

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

NEWSLETTER



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



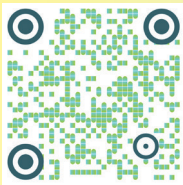
Commitment Sunday will be on May 31. Commitment Cards have been mailed out.

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



CHECK YOUR MAILBOX!

Last week, all households were mailed a pledge card and a letter from Pastor Mark inviting everyone to prayerfully consider a financial commitment over the next three years as part of Salem's **Foundation for the Future** campaign.

Through this effort, we are encouraging people to consider a gift above and beyond their regular giving. For many, this may involve thoughtful sacrifice and prayerful discernment about priorities and resources. At the same time, we recognize that every household's financial situation is unique, and we do not presume to know how God may lead each person to participate.

One of our hopes through this campaign is that many who have never given regularly to Salem might begin participating financially for the first time. Capital campaigns often become meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth, generosity, and shared commitment within the life of a congregation.

The amounts included in campaign letters were intended simply as figures to prayerfully consider and were based on giving history and best practices commonly used in church capital campaigns across the country. These requests were made thoughtfully, recognizing that some may feel led to do more, while others may need to do less. Part of the reason we have already made such strong progress toward our goal is because many households have responded generously to invitations to consider significant gifts. For many, responding generously to a meaningful opportunity like this has brought joy, gratitude, and a deeper sense of participation in God's work through Salem.

Please hold onto your pledge card and continue praying about your participation. Then, on Sunday, May 31, bring your completed pledge card with you to church and join us in this collective act of commitment on Commitment Sunday. ✝

MORE THAN ROOFS AND PARKING LOTS

In our last newsletter, we high-lighted some of the largest projects included in the Foundation for the Future capital campaign, including the building envelope (flat roof, cedar shakes, fascia, and many south-facing windows), HVAC systems, and parking lot improvements.

At the same time, the campaign also includes several other important projects that strengthen worship, hospitality, and the welcoming experience of Salem. Together, these investments help

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(cont. from page 1)

ensure that our facility continues serving as a strong foundation for ministry for years to come. The cost figures below reflect early estimates, and we are now in the process of receiving firm bids.

Organ Renovation — \$270,000

The Holtkamp organ can no longer be tuned correctly, making it difficult to use alongside other instruments. These tuning issues are noticeable to musicians and many others within the congregation. In addition, the organ’s combination action—now more than 30 years old—has reached the end of its lifespan, requiring replacement of its electronic components.

In 2023, an organ technician also identified that the organ leans forward. While there is no immediate danger, stabilization is needed to prevent future mechanical problems.

West Entrance Improvements — \$110,000

The west entrance, used for contemporary worship and as the primary entrance for youth, does not reflect the warm welcome we hope to extend. Like the main entrance, it plays an important role in shaping first impressions and serving as a visible point of connection for those entering Salem.

Commercial Dishwasher — \$22,000

Replacement parts are no longer available for Salem’s commercial dishwasher. Continued use risks sudden failure that would disrupt meals, fellowship events, and hospitality ministries that are central to life together at Salem. ✚



Replacement parts are not available for our dishwasher.



The west entrance could have a more prominent and welcoming feel.



AI-generated image of what the west entrance could look like with improvements.

NEED TO REACH THE CAMPAIGN OFFICE?

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

DID YOU KNOW...

Automatic pledge payments can be set up through your bank or through Salem’s website. Many households already give to Salem electronically, and online gifts can be designated to the **Foundation for the Future** capital campaign, the general fund, or other ministry priorities.

Many people choose automatic giving because it simplifies budgeting and financial planning. Others appreciate not needing to write checks or remember envelopes. Still others find it helpful because it reduces the chance of forgetting or missing a gift.

Electronic giving also benefits Salem by providing more consistent and predictable financial support throughout the year. In addition, it improves efficiency and accuracy in financial recordkeeping.

To make an online gift, please visit:

salem-covenant.church/give/

then click “Give Online.” If you need help setting up automatic payments, please contact the campaign office. ✚

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q: How can we have \$2.6 million already pledged to the Foundation for the Future Campaign when we have not yet had Commitment Sunday?

A: 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.

Check your mailbox for a pledge card. They are also available at the campaign table in the narthex.

Q: What happens to funds if we exceed our challenge goal of \$3.4 million?

A: Because of the strong momentum, we are looking ahead. Our first priorities are listed in our brochure and past newsletters. The cost figures provided are based on initial estimates, and we are currently receiving firm bids. There

are several important projects that were not included in the initial scope but remain meaningful needs within our facility. For example, the large floor-to-ceiling dividers in the fellowship hall have not functioned properly for years and need to be replaced.

If we are blessed to move beyond our Challenge Goal, it may be possible to address some of these additional needs now rather than postponing them for the future. The pastoral staff and leadership team would identify these goals and notify the congregation in advance of further expenditures.

Q: Who is on the team overseeing the building repair efforts?

A: Those overseeing the implementation of these projects include Dave Topitzhofer, who is serving as our project manager, Salem's Facility Ministry Team, Pastor Andrew Stonina, and Pastor Alice Johnson.

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.

THOUGHTS ON A CHRISTIAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

by Margaret Beahrs

As Salem looks to the future, to the (re)building of our facilities to serve young and old for decades to come and to be one of God's churches for "connecting, growing, and going"—I cannot escape the wonderful metaphors of Christ the Messiah as the chief cornerstone and God's people as members of His household. "In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit." (Ephesians 2:21, 22 NIV). May we seek to honor Him by contributing generously to this work, as we are able. ✝

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	5
\$75,000–\$99,999	5	4
\$50,000–\$74,999	7	9
\$35,000–\$49,999	10	3
\$25,000–\$34,999	10	5
\$20,000–\$24,999	8	3
\$15,000–\$19,999	7	6
\$10,000–\$14,999	21	4
up to \$10,000	many	10

\$3.4 MILLION

CHALLENGE GOAL

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.

\$2.6 MILLION

PLEGGED AS OF APRIL 26



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

