



Case Statement for Church of the Lakes Capital Campaign

A young woman with small children came forward after worship with a great need. Her world had been turned upside down when her husband left the marriage, leaving her without support payments and saddled her with his debts. There was little family support in the midst of her crisis, but in that void our faith family stood in the gap. A small group surrounded and encouraged her: Lil Lambs helped with vouchers, the Child Care Center offered scholarships, the FISH fund helped get her on her feet. A new job, lots of prayers and faith friends have brought her to a new season of hope and joy. This is the difference a faith family makes when we live our mission to know Christ and make Christ known through worship, prayer, fellowship, discipleship and service. Since the congregation's founding sixty years ago, thousands of people have been impacted by this church.

Over the years, our church has been involved in a number of physical changes designed to meet the ministry needs of our church and community. Today, we are at another critical transition point in the life of the church. Just as previous generations before us made decisions to expand and improve our facilities, we must be the ones to embrace the current opportunities to transform our ways of doing ministry to reach new disciples of Jesus Christ and grow our community outreach for future generations.

Following the recommendations of our 2020 long range visioning team, a plan has been established that will consist of:

Retiring Debt: \$1,127,000

Each year 10% of our budget (\$125,000) is utilized towards retiring our mortgage. Our last capital campaign to expand the sanctuary, add the elevator and class space ended in 2011. By retiring the debt, these resources can be allocated to ministry and missions around our community and world such as Calvary Mission, Habitat for Humanity, and Royal Family Kids Camp.

Reaching New Disciples through a multisite plan: \$300,000

Various sites allow for one church to meet in several locations where common vision, budget and leadership can be shared. A multisite plan allows for the expansion of ministry by using rented and repurposed facilities without the major expense of new construction; however, resources are needed to repurpose and renovate existing buildings. Experience from other congregations has shown that these campus sites have the ability to reach people who are not presently attending a congregation by offering intimate opportunities to form community while tapping into the leadership of an existing congregation. A campus for a multisite offers additional times and closer proximity for people in that area to gather for worship.

Restoring the Bell Tower and other infrastructure needs: \$300,000

Recent inspection has shown that the bell tower roof is deteriorating and will need replacement before it creates damage to the interior of the building. In addition, the pews need refinished, windows and HVAC units will

need to be replaced, and the sound and projection equipment needs improvement after years of use for better sound and viewing experiences.

Responding to a Global Need: \$300,000

The United Methodist Church has a goal to reach 1 million children with lifesaving and health promoting measures by 2020. Church of the Lakes has been in partnership with Sierra Leone for years and our hope is that these mission efforts can expand to have a profound impact in that country. Through Manjama Health Clinic and water wells in this West African country, major strides are making a difference for the families suffering from the effects of diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, and Ebola.

\$2,027,000

Total Anticipated Need

Next Steps:

1. Horizons Stewardship has been hired to conduct a feasibility study to determine our willingness and ability to fund these projects. This study will include a combination of personal interviews and online surveys.
2. Horizons Stewardship will present a report including recommendations on whether to go or forward or not as well as a projection of what might be raised.
3. The leadership team, with input from the congregation, will decide whether or not to move forward with a capital campaign.
4. An affirmative vote would lead to a capital campaign to be launched from January to May in 2018. Pledges would be received over a three-year time frame.