



Rev. Dr. Lloyd T. McGriff, Senior Pastor

Building by Faith, Expanding for the Future
Our 3-Year Journey

Frequently Asked Questions



Determined to Build

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the campaign all about?

The Pastor of Galilee Baptist Church has been given a vision by God to relocate the church. This campaign is about listening to the voice of God, deepening our relationship with God, and trusting God to take the church to a new location where we can do ministry more effectively.

2. Is the campaign just another fundraiser?

No, this campaign is the spiritual journey achieving the Lord's vision given to Pastor for relocating the church. It is about prayer and sacrifice to reach the goal. Financial resources will be required to make the campaign a success, but your contribution is based on you praying on what God is urging you to give. No amount is too small.

3. How long will we be engaged in the Capital Giving Campaign?

This phase of the Capital Giving Campaign "Determined To Build" is a 3-year campaign. This means that all pledges made by the end of December 2023 are expected to be honored by end of December 2026.

4. What is the result of this campaign?

To position ourselves to break ground in 2024.

5. Can campaign contributions be made through payroll deductions?

Yes, you will have an option to contribute to the campaign through payroll deductions.

6. What other methods can contributions be made?

- One-time Cash Gift
- Make a 36-month giving pledge.
- Give stocks, securities, or other assets.
- Make Galilee Baptist Church a beneficiary in your Will/Trust and/or Life Insurance Policy
- Givelify, Cash App, Push Pay, Checks

7. Will the contributions to the campaign be tax-deductible?

Yes. All contributions to the campaign are tax deductible so long as you meet the threshold to itemize on your federal return.

8. Can we do fundraisers to help raise money for the campaign?

No, this is a spiritual journey. It is not only collective, but it is also about each of us strengthening our personal relationship with God and seeking God's direction in our giving.

9. Can children participate?

Yes, every Galilee member will have the opportunity to participate; even the children will be engaged in activities that help the church move forward in its financial and spiritual journey.

10. Will we be informed of the campaign's progress?

Yes, the Campaign Directors will provide you with periodic updates on the progress of the campaign, "Determined To Build" through the Communications, Media and Spiritual Engagement Teams.

11. How soon will we be able to break ground?

We have announced that we will break ground in 2024. Groundbreaking is a "ceremony" that takes place when we start to dig for foundation placement and underground utility installation. The campaign will dictate when we are going to break ground in 2024.

12. How will the campaign affect my ministry activities?

Every ministry is being asked to continue with their activities. Ideally, all activities should serve the same purpose, which is uplifting God and supporting the vision of the Pastor.

13. How will my ministry budget be affected?

Each ministry will still receive an annual budget to conduct its ministry.

14. Do we have the funds to begin construction?

Yes, we are working with financial institutions to finance the \$12 million construction project.

15. What is the estimated cost to complete the church?

Our construction budget is set at \$12 million but we are still reevaluating the cost to complete the church, which is dictated by the market. Construction will take approximately 18-24 months to complete.

16. Will the new structure be smaller than originally planned?

The number of seating were reduced from the original drawing that reduced the square footage and cost of the build, but the design is the same.

17. Are we trying to become a “mega-church?”

No, Galilee is already a very large church by national standards. However, turning ourselves into a “mega-church” is not the thrust of this campaign. We want to do more effective ministry, which will require more space. We expect that the building will be larger, and that God will send more disciples, but we do not envision growing too large that we lose the intimacy between the Pastor and people. The new site is in a growing community, which will allow us to reach more disciples.

18. Why are we using the campaign consultant, Chris Harrell?

This build and relocation are a historical event, the largest that Galilee has ever undertaken. Chris Harrell worked with us on our initial campaign while employed with INJOY Services by John C. Maxwell. Chris has been with us on this journey, and he wants to see Galilee cross the finish line. Chris has an extensive background and knowledge in leading capital giving campaigns. Statistically, it is expected to receive 70 percent of the donations pledged through the capital giving campaign but our recent campaign, we reached 99 percent of the donations pledged with the support of Chris Harrell. Chris is working with us at “no cost for services” to Galilee with the exception of travel/lodging costs for in-person training visits.

19. With uncertainty of the economy and the church membership, what reservation and/or hesitation does the church leadership have with moving forward and breaking ground?

It is a Faith Walk through Prayer, Purpose, and Provision as the Journey Continues. We will continue to trust God.

20. Aside from prayer, tithing, and sacrificial giving, what can church members do to help get the church built?

We would like you to attend communication, media, and spiritual engagement events throughout the campaign.

21. Are we selling Galilee South (Minnesota Avenue, SE) location?

No. There are currently no plans to sell the Minnesota Avenue, SE site. It is important that we maintain our footprint in the District of Columbia and our presence in the Anacostia community.

22. Based on current membership, would the church be able to maintain and pay monthly operating expenses with confidence on a \$12 million mortgage?

Our current membership has been consistent in its giving of tithes and offerings that would support the payment of monthly operating expenses.

23. Are we ready to begin the process? If not, when do you anticipate?

Yes, the process begins with the announcement of the “Determined To Build” campaign. This campaign will dictate when we can begin the process to break ground.

24. On the Sale of the Shadyside property, what did we sell it for? How much went towards paying it off; how much is being used for the build?

The Shadyside location was sold for \$5.5M and roughly \$2M was used to pay-off Mortgage to include closing cost. The remaining \$3.5M will be used to strengthen our position to negotiate rates with financial institutions.

25. How many seats are being built in the new edifice?

The current plan is to build an 800-1000 seat sanctuary.

26. What is the handicap accommodations?

Handicap accommodations do include parking spaces but also include barrier free access to all public areas of the building for wheelchair bound persons, fire alarm strobes and horns for the visual and hearing impaired; grab bars in the restrooms; etc.

27. What will become of additional use of land?

Our original drawings for construction is to build on 20 acres of land with the room to expand through phases based on cost and available funding.

28. Plans for youth.

Youth church and classrooms was in the original plan with a park/ball field in the final stages of the project if cost permits.

29. What (4) phases have been up to this point?

“Building by Faith, Expanding for the Future” initial campaign was to prepare the congregation for the day that we will move off this mountain.

- Phase I: A Faith Walk!
- Phase II: The Journey Continues!
- Phase III: P.U.S.H. Pray Until Something Happens!
- Phase IV: Determined To Build!

30. Why should I fill out a pledge card?

To show lending institutions our capacity to service the mortgage.