

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How was the project list developed?** The Trustees have been working on the list for many months, most recently in consultation with the Meyer Group of Duluth Architects. The Project List Includes:

- Upper Roof
- Upper Windows
- Tuck Pointing
- Building Maintenance Plan
- Floor Reconditioning
- Fireside Lounge Flooring
- Parking Lot Improvements
- Restroom Updates
- Organ Refurbishment
- Sanctuary Sound - Special Gifts
- Trustees Maintenance Endowment
- Reach, Renew, Rejoice

(Minnesota United Methodist Campaign for congregational development and redevelopment), \$20,000

- Campaign Cost

2. **Where will the funds come from?** The capital campaign goal is \$525,000 to come from our members over three years. The commitment is over-and-above your annual pledge to the church operating budget. While it is always necessary to communicate what is needed for this capital campaign we ask that you prayerfully consider as generous a pledge as possible that will allow for the trustees to maintain and invest funds for future needs. We will combine these funds with the monies received from the sale of the Chester Park United Methodist Church building to cover the cost of the projects. Some of those funds were specifically designated for the Minnesota United Methodist Church and are a significant portion of our pledge for Reach, Renew, Rejoice.

3. **Don't the Trustees already have funds?** The Trustees currently have a relatively small dedicated building fund (approximately \$110,000) to use when emergencies arise that are beyond the scope of the annual church budget. Through the campaign we hope to increase the amount of this fund so more money is regularly available for on-going maintenance and repair.

4. **What about our church foundation funds?** First United Methodist Church currently benefits from gifts from two foundations, both of which are legally separate non-profit corporations apart from the church. The First United Methodist Church Foundation contains a few distinct funds, the use of which is restricted by the donors' wishes. The general foundation fund provides \$50-60,000 per year to the operating budget of the church. The Greystone Foundation was set up by a family to generate on-going funds for the church and it contributes approximately \$20-25,000 per year to the operating budget of the church. To significantly deplete these foundation funds would have an on-going negative impact on our church budget, resulting in cuts in programs and staffing, which in turn could result in a decline in church participation and activity. Both these funds were set up to help the work and ministry of First United Methodist Church over the long-run.



2015
Capital Campaign

5. What if we don't achieve our goal? The projects will be completed as funds are available with priority to protecting the exterior envelope of the church: upper roof, upper windows and tuck pointing.

6. Do we have a Maintenance Plan and what does it include? Working with the Meyer Group, the Trustees and church staff will be developing a comprehensive church maintenance plan. This maintenance plan will include both short and long-term projects for maintenance, replacement and repair. It will also include proactive strategies for keeping the building looking its best.

7. How can I make a pledge? First- study the information packets that will be personally delivered to each church member. Then in October two pledge cards will be mailed to each household with a return envelope. One will be for the Annual Budget (beige) and one for the Capital Campaign (pink). The cards will let you indicate how you plan to make your pledge. We ask that you pray and give thought to making as generous a pledge as possible. You may bring both of your pledge cards for dedication on Celebration Sunday, November 22nd or you may send it in by mail in the envelope provided.

7. What if I would like to give a gift of stock or IRA or other assets? Please contact our Administrative Associate, Paula Davidson at 727-5021 for instructions.

8. When was the last capital campaign? 2006

9. How often have we worked on the roofs or tuck pointing? 1986, 1998, 2006

10. Why was work on the sound system done first? Sound system improvement has been on the Trustee list for some time, and was on our campaign project list. A significant donation to the church was earmarked for sound improvement, an early gift to the campaign. Along with other gifts received for the sound system we were able to proceed with this project this summer, a much better time to do this work than the fall or winter.

11. How can I ask questions or keep updated on the Capital Campaign? - In the campaign brochure is a list of the committee members you may contact. You can also check the church website and read about updates in First Family.