

Frequently Asked Questions



1 WHY IS OAK PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST EMBARKING ON A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NOW?

The Long Range Planning Committee has worked diligently for the past five years to update and revise the expansion plans based on the changing needs of the congregation and the communities we serve. A fundraising feasibility study was undertaken in 2020, construction plans have been updated, and building permits have been granted. These factors, combined with a preferred construction window of spring through early fall to minimize disruption during busier church months, mean that now is the time for this project to move from dream to reality. After much deliberation, prayer and consultation with the congregation, we have carefully decided to move forward with a campaign that will advance the mission work that God is calling us to.

2 HOW WILL THESE EXPENDITURES IMPROVE THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH?

Our building will be more welcoming, have greater capacity for ministry and it will be more secure. Youth will have their own dedicated space. Young and growing families will have more space in the Nursery. Seniors will have more space to gather, in the foyer and in a brighter Fireside Room. The Kitchen expansion will serve higher capacities for our outreach ministries, church events and outside rentals.

3 WHAT IS THE CAMPAIGN GOAL?

The goal for our campaign is in the range of \$1,300,000 to \$1,600,000. We hope to exceed that goal so less money will need to be borrowed.

4 HOW MUCH WILL THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS BE AND HOW WILL THEY BE FUNDED?

The costs of construction will be approximately \$1,950,000-\$2,250,000. Over half of this will be raised through our campaign and the remainder financed over time. Currently plans include provisions for a low interest loan in the range of \$700,000 to \$1,000,000 at the completion of the five-year pledge campaign.

5 WHY ARE WE BEING ASKED TO CONSIDER A FIVE-YEAR PLEDGE?

Raising these funds over a five-year period will help us to achieve our goals without placing undue financial pressure upon our congregation. It also gives members a chance to make a significant commitment to this special project over time. Knowing the intentions of givers at the beginning of a 5-year term also allows the church to plan better. All pledges can be changed at any time and are not legally binding. We realize that some people may not be in a position to pledge for this period of time. Gifts given over different intervals are also most appreciated.



6 HOW LONG WILL THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE LAST? HOW WILL IT DISRUPT COMMUNITY LIFE?

It is anticipated that the construction will last approximately 6 to 8 months, beginning in the Spring of 2022. The Long Range Planning Committee and Board advises that every attempt will be made to minimize inconvenience and disruption to congregational life during this period.

7 CAN I MAKE A ONE-TIME GIFT INSTEAD OF A 5-YEAR PLEDGE?

Absolutely! All gifts are gratefully appreciated. We understand that annual gifts may be forthcoming in the five years in lieu of pledging and people may make the kind and frequency of gift that they desire. Five-year pledges are encouraged because they allow us all to plan generously.

8 HOW MUCH SHOULD WE GIVE?

Your gift should represent a meaningful and personal gift in accordance with your means. Importantly, we ask families to consider a gift that is over and above your regular weekly offerings, as we do not want our regular church operations to be affected by this special effort. The Gift Guide in your kit and the Wondering What to Give table in the brochure are helpful guides for your prayerful consideration.

9 SHOULD OUR PLEDGE BE IN ADDITION TO WHAT WE ARE CONTRIBUTING IN OUR REGULAR OFFERING?

Yes, all gifts to the campaign ought to be over and above your weekly offerings. You will receive an official tax receipt for income tax purposes for every gift you make to OPCC.

10 WHY ARE WE SETTING UP A SPECIAL FUND FOR NEXT GEN MINISTRIES ?

As our young people grow in Christ’s love, we as their parents and members of OPCC, want to be sure that their journey of faith is well supported for the future. Having a designated fund for this purpose will help ensure that we make children and programming for them, a priority for years to come and that restricted money will be set aside to support them. As they are the Lord’s, we have conceived that a tithe on the original \$1,000,000 goal would be a worthy provision for our children’s future at OPCC. For more information, please contact Dr. Ron Fraser at rfraser@abccampus.ca

11 ARE THERE OTHER WAYS I CAN GIVE?

Yes, we accept gifts of publicly traded securities (stocks or other marketable securities). Gifts-in-kind, annuities, gifts of personal property, life insurance and other Planned Gifts are also accepted.

For more information, please email pledges@oakpark.ca

12 IF OUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, MAY WE ALTER OUR PLEDGE?

Yes. All pledges are non-legally binding and only an expression of your commitment. All gifts can be changed at any time by emailing pledges@oakpark.ca

13 WHO CAN WE CONTACT TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN?

A leadership team (Campaign Cabinet) has been established to guide us in our giving. Please see the brochure for a list of members. Additional information is available from any one of our Campaign Cabinet members and they may be reached at campaign@oakpark.ca

14 IS THERE GOING TO BE ANOTHER FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN AFTER THIS EXPANSION PROJECT?

We are not planning another fundraising campaign of this scale. We hope to raise enough money to reach and exceed our goal.

15 WILL ALL MEMBERS BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE?

Yes. All families and individuals will be invited to participate in the way they can and we will ask all families to pray about how best to respond to the need.

16 WILL MY DONATION BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. Only the members of the Finance Team, including the Treasurer, will have access to the pledge amounts as needed. Any questions regarding pledges or finance can be directed to the confidential email address of pledges@oakpark.ca that is only accessed by the Treasurer.

17 HOW MIGHT THIS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN AFFECT OUR LONG-TERM OPERATIONS AND GIVING?

We have worked carefully to address this and have prepared financial models and forecasts that the Board will use to keep OPCC’s future on track. If you would like more information or would like to discuss this, please contact the Treasurer at campaign@oakpark.ca

18 I AM INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW I COULD LEAVE A BEQUEST TO OPCC IN MY WILL. HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

We have created an Endowment fund for the future well being of the Church. Legacy gifts given that are directed to this fund will be used to serve general and specific needs of the church as well as invested conservatively for the long term to generate fruit that will last in the form of earned investment revenue. We would be delighted to explore this with you. Please check the box on your pledge form and a member of the Campaign Cabinet will be in touch with you.

For more information about OPCC’s Campaign plans, please visit oakpark.ca/infinitelymore