



# Generations of FAITHFULNESS

CAPITAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2019

## A NOTE FROM PASTORS CATHY & DOUG JOHNS

Generations of Faithfulness. What comes to your mind when you read this phrase? A rich history of scores of church members dedicating themselves to ministry larger than themselves? Generations of families finding a place to belong and become when touched by the love of Christ? Generations of Faithfulness was chosen as the theme of the Capital Stewardship Campaign for several reasons. The reference to Psalm 145 “rings” in our hearts today as it has in generations before us and will for generations to come.

**“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”**  
*(Psalm 145:4)*

### WHAT DID WE INHERIT?

We stand on the shoulders of faithful generations who generously gave of themselves and their resources to provide what we enjoy today:

- 1927** A spectacular sanctuary stands here with beautiful gothic architecture. Countless lives have been changed by finding God in this beautiful space.
- 1952** A 25-year anniversary stewardship campaign was held to burn the mortgage. Many people stepped out in faith by mortgaging their homes during the depression to help pay the Church’s mortgage
- 1963** An educational wing was built to create space for children, youth, and adults to deepen their relationship with God.
- 2000** Redesigned the chancel to facilitate worship and a new entrance
- 2007** Welcome center to create space for community.

### HOW WILL WE STEP OUT IN FAITH FOR THE NEXT GENERATION?...



## 2019 MARKS A CROSSROADS FOR HOW WE WILL FAITHFULLY AND GENEROUSLY PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE.

We have the opportunity to provide future generations with facilities for effective ministry. How will this Connection Center become the hub of ministry and mission and help change lives? The Connection Center, Family Center and renovated space will...

- Provide a clear and direct path for newcomers to worship and community spaces
- Welcome our neighbors with a comfortable, open, inviting space that includes an Internet café, an indoor playground, and comfortable seating.
- Facilitate relationships in a space where people can find new friends and discover a new purpose for living
- Serve multiple generations. The Family Center will provide a safe dedicated space for children and family ministry.
- Include major repairs for addressing drainage issues in the refectory, water damage to walls and floors, and replacement of historic windows.
- Renovate the kitchen, updating the refectory to become more attractive and hospitable, and modernize spaces to accommodate our overnight guests (Interfaith Hospitality Network and Summer Impact participants)

The proposed upgrades and additions align our current mission and ministry with the original stated policy for the facilities at the corner of Observatory and Grace. This policy hangs in the sanctuary narthex and is reprinted inside this newsletter and is why we are called “Community” United Methodist.

The following, stated in the dedication worship materials from the fall of 1927, still challenges us today:

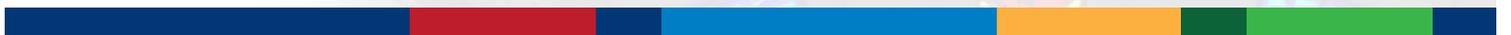
“This edifice represents a faith built in stone; the faith that all sorts and conditions of people can unite in the worship of God; the faith that such worship must find its fitting expression in work for the bettering of the community and the inbringing of the Kingdom. May the experience of the coming years prove the justification of this faith!” (From the Program of Dedicatory Services, September 25 to October 9, 1927)

This statement expresses the past, present, and future faith of Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church. Through the use of brick and mortar we again have the opportunity to move Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church to the origins of our calling: a calling to all who mourn and need comfort, to all who are tired and need rest, to all who are friendless and want friendship, to all who are lonely and want companionship, to all who are homeless and want sheltering love. *A great tradition has been passed down to us by the courageous leaders whose vision made possible our progress and growth in the past. What is your vision for the future of God’s work at the corner of Grace and Observatory? How will we join the Generations of Faithful who have walked this path before us to pass on this vision to future generations? They had it right in 1927 and we can continue this faithfulness for generations to come.*

Amen!

Your Servants in Christ,

Pastors Cathy and Doug Johns



# OUR OFFICIAL POLICY

*Adopted in April 1926,  
displayed on a plaque in the Narthex today*

“The determined policy of this Church is that it shall be a seven-day-in-the-week Community Church. Just so far as physically possible it will be thrown open for the use of all community gatherings, community interests, community programs.”

*Research shows that guests know within the first 7 minutes of contact whether they feel comfortable enough to return.*

They decide on the basis of:

- Simplicity of arrival experience and wayfinding within the space
- Sense of approachability and welcome in facility
- Visible Commitment to Growing Children and Youth

These characteristics are **CENTRAL** to our mission to **MAKE DISCIPLES** as a 7-day-a-week Community Church. How do we embrace this calling in our community today? How do we recognize the faithfulness of past generations and move forward for new generations



## THIS CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

“I am excited about the Faithful Generations Capital Stewardship Campaign because through it, we can provide a more welcoming space to people of all ages in the community. I can't wait to see the opportunities and relationships that grow out of this!”

- Drea Osterbur

## THIS CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT GROWING A FAITH COMMUNITY



I am excited about the Faithful Generations Capital Stewardship Campaign because we have an opportunity as a church family to better reach out and provide love, generosity and grace of Jesus Christ to future generations and those searching for a spiritual community.

- Maddie Williams

## THIS CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT REACHING OUT IN MINISTRY



“I am excited about the Faithful Generations Capital Stewardship Campaign because it's our opportunity to enhance and expand the ministries of our church for generations to come.”

- Steve Kramer

## THIS CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT HOSPITALITY & BEING OPEN TO THE FAMILY OF GOD



“I am excited about the Faithful Generations Capital Stewardship Campaign because what this space says about Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church. This will create so many opportunities to change lives of our members, our community, Cincinnati, and the world. ‘People will rather be at Church than not!’ A place to come, a place to belong.”

- David Colaw



A NEW and INVITING SPACE to reach a broad variety of groups organizations and individuals in the community with a bright, lofted, open area to gather.



## A NEW CONNECTION CENTER... ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

There are so many different ways we can grow our relationships with new and existing friends in a space such as this. This open environment provides clear and direct paths to worship and community connections.

- Cincinnati running club and other groups can gather
- Preschool parents having coffee while children are in school
- Community families stopping in for conversation as their children play in the new play area
- Daily small groups discussing the events of the day and discerning God's message
- Evening informal "hang out" for youth and adults
- Job search participants provided a place for coffee and networking
- Lectures and community forums



# HOW DO WE INVITE NEW PEOPLE TO JOIN US?

Create a space that is welcoming to all ages.

Come, sit, have some coffee, talk with friends, be in community at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church



The vision for our church since the 1930's is to be so welcoming that "people would rather be over at church than any place else."

## *How do we do that?*

- Lovingly maintain our beautiful Gothic structure so it remains the "heart of our worship experience."
- Create a new connection center to be the corresponding "heart of our ministry", a place of fellowship and activity that makes everyone feel like there's a place for them.
- More than just a new building space, we expect to fill the connection center and children's spaces with NEW ministries relevant to our neighborhood, young families and all others who need a church home.



*With modern spaces and the programming that will fill it, we will live up to our name as a "Community Church".*

**“WHAT WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO IS TO HELP PEOPLE GET ACQUAINTED WITH JESUS CHRIST AND GO FORTH TO LIVE GODLY LIVES OF SERVICE AMONG ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.”**

*- Adapted from “Our Official Policy”*

## **CONNECT GET INFORMED YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS UPCOMING CAMPAIGN EVENTS**

### **FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 2**

Contact Care Calls

### **MARCH 4 - 15**

Informational meetings

### **APRIL 14**

Commitment Sunday

### **APRIL 28**

Announcement Celebration Sunday





## YOU ARE NEEDED & HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP...

- Pray for the Church and our staff
- Get involved
- Plan on coming to informational meetings
- Say yes if a friend calls and asks you to help

*Let this song be our prayer...*

### FIND US FAITHFUL

*written by Steve Green*

We're pilgrims on the journey  
Of the narrow road  
And those who've gone before us line the way  
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary  
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses  
Let us run the race not only for the prize  
But as those who've gone before us  
Let us leave to those behind us  
The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

#### CHORUS:

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful  
May the fire of our devotion light their way  
May the footprints that we leave  
Lead them to believe  
And the lives we live inspire them to obey

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful



 Hyde Park COMMUNITYUMC  
[www.hydeparkchurch.org](http://www.hydeparkchurch.org)  
1345 Grace Ave., Cincinnati Oh 45208  
(513)871-1345