



Growing Together

Parklawn Assembly of God
Milwaukee, WI

Commitment Sunday, November 16



"Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my territory"
1 Chronicles 4:10



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP HARVEY

Dear Friends,

Thank you.

It was in 2008 that we completed our building program. Your generous financial support over the past years has been tremendous. Thank you for sharing in this communal effort that has led to our new and expanded facilities which have served as a blessing to our entire faith community. Our renovated spaces have been a blessing as we gather to serve God, serve others, teach, learn, pray, share and enjoy the fellowship of one another. We are now better able to pursue our mission of "Bringing Light to the World".



I am reaching out to you now because there's more to be done. We urgently need to raise the funds to pay down our building program debt while at the same time meet our mortgage obligation. Doing so will result in significant interest savings and position our congregation well for future ministry. Also, additional capital and outreach needs have been identified to advance our ministries.

I am confident we can meet these challenges and seize these opportunities, but only if we face them as we always have...as a faith community, united. Please contribute what you can at this time. May God who has begun this good work in us continue to bless us, and the entire Parklawn faith community.

Your Servant In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Walter Harvey".

Bishop Walter Harvey

CELEBRATING WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED

Our significant renovation and expansion project completed in 2008 allowed us to accommodate and better serve our growing fellowship and the community with a new state-of-the-art Children's ministry, Cup of Life Café, prayer room, music wing, administrative offices, River of Life Bookstore, renovated sanctuary, and has allowed more space for the needs of the Parklawn Leadership Academy.

To fund the renovation and expansion project, we relied on the generosity of our members and friends...and we borrowed. Here are summary financial figures regarding the project:

Construction costs (2006 & 2007)	\$ 5,000,000
Loan interest paid to-date	<u>\$ 2,100,000</u>
Total Costs to-date	\$ 7,100,000
Funds from Capital Campaign (2005 – 2008)	\$ 1,231,000
Funds used from General Fund	<u>\$ 1,769,000</u>
Total Payments to-date	\$ 3,000,000

OUR BUILDING PROJECT DEBT

Our current building debt is \$4.1 million at an interest rate of 6%. We currently pay over \$383,000 per year in mortgage payments, principal and interest. We are renegotiating with local banks to refinance our mortgage and lower the interest rate. We expect to lower our payments by as much as \$130,000 per year. Lowering the interest rate now will save Parklawn hundreds of thousands of dollars over the life of the mortgage. Part of our refinancing strategy is contingent upon a successful capital campaign to make our mortgage payments and pre-pay on our principal balance. Pre-paying will also save us thousands of dollars in mortgage interest.

OUR CAMPAIGN GOALS

Now we embark on a congregation-wide effort to raise funds needed to continue making our loan payments, pre-pay a portion of the loan principal, and pursue additional capital and outreach projects. With God's blessings, and your support, our goal is to raise **\$2.2 million or more over the next five years**. Raising this amount means we will need special gifts from all our members, over and above our regular tithe contributions. We would utilize the funds in the following way:

Required loan payments for the next 5 years	\$ 1,250,000
Pre-pay principal on our loan	\$ 700,000 or more
Fund Capital Projects	\$ 105,000 - 130,000
Provide seed money for Outreach	\$ 140,000



OUR CAPITAL AND OUTREACH NEEDS

If we are successful in raising additional funds beyond our debt reduction needs, we would consider exploring the following Capital and Outreach needs (with estimated costs shown):

Capital Needs

Fellowship Hall/Gym Air Conditioning (\$20,000 - \$30,000)

This ministry area serves PCLA students, church and community groups in recreation, fellowship and Christian education activities.

Parking Lot Resurfacing/Restriping (\$23,000 - \$30,000)

Several harsh winters of salting and snow plowing have made it a necessity to resurface and restripe our parking lot.

IT Computer System Upgrades (\$20,000)

Includes servers, cooling systems, Windows XP upgrades and office Phone system upgrades.

Security Cameras/System Upgrades (\$10,000)

Our best efforts to prevent theft, vandalism, abuse and provide a safe and open worship environment for our congregants and community. Mount additional indoor and outdoor cameras in the church.

REAL Kids (Preschool) Bathroom and Divider wall (\$5,000 - \$10,000)

Need to add a bathroom for preschool children and sound barrier wall between elementary church space and preschool space.

Recreational Items for Youth (\$2,000 - \$5,000)

Our vision is to create a place of fellowship and fun for all youth in a positive, productive, sober environment where ministry can take place, with plenty of comfortable seating for everyone...a nice place for parents to come and hang out with their kids. The Next Level Student Ministries game room could also have table games and an XBOX 360 corner, all of which would be free.

Classroom painting, furnishings (desks, seating, equipment)

Ed Wing (\$5,000), Café paint (\$5,000); Ushers room and Nursing mothers room paint (\$3,000)

Sanctuary and Narthex Lobby paint and structural repairs (\$7,000)

Sanctuary carpet repair (\$5,000)

Outreach Needs

Parklawn Community Bandshell at St. Ann North Ave. Campus (\$15,000 - \$20,000)

The Parklawn Community Bandshell will be located on the grounds of the new St. Ann campus and will provide us and our community a venue for Christian arts and programming. In 2013 we launched the "It Takes A Village" Contribution Program (along with an Engraved Brick program) and have already raised just under \$15,000.

Kitchen Remodeling and PRISM Economic Development Corporation (\$50,000)

This renovation will help us provide:

- Meals for our school (daily) and community (weekly)
- Light food manufacturing (job creation in food entrepreneurship/hospitality)
- Kitchen incubation for food entrepreneurs
- Support of Park Café with food products.

Plant three urban churches over the next five years utilizing the Assemblies of God PAC model (Parent Affiliated Church) (\$60,000)

- Compelled by the need of unreached people who need to know Christ
- Explore models and ways to reach into different communities
- Develop language based models as a way to reach into new believers in Christ
- Revitalization and Adoption of existing churches.

Add additional Missionaries with a local and national focus (\$10,000)

- Support current local mission projects that focus on urban outreach
- Empower individual missionaries to bring new believers to the body of Christ
- Encourage laborers to step up and accept the challenge of carrying the gospel to the world.

OUR INVITATION TO GIVE

We are asking all of our members and friends to pray and consider one of these types of "Hoped for Gifts":

Matching Existing Giving - We ask for you to pray and consider a matching gift which means doubling your current giving over the next five years. For example, if you are currently giving \$15 per week (\$780 per year) as your regular general fund giving, please pray and consider giving an additional \$15 per week to our Capital Campaign fund over the next five years, for a total 5-year commitment of \$3,900.

Pacesetter Gift - We ask those who are in a position to give more, to pray and consider a pacesetter gift of \$5,000 to \$20,000 over the next five years.

Leadership Gift - We invite all members who have been financially blessed to pray and consider a leadership gift of \$20,000 to \$100,000 or more.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

On Commitment Sunday, November 16, everyone is invited to bring their completed response form to worship where they will be received in a special way. Some members of our congregation will have been asked to respond even earlier to help our campaign get off to a good start. Prior to Commitment Sunday, through talks in church, mailings and telephone calls, we hope to communicate how vital this campaign is to the future of our congregation. If you cannot be with us on November 16, please return your response envelope to the church as soon as possible, or bring your response envelope to worship the following Sunday. May your response be made with joy and thanksgiving for all God has given you.

PLEASE GIVE AS GOD LEADS YOU

We pray that all of our gift-giving decisions are motivated by the love God has shown for us in Jesus Christ. We realize that not everyone has the resources to make a gift within the ranges hoped for. Our hope is that every person makes a prayerful, sacrificial gift. "Not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice" describes the biblical principle of proportionate giving. Through this campaign, we encourage an equal sense of commitment and sacrifice throughout our congregation, with each person prayerfully determining their own gift. We trust in God's spirit to guide each of us in our decision. In the end, we say "Thanks be to God" to each and every response to our **Growing Together** Campaign.

A PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

Gracious God, you have filled my life with blessings beyond count and measure. Yet I would ask for one thing more. Grant to me a grateful heart that I might share what I have received and know the joy of generosity, not for my recognition but for your glory and in accord with your will. - Amen.

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