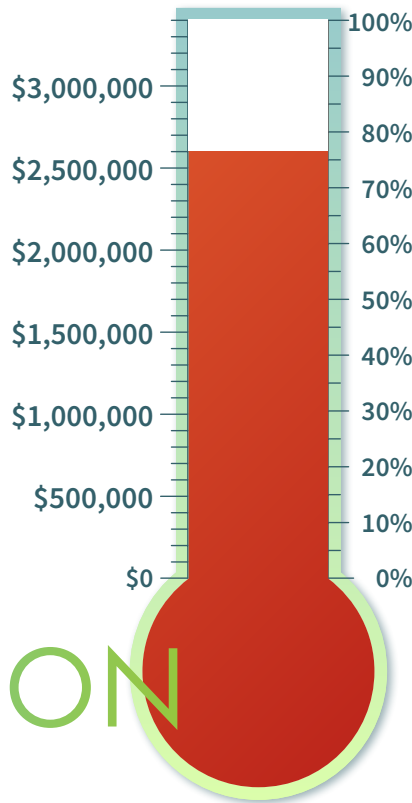
\$3.4 MILLION

NEED TO REACH THE CAMPAIGN OFFICE?

Please reach out to Les Bauer, Campaign Assistant, at campaign@salem-covenant.church or 612-749-0695

We are asking all members to make a three-year financial pledge over and beyond their current giving. We ask each household to give generously according to their ability. To reach our Challenge Goal of \$3.4 million, we need many gifts, some of them substantial.

SIZE OF GIFT	GIFTS NEEDED	PLEDGES RECEIVED
\$450,000 or more	1	1
\$300,000–\$449,999	2	1
\$150,000–\$299,999	1	1
\$100,000–\$149,999	3	2
\$75,000–\$99,999	5	4
\$50,000–\$74,999	7	6
\$35,000–\$49,999	10	3
\$25,000–\$34,999	10	5
\$20,000–\$24,999	8	3
\$15,000–\$19,999	7	5
\$10,000–\$14,999	21	3
up to \$10,000	many	7



\$2.6 MILLION

PLEGDED

DID YOU KNOW...

A **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** is a simple and tax-efficient way for individuals age 70½ or older to give directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a church or other qualified charitable organization.

Instead of withdrawing funds and then making a gift, a QCD allows the donation to go directly from the IRA to Salem Covenant Church. Because of this, the amount given is not counted as taxable income, which may help reduce overall tax liability. For those age 73 and older, a QCD can also count toward the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

This can be a meaningful way to support Salem’s **Foundation for the Future** campaign—especially for those who do not itemize deductions. For many, it also makes it possible to consider a larger gift or pledge.

If you are interested in making a QCD, please consult your financial advisor or IRA administrator to ensure it is completed properly. For questions about QCDs or other creative giving options, please contact Bryan Ljung, campaign cabinet member, at bljung27@gmail.com or 651-895-9827, or Darin Stevens, campaign volunteer, at 320-295-2928.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q: *Where can I get a pledge card?*

A: Pledge cards for the capital campaign will be mailed to everyone’s home in about three weeks, just before Commitment Sunday, which is May 31. Until then, we are asking everyone to pray about how God may invite you to be involved financially.

Q: *How soon will the roof be fixed?*

A: The roof is the first project. We will begin working on the roof after we have collected the campaign pledges.

If you have a question, we’d love to hear from you. Please look for the Q&A box at the **Foundation for the Future** campaign table in the Narthex. Margaret & Randy Beahrs, who are leading our communications efforts, are also available by phone or text—Margaret at 651-955-7280 and Randy at 612-670-3533.



Margaret & Randy Beahrs

THREE WAYS TO GIVE

Giving More Than You Thought You Could

There are three great ways to give. First, you can make a **pledge over three years**. This is the way most people are able to make a significant donation. Even modest amounts become significant when given monthly or with each paycheck over three years.

All gifts are given over and above your regular giving. Pledges can be paid annually, semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, or with each paycheck. Please consider an initial payment of 10% at the time of your pledge.

Next, you can make a **non-cash gift**. This might be gifts of stock or mutual funds; gifts directly from an IRA; land or property; valuable possessions such as jewelry, automobiles and antiques; or even in-kind gifts such as supplies and labor. The ownership of these gifts will be transferred to Salem. We will sell these gifts and use the cash to fund the building campaign.

Finally, you can make a **legacy gift**. Through a charitable bequest in your will or living trust, you can leave a legacy that will continue for years to come. This thoughtful act, which has little or no current financial impact on you, may result in the largest and most lasting one-time gift you will ever make to Salem. While this legacy gift may not immediately impact our current needs, it will provide for needs in the years to come.

THREE-YEAR PAYMENT PLANS

GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL GIFT	(10%) INITIAL INVESTMENT	(36) MONTHLY	(12) QUARTERLY	(6) SEMI-ANNUALLY	(3) ANNUALLY		
PACESSETTING	\$500,000	\$50,000	\$12,500	\$37,500	\$75,000	\$150,000		
	\$450,000	\$45,000	\$11,250	\$33,750	\$67,500	\$135,000		
	\$400,000	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$120,000		
	\$300,000	\$30,000	\$7,500	\$22,500	\$45,000	\$90,000		
	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$6,250	\$18,750	\$37,500	\$75,000		
	\$200,000	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$60,000		
	\$150,000	\$15,000	\$3,750	\$11,250	\$22,500	\$45,000		
	\$100,000	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$15,000	\$30,000		
ADVANCED	\$75,000	\$7,500	\$1,875	\$5,625	\$11,250	\$22,500		
	\$60,000	\$6,000	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$9,000	\$18,000		
	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$1,250	\$3,750	\$7,500	\$15,000		
	\$40,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$12,000		
	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$750	\$2,250	\$4,500	\$9,000		
	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$625	\$1,875	\$3,750	\$7,500		
	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$500	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$6,000		
	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$375	\$1,125	\$2,250	\$4,500		
CONGREGATIONAL	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$250	\$750	\$1,500	\$3,000		
	\$7,500	\$750	\$188	\$563	\$1,125	\$2,250	DAILY	WEEKLY
	\$5,000	\$500	\$125	\$375	\$750	\$1,500	\$4.11	\$28.85
	\$4,000	\$400	\$100	\$300	\$600	\$1,200	\$3.29	\$23.08
	\$3,000	\$300	\$75	\$225	\$450	\$900	\$2.47	\$17.31

