



Bush Hill

Building Campaign

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

By now you have probably received a Fact Sheet in the mail, along with Carl's letter kicking off the *Forward by Grace* capital campaign. Our goal is to make sure that everyone has complete information about the approved plan and an opportunity to get answers to every question. If you have a question we haven't answered, or that we haven't answered to your satisfaction, please email it to the church office. We'll respond to you and also post the question and answer on this page for others to see. Here are some of the questions we've been asked so far:

What does grace have to do with a building campaign?

Grace is the backbone of our belief in Christ. Through the sacrifice of Jesus we are given all good things God can provide. Remembering this helps us keep our priorities in order.

How is grace going to help us move forward?

Through faith in the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with the support of a committed church family joined in a common purpose, we have all we need to succeed in anything we choose to accomplish in Christ's name. That, and a lot of prayer, will do the trick.

Why do we have to move forward? Can't we just leave well enough alone?

Here are just a few of the many reasons identified by the congregation and reviewed by the Vision for the 21st Century Committee in making their recommendation for the current plan:

- ❖ Our Day School barely meets current standards and does not meet our own high standards for this critical community service.
- ❖ Our church is not accessible to those with mobility problems

“As a Deacon I had to watch arthritics, stroke survivors and knee and hip replacement patients as they struggled up the ramp to the front door. It's a real mark of how special Bush Hill is that so many endure physical pain just to worship here.”
– Rebecca Hastings

- ❖ Our fellowship space is far too small to accommodate even our active number of members.
- ❖ Our offices are cramped and have limited storage space
- ❖ Our Christian education rooms are inadequate and uninspiring
- ❖ Our restrooms are small and inaccessible
- ❖ Our wooden chapel prevents any nearby renovation without substantial fire code improvements.

What is it going to cost?

The cost is currently projected to be around 4 million. We want to raise as much of this as we can to limit the liability of a large mortgage. While that may seem to be a daunting figure, it's important to mention that our church has already tackled significant projects like this in the past. In today's dollars, the cost of our original structures was over \$2 million. More recently our church raised over a quarter of a million for our organ and almost \$100,000 for a Habitat house. We can do this too.

Why can't we just sell part of the land the church owns and use the proceeds?

Fairfax County regulations limit the amount of floor space we can build to a certain percentage of the lot size. We are almost at the maximum now, and the current renovation proposal maximizes our legal allowance. If we sold part of the land, we would need to reduce the building proposal accordingly. The reduction would probably need to cut into the Day School and Fellowship spaces.

Isn't our money better spent on mission?

Bush Hill has a proud history of mission giving. In fact, in the 1960's our church was pushing hard for 50% of our budget to be spent on mission. However, this can only be achieved with a united sense of purpose – and considerable commitment from each one of us. The changes to the building will help reduce future costs for repairs, create a more inviting facility and give us the ability to use multipurpose space for mission projects. Each of us will have the opportunity to continue to support our church's critical mission efforts while making personal sacrifices for our church's future.

Wouldn't it be better to wait until we've raised a significant amount of money before we commit to building?

Laws change and the cost of materials continues to go up. The longer we wait the more it will cost.

Won't this affect our normal stewardship campaign?

That is up to you. Each of us must prayerfully consider how we can contribute above and beyond our regular giving. If we each make a commitment in that spirit and consider a few sacrifices we can make for the building campaign, our church will have no problems paying the bills. We may even find our mission giving can increase while we undertake this project.

*“Some give freely, yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due, and only suffer want.”
Proverbs 11:24*

What is going to happen during construction?

The Day School will continue to operate throughout construction. Though any building project is not without its inconveniences, every effort will be made to minimize them. The Sanctuary itself will be unaffected.

Once we move forward, what will the future hold for Bush Hill?

- ❖ Improved Christian Education and opportunities for personal spiritual growth
- ❖ Better than ever Day School - a key to community outreach and evangelism
- ❖ Mission activities – our chance to serve others through Christ’s example
- ❖ More fellowship space and the ability to share friendships that span a lifetime
- ❖ Continued Music – enriching our spiritual experience and sharing our gifts
- ❖ Continuity in Worship - our centered time to show our love for God
- ❖ Accessibility – an inviting place for all who seek the Lord

So what is my role as we move forward?

- ❖ Praying to discern God’s will
- ❖ Making a sacrificial commitment
- ❖ Listening and learning with an open heart and mind
- ❖ Participating in ministry and mission as we move forward
- ❖ Nurturing children in our church and community during the transition
- ❖ Growing closer to God by growing closer to others

What should I expect during this campaign?

- ❖ Information meetings will provide opportunities for all questions to be answered and issues to be discussed
- ❖ Information visits on a one-on-one basis will be available
- ❖ An intensive period of prayer and reflection
- ❖ A special event to celebrate the commitments of our church family

Where can I get more information?

- ❖ Ask any member of the Leadership Team – their names are printed in the bulletin
- ❖ Read the report of the Vision for the 21st Century Committee, presented and approved by congregational vote at our annual meeting in January
- ❖ Attend any building campaign meeting – all are open to anyone in the congregation
- ❖ Pray – God will show you the way that is right for you and for our church.

***Grace alone, which God Supplies,
Strength unknown, he will provide.
Christ in us, our Cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone.***

Hymn 2162, Sing the Faith