

frequently asked questions

What exactly is being planned in the lower level renovation?

There are a few key components to the lower level renovation:

- Installation of a full-size elevator to replace our current “Elevette” lift
- The removal of the current Parlor walls to open up the lower level in order to create an informal café-style gathering space
- The current women’s restroom will become a new men’s restroom, and the current men’s restroom will be removed in order to create a wider opening in the Fellowship Hall. A new women’s restroom will be constructed at the rear of the building where we currently have a large, single-occupant restroom.
- A small meeting room will be created at the rear of the current parlor.
- The front entry (narthex) will be updated and made brighter, and one of the front doors will be given a push-button-entry mechanism.

Why aren’t we just putting in a new elevator? Why all the renovations?

The front entry and lower level renovations are all of a piece with the installation of a new elevator. Together they accomplish our goal of an accessible and welcoming building that is not only easy to enter, but that also lends itself to community, connection, and fellowship.

Where is the full-sized elevator going to be located?

The elevator will be located in the same place as our current lift, with the possibility of slight changes in position or orientation.

Is there a priority order in which these projects will sequenced?

While the project scope as currently described encompasses the front entry and lower level, there are other projects on our radar which the session has begun to prioritize. These items may be revisited, depending on the outcome of the campaign. Should there be need to reduce project scope, the elevator would remain our top priority.

When do we plan to begin these projects? What is the timeline for completion?

The start of construction depends in large part on the availability of funds. Short-term debt (such as a line of credit) and long-term debt will be considered to help bridge pledge revenue during the three-year fulfillment period. Any use of these tools will be carried out in a financially prudent manner with oversight by the Finance & Facilities Committee and the Session. We expect a 90-day construction period.

Will we incur any debt as we address these projects?

Because the *Rise Up* campaign is intended to address both our physical needs and our property acquisition, we will incur some debt as a result of these projects. The Session and the Finance & Facilities Committee are investigating a range of scenarios and will work to keep debt at an absolute minimum.

What are the terms on the property acquired earlier this year?

The purchase price was \$675,000. We made a down payment of \$50,000, with the balance (\$625,000) to be paid by land contract within six years. Our monthly interest payment is \$3,125. The lease payments we receive from our tenant cover the majority of expenses incurred by this property (interest, taxes, upkeep, etc.).

How long is the Rise Up Campaign?

The campaign period lasts for three years, January 2019 through December 2021.

I am interested in making a gift to help move the project forward. When can I give my gift and what can I give?

Commitment Sunday, when the congregation will be asked to make a three-year financial commitment via a pledge is December 9. You will also be able to make a pledge online.

If you have a pledge or gift that you would like to offer before or after this time frame you are welcome to do so. Gifts can include cash, stocks, bonds, property, precious metals, jewelry, or other items. One can also choose to leave a legacy gift for the ongoing upkeep of the facility through one's will or trust. If you have a specific question, please don't hesitate to contact Harold Swenson (Treasurer) for a confidential conversation.

How are the pledges given?

It is up to the individual making the pledge how they want to give. Many individuals will break up their total gift and make weekly, or monthly offerings toward their pledge over the three years of the campaign. Some persons may give their pledge in one, or a few lump sums, due to special circumstances, or for tax reasons. How the gifts are distributed will be varied according to your specific situation. Talk with your tax advisor about ways to give that might be best for your circumstances.

What if my job situation changes or I have a crisis?

The pledge card is a declaration of your intentions to give based on your understanding of your situation when you filled out the card. We understand that a crisis or emergency may preclude or diminish your ability to give what you intend. It could also be that an unexpected blessing may enable you to give more than you thought you could. If you need to alter your pledge for any reason, contact Harold Swenson, our Treasurer.

Who can best answer specific questions related to my campaign gift and my tax situation?

Your tax advisor will be the best source of information regarding the tax implications of your gift.

How will you keep Operating/Capital Monies separate?

All Capital Campaign funds and expenses are accounted for separate from operating revenue and expenses. No campaign funds will not be used to fund church operations.

How will we be asked to participate?

Every person who feels a connection to Milford Presbyterian will be asked to do three things:

- Pray daily: "Lord, what do you want to do through me?"
- Praise: Thank God for the many ways you experience God's blessings, especially the blessings that come to you through the conduit of Milford Presbyterian Church.
- Plan: After praying daily, consider what you feel God is calling you to do in the Rise Up campaign. You will be asked to make a sacrificial pledge to the "Rise Up" campaign on Commitment Sunday, December 9. These capital campaign gifts will be given across a three-year period from January 2019 through December 2021.

What can I do next?

Learn as much as you can about the campaign projects and ask clarifying questions. If you have questions, please contact David Williams, Campaign Chair, or Bryant Anderson, Pastor. Then, pray. Pray for MPC and her future. Pray asking, "Lord, how do you want me to respond to this invitation, make an impact, and join in the Rise Up project?" A series of congregational gatherings will be held in the first part of November to share the finalized project and campaign details, and to process your questions.

Lord, what do you want to do through me?

