

Plymouth Creek Christian Church

Come shine with us!

“Shine Brighter Today and for Generations”

Plymouth Creek Christian Church began like the Olympic Torch- always on the move! From Baptist church to YMCA to hotels and more, an expanding, changing, faithful group gathered to worship God and shine love to neighbors. That nomadic journey required dedication- hauling hymnals, moving pianos, setting up, again and again. All the while, we dreamed of a stable sanctuary to rest the light.

Then, on Easter 1991, the movement ended. Finally, a home was ready! Soon after came a new wing, for new ministries to emerge. None of which was easy. It took sweat and sacrifice, along with much financial support. Nevertheless, funds were raised, loans extended, responsibility accepted, and the torch of faith warmed many hearts.

Indeed, the flame kept burning bolder and bigger. Over the past 21 years, we’ve welcomed many new families and guests, said goodbye to departed beloved, joined hands in matrimony, baptized new Christians. A community garden operates on our land. We host daily, high-quality childcare. Girl Scout Troops learn in our classrooms. Local school parents use our parking lot. And we’ve discerned a new vision: To become a beacon of Christian openness and service in the northwestern suburbs.

To achieve that vision, though, will take renewed investment, since the decades-old building and parking lot require renovations. A group of leaders, in conversation with the church, have identified facility improvement needs, priced them and ranked them in order of priority. All told, we expect it’ll take around \$101,000 to complete these projects.

That’s not an impossible sum, though it’s not small change either. But what if we- together!- decided to meet those challenges? We could brighten our facilities at this crucial time, and make progress on forgiving us our debts entirely.

To that end, we’re asking Plymouth Creekers to participate in a Staged Capital Campaign. This entails church members making pledges, above and beyond regular giving, payable over the next three years, however is best for your budget. The campaign begins September 30, and we’ll ask for pledges on or before October 21. Then, we’ll coordinate with Church Extension to refinance our current loan, adding to principle, which will provide money for capital improvements now.

And the Campaign is “Staged”, in that what we do depends on what the church gives. On the back of this sheet, you’ll see projects organized into “stages.” So, if we receive pledges for \$54,800, we’ll complete Stage 1- repave the parking lot and paying back our Memorial Fund. If we receive an additional \$7,500, we’ll tackle Stage 2- updating flooring in the Narthex. Stage 3- replacing sanctuary windows- will take another \$30,000. Stage 4 involves resurfacing the flat roof above the Narthex, about \$8,700. And finally Stage 5, the audacious, long-term dream, is paying off our church indebtedness, around \$118,000. We may not achieve all those Stages this time around. But we want you to know the opportunities before us, giving you a chance to respond generously.

And to imagine the ministry this work will allow. Plymouth Creek shining brighter now, and for generations! Imagine gliding over a freshly-paved lot as you come to worship. Imagine telling people, “My church? It’s that gleaming building on the corner with inviting facilities, constant activity, open to all, serving all!” Imagine new budget space for new ministry, when the debt’s fully retired. Imagine every visitor knowing, the moment they arrive, that we’re their kind of unique spiritual community.

For long-term church success, occasionally members must put new logs on the fire, so to speak. And with our faithful members, not to mention the new vision we’re making a reality, we’re ready to shine brighter, Plymouth Creek, now and for generations!

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Capital Campaign Stage Descriptions

Stage 1 - \$54,800

Driveway and parking lot repair and replacement; Curb and sidewalk repair and replacement

- Cost based on estimates for work and financing- approximately \$51,700

Loan repayment to Memorial fund for fire sprinkler repair completed in 2011

- Total cost \$3,100

Stage 2 - \$7,500

Floor finish replacement in the Narthex and down the hall to the green strip at restrooms

- Cost based on estimate received

Stage 3 - \$30,000

Replace all sanctuary windows with aluminum framed windows

- Cost based on estimate received

- Floor-level windows- approx.. \$20,000

- 2 Upper-level windows- approx. \$10,000

Stage 4 - \$8,700

Rubber roof replacement (flat roof over Narthex)

- Cost based on estimate received

Stage 5 - \$118,000

Pay down mortgage

- Amount cited is approximate as of 9/12