Widening our Welcome

Capital Campaign 2016-19
Dear Friends and Members of RPPC,

I am excited for you to receive this detailed brochure, in which you will find more information about the Widening our Welcome Capital Campaign.

Over the past several years we have re-doubled our efforts to be a welcoming congregation. We updated our website and signage and got name tags for each of our members and friends, among other efforts. At the same time, our leadership re-examined what more hospitality might require of us. Particularly, we asked, is our building a barrier or an asset in our welcoming ministry? Furthermore, does it serve the needs of the current congregation and provide flexibility for the future?

We concluded that while we have a very welcoming congregation, our church building does not fully meet our current needs nor reflect the hospitality we endeavor to offer. Therefore, we explored ways we might refresh and renovate our space, as we continue to expand and improve our ministry. Church leaders pored over plans, delved deep into discussion, consulted experts and talked to fellow church members while striving to envision who God is calling us to be.

Just as generations before us laid a foundation of faith for our future, it is now our turn to make a lasting impact on the present and future congregations of Roland Park Presbyterian Church. We have decided that we are up to the challenge.

This brochure offers details of how we hope to refresh our building and expand our ministry in order to Widen our Welcome. We want to make sure that Roland Park Presbyterian Church continues to be a place where people experience the love of God, regardless of age, orientation or ability. We hope you are as excited to join us on this journey as we are to share it with you.

In faith, hope and love,

Mark
Our Vision

Create a culture of caring.
Expand our worship experiences.
Actively grow our faith.
Help others through service.

Widen our Welcome
Our Ministry Priorities

Our objective is to modernize our existing footprint, providing increased, flexible space to accommodate our worship, education, mission and ministry activities. Our leadership team and the Session agreed on ministry priorities and areas of focus. We will utilize space in a more flexible manner, modernize our restrooms and provide barrier free accessibility throughout the entire facility. Of course, the final project list will depend on the amount of money raised and the congregation will have a voice in what projects are completed.

1. **Clear and Accessible Entry Points**
   Currently, many entries to the sanctuary exist. A main entry with a ramp will be created to allow clear and easy access to the church from the street.

2. **Updated Hospitality and Welcome Area**
   Significant renovations to the main interior space including the narthex, fellowship room, library and bathrooms will provide an improved hospitality experience. This space will host coffee service for post-worship fellowship. During the week, this gathering area can serve a variety of uses for church wide activities and community outreach. This space will be accessible to all from both the sanctuary and barrier free street entrance.

3. **Improved Space for Children, Youth and Adult Programming**
   Currently, antiquated programming space is available on three different floors with no elevator access. In the future, an elevator will service all three floors. The main and upper floors will be reconfigured with updated, flexible space. On the lower floor, the assembly hall will be refreshed with an enlarged, barrier free entry.

4. **Barrier Free**
   Improvements will eliminate steps into and within the facility in several areas. The addition of an elevator will allow access to the lower and upper floors. Restrooms will be updated and the narthex entry to the sanctuary and fellowship area widened.

5. **Flexibility**
   The entire design will be flexible and multi-purpose with the availability to accommodate current and future programs.

**Additional Updates Include:**
- New HVAC has been installed in sanctuary and fellowship areas (completed)
- Tower restoration (completed)
- Improved lighting and sound in sanctuary chancel and fellowship area
- Restructured chapel space to provide new music rehearsal and office space with secure instrument storage
- Interior doorways from sanctuary/narthex/fellowship areas significantly widened
What is the anticipated project cost?
Current plans estimate the project cost to be approximately $1.5 million. The financial model indicates we can raise approximately $750,000. Our goal now is to continually pray, “what does the Lord want to do through us individually and corporately?”

How will we pay for this?
While we hope that our campaign will raise a majority of the total project cost, we will likely need a bank loan to bridge funding as the pledges come in. We may also require a loan to finance the remaining amount. If needed, we would introduce a second campaign in three years to raise the funds to fully repay the loans.

What happens at the conclusion of the campaign?
We will know the financial commitment for the next three years. Then, and only then, will we be able to determine how to proceed in support of the ministry expansion.

How much should my gift be?
Each situation is different. We suggest that you turn to God for guidance and ask, “Lord, what do You want to do through me;” use the daily devotional guide for personal reflection, and consider your prayerful gift.

When are the commitment cards and payment due?
The capital campaign will take place from now until June, but will include a three year giving period from June 2016-2019. We ask for your commitment cards by May 15, 2016. Options include weekly, monthly, annually or a one-time gift. This is a personal decision and each household makes a selection which best suits its financial situation.

Has consideration been given to the operating costs for the improved space?
As our ministry expands, the financial support required to run the church will increase. As we continue in gratitude for what God has given us, we believe that we will be able to meet the needs of this expanded ministry, as demonstrated by the increased responses received for the 2016 pledges.

Can I give in ways other than cash?
Options and suggested non-cash donations will be provided with the commitment card literature.

How do I give?
You may visit the GIVE page of our website: www.rolandparkchurch.org/give to give electronically or for more information.

What Can You Do?
Continue to pray for the ministry of Roland Park Presbyterian Church. Pray for the capital campaign and its leaders and volunteers. Remember that this campaign is about more than dollars and cents. It is about fulfilling God’s promise and vision through our church. Pray that you may hear God’s voice as you reflect on our campaign prayer,

“Lord, what do You want to do through me?”
How wide is our Welcome?

Widening our Welcome will have a positive impact on both our congregation and our community.

Our church building is home to much more than worship and fellowship for our congregation. There are over a dozen community groups that use our facility as part of our community service mission. In fact, our current facility is typically booked most evenings. The planned improvements will expand our ability to serve the community.

Widening our Welcome will also improve our congregation’s fellowship and the welcome that visitors receive. Imagine how much more complete we will be as a congregation when all whom God calls can join at the Lord’s Table without barriers. Imagine enjoying comfortable fellowship with family, friends and guests on the busiest of Sundays with plenty of space to move in an expanded, flexible facility.

Imagine how you can be a part of Widening our Welcome!

Proposed renovation of Fellowship Room: Increasing the space to include the library, adding a hospitality area, refreshment center and improving the flow.
The Schedule

March/April
- Capital Campaign Kick-Off
- Prayer
- Worship

May/June
- Congregational Meetings
- Celebration
- Campaign results

Summer/Fall
- Building Plan Finalization
- Construction Bid/Award/Permits

Early 2017
- Potential Shovel in Ground, Weather Dependent

Capital Campaign Leadership Team

Laura Cochran and Richard Letocha, co-chairs
Dan Evans, coordinator
Austin George, Lead Gifts
Meghan Friedman, Communications
Howard and Ginny Rutherford, Prayer Team
Matt and Liz Marsh, Advance Gatherings
Elayne Provost, Youth & Children
Bill Sailors and Carol Bishop, Gratitude & Ministry
Julie Evans, Richard and Barrie Sigler, Celebration
David Patron, Connection
Mark Hanna, Pastor
Scott McKenzie, Strategist, Horizons Stewardship

Professional Expertise

Murphy & Diffenhafer Architects
- RPPC masterplan and design leadership

Horizons Stewardship
- Financial feasibility and stewardship leadership for a successful capital campaign