

Building Committee Meeting #2 July 10, 2024 2:30 held at KHUMC

In attendance: Alan Thornburg, Jamie McMurtrey, Bill Marchant, Bob Dominick, Tim Reilly, Pastor Sharla McCaskell, Janette Jackmovich, Bob Rudebush  
Missing: Rod Todd, Denny Gorton, Brian Lewis

Main purpose of the meeting was to consult with Bob Rudebush regarding his experiences and recommendations for a financial plan and capital campaign fund raising.

Bob R. has been involved with 4 campaigns: Sioux Falls First, Canyon Lake, one was a debt reduction

He suggested that we all read a book called Capital Campaign Playbook by Greg Gibbs. Pastor Sharla has ordered 10 of these books.

Alan T. shared that he would like our goal to be to have funding prior to a decision being initiated. Bob R. states that the Building Committee is a nominated representation of the congregation and that we need to be the leaders and we should decide or narrow it down and develop a case study on our best option to present to the congregation prior to the main financial campaign.

The case study should provide the congregation with the Why they should give their financial support. It should be about 4 pages about What we are going to do! The Why we are going to do this! What will change! Ie. Better Kitchen, Better Fellowship area with access for all, Accessible Restrooms, Office space for our Pastors and Office Assistant, Classrooms for children's education, Nursery for childcare, etc. What is the recipe for success in our mission?

We need to review our Mission statement and our reasons for being a church: ie. To make disciples and establish relationships with who? What ministries will we be able to do with our proposed facility? Remember that the building is a tool to help us succeed in our Mission. A church is no longer just a sanctuary, we need a facility that will serve our future congregation. Remember that the church is the people that serve and are served.

We will never have 100% buy in. There will be people who will want to go back to Egypt or people who can't catch the vision. Some people must see it first. We want about 75% to buy into the plan.

How do we decide if we stay or go? Which option does the building committee select? Consider the history of why we are here in the neighborhood. Why do we need to relocate? Safety for our Pastor? Safety for our youth? Our existing neighborhood has become transient and does not support our church. How much would it cost to get our existing church up to code? Parking lot? Addition? Is that money better spent elsewhere? How visible are we? Does this current location draw people to it? If we stay here..., how do we put ourselves on the map? Do we want this church to exist for the next 60 years?

Pastor Sharla will be our biggest cheerleader. Her leadership with a prayer initiative will help to remind us that we are following God's lead. Prayer cards, prayer walks. Her relationship with our congregation will be valuable but we also want to protect her. Hiring an outside campaign person would do this as well as coach us in how to do a fundraising campaign and/or pledge drive and/or "Miracle Sunday" and/or Matching grant and/or Bake Sales and/or etc. etc. etc. and that person would keep us on task. The fundraising campaign will ask for legacy gifts to the future of our church. They may come from a person's savings or IRA as a Charitable Gift with deduction benefit. We could create a line item in the budget to cover interest if we have to take out a loan and people may then give more money if they know their entire gift will go to pay off the principle. Some Conferences may have extra money that they will loan to us at a lower interest rate. Check with the Conference about district expansion or church extension or Thrive money. Check with Businesses to see if they will help us financially. All options should be considered! People want to give to a "winning effort".

We need to remember that with God, All things are possible!! We cannot be afraid that we are too old of a congregation, or that we cannot afford to fund our building project. We need to follow God's lead and not allow fear to lead us.

Advice: Don't Rush it but Don't move like a turtle. Bring everybody along!!! They are not where we are yet. Communicate at least 1x/month by email, newsletter, website, facebook page. Be transparent! Hear and address feedback!!! You can start a General Building Fund campaign right away. Create a Timeline or Goals. Ie. Start our Capital Fundraising Campaign in September 2025 and end the campaign by Thanksgiving 2025. Begin construction by January 2026.

Things to do... (not in order and may have to do multiple at the same time)

1. As a group, we need to pick which option to focus on.
2. Create subgroups: Foundation/Conference help
3. Start a Prayer Initiative – “Pray Big and Often” Create a theme, have a Catch phrase.
4. Get a copy of Sioux Falls First’s Case Study.
5. Tim to make a video of our downstairs to show the issues and why we need to leave this building.
6. Send our pictures of Prairie View tour to Tim to help show the vision for our building.
7. Review and make sure we are clear on our Mission statement.
8. Develop our own Case Study and present it to our congregation. (Follow the Discipline)
9. Read the book.
10. Establish a Timeline.
11. Hire an outside campaign person.
12. Run the Main Fundraising Campaign (takes 4-6 weeks)
13. Complete a Financial Plan.
14. Get or hire an architect to draw up our building.

Bob R. said that we can send him our meeting minutes for his review, and he will communicate with Chairperson Alan Thornburg or Pastor Sharla if he notices that we need any assistance or advice.