

ST. JOHN'S RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As we begin solicitation for our capital campaign the reality of raising \$1 million dollars for a new church has caused some to become uncomfortable and many to question can we really do this. The answer is yes we can if we take it one step at a time, starting with an initial goal of \$300,000.

As we move into the heart of our Capital Campaign designed to raise funds for the construction of a new church facility, we do so asking for your prayers and support. The reality is our current building is and will remain too costly to keep in repair and safe alongside the continuing changes in the ways that ministry is done in today's world. This has brought us to this place, where, with some mixed emotions yet a firm faith in God's presence as we move forward, we ask you to consider how you can be a part of this project.

While it never is easy to ask for financial support in this way, especially because this project is so large, we do so in as forthright a way as possible. The truth is that, in order to reach our campaign goal of \$300,000, we will need to double what we normally receive in general fund contributions. We recognize that this goal might be startling for some and cause many to feel uncertain about how realistic this goal might be to achieve. However, in order to move forward with our project to build a new worship and fellowship facility for our congregation and community, we ask you to prayerfully consider how your generosity might play a part in helping us turn this dream into a reality. As dictated by our goal, the formula for this Campaign is to ask each person/household to consider how possible it might be to double your giving for the next three years. This simply serves as a beginning point for your reflection. It is not what we ask or assume you will give. It is meant as a place for you to begin your prayerful consideration of how you might be willing and able to share in reaching our goal. We understand fully that many will not be able to reach this giving level, that some already give at the highest level they are able and can do no more, and that others can meet and even exceed this goal. From this starting point, we ask that you take some time to ponder, to pray, and to assess how generous you are able to be. In reality, if each of us gave an extra five or ten dollars per week, we could never reach our goal. However, each contribution is important and gratefully accepted, and will help us continue our journey forward. What we are asking you to do is simple and difficult at the same time. We are asking you to pray and assess how generous you can be over the next three years so that we might meet or exceed our goal and help provide for our future ministry here in the Ringtown Valley. When you have reached your prayerful decision, please take the time to fill out a pledge card so we are able to track the progress of the Campaign. If you have any questions about this Campaign, please contact the church office.

For over 200 years, our congregation's ministry has thrived because of the generosity and commitment of our members and friends. Please continue to pray for our shared ministry as we seek to serve our Lord in the days ahead with the same generosity and commitment.

Capital Campaign Committee

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, you have blessed us abundantly. We thank you for the blessings you constantly shine down upon us and for the greatest gift of all, the gift of your Son. Strengthen our response to your generosity by giving us generous hearts. Enlighten us in the ways we can bless and prosper the ministry of this congregation now and in the future. Free us up to see how we may honor the past by building a future foundation for ministry which will bless this congregation, this community and the sharing of your love in the world, in the name of the one who showed us this love in cross and empty tomb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE CARD

The pledge card we are distributing is designed to allow our members and friends to support our Capital Campaign in a way that make sense for each individual/family. You will notice on the pledge card several ways you may contribute to the Campaign, and in what timeframe your offerings will be shared. The card allows you to contribute through stocks, bonds, real property, etc., but the main area, which most will use, is the portion asking for pledges shared over the next three years. To help you understand what a weekly contribution might look like over the three-year period, starting at \$7 per week (one share) we have calculated what certain weekly contributions would total over those three years. You may use this as a guide for your prayerful consideration or contribute in any way you wish. We ask that you take some time, talk with your family, and pray about your support for the Campaign. When you have determined how you are able to support this effort, please fill out the pledge card and return it to the church office in a sealed, plain envelope marked "Capital Campaign". Please be sure to include your name on the pledge card so your response can be recorded. These returned cards help us to determine how and when we proceed with our new church facility project.