

Funding the Future of New Life MCC

A Case Statement for the 2020-2023 Capital Campaign





About Us

We are part of the worldwide Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), founded in 1968

New Life MCC came to Hampton Roads in 1977 and, in the 43 years since, our Congregation has continued to focus on bringing the transformative power of God's spirit to **ALL** people.

We are an inclusive, diverse, Christ-centered Church, in which you have the freedom to be who you are, participate in community, explore spiritual transformation, and be part of social action.

We affirm that **ALL** people are part of the universal priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:5-10) and are called by God to a ministry of the Gospel of Christ in the Church and in the world. **ALL** shall have equitable access and opportunity which is free from discrimination on the grounds of sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, culture, age, physical or cognitive ability, medical diagnosis, HIV status, health status, or nationality, so that MCC may pursue justice through all we do.

The Journey

Thank you for being an important part of our journey together in this space and place we call New Life MCC.

This month (October 2020), we celebrate 52 years of UFMCC worldwide and 43 years of MCC presence and ministry in Hampton Roads. Throughout this journey, "we" have been a very nomadic "church" – meeting together in homes, professional office spaces, shared/borrowed/rented spaces of other churches, hotels, converted theaters and commercial storefronts. While we believe that "the church" is not defined, nor confined, to the physical space in which we gather; and we can bear witness that God was working in some very good and life-changing ways in and through the lives of New Life MCC folks at each place along the way... there has been an ever-present "longing desire" to have a more "settled home".

In 2016, we moved to our current location here at 1000 Sunset Drive. At that time, we were not in a financial position to purchase the property, but two of our members were able to do so and agreed to lease it to New Life MCC with first right of refusal when the time came for them to sell the property. That time has come and is **NOW!**





The Vision

Almost without exception, when New Life MCC folks first walked into our current church building, we heard folks say "this feels like home." And certainly in the four years we have been here — this is a space and place we have come to love and feel at home in... but more importantly it continues to be a place and space where we meet God, each other, and go about the things the Spirit wants us to do, and be, together as "church" — yes, even in the middle of a pandemic, and yes, even when we are finding new ways to "be together."

Again, we know "the church" is us — individually and collectively — as people who God's Spirit has brought together in this place and for this time. Yet, there is also something to be said for being able to gather in a building that "looks like a church" and feels like home. In this space and place, God has continued to bless us with new members and new ministries that touch folks both in the congregation and in the community, and a new and more easily recognizable visibility to our greater community and surrounding neighbors.

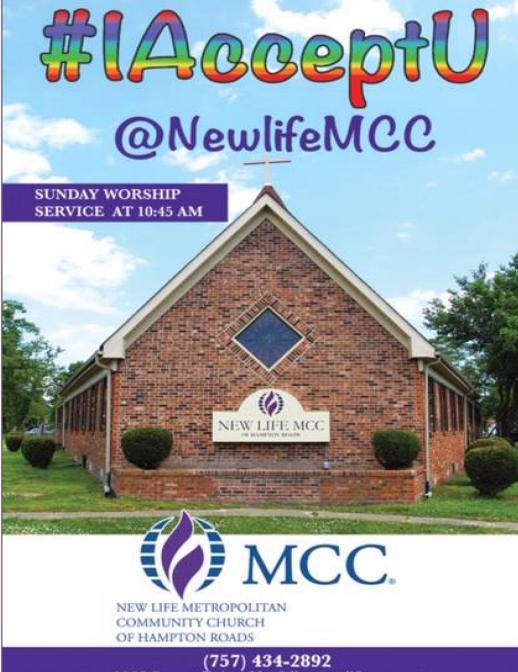
As we seek to sustain such a viable and visible presence and ministry as this, and which we believe that God's Spirit continues to call us to be about both now and in the future...May we respond – *Acting on Faith* – to make it so.

The Challenge

Our current church building is a welcoming place for those who may not yet have discovered the amazing love and peace that God's spirit of love, through Christ, can bring to each of us, have been turned away by mainstream churches, or have been asked to be someone they are not in order to fellowship with other believers. We, at New Life MCC, help ALL people who want to know and love God, Grow in Faith and Live for Others.

We need approximately \$100,000 to secure a down payment to purchase the building. We feel strongly that this will enable us to be financially viable to secure a mortgage and maintain our general fund for ministry use.

Your participation in the Capital Campaign will allow us to focus our energy and resources on helping all who walk through our doors feel the love and peace and acceptance of Jesus Christ.



1000 Sunset Drive, Norfolk • newlifemec.net

The Goals

"Lord, what do You want to do through me?"

Let today be the day you give up who you've been for who you can become

Hal Elrod
PICTURE QUOTES . com-

\$100

Thousand

\$250

Thousand

\$380

Thousand

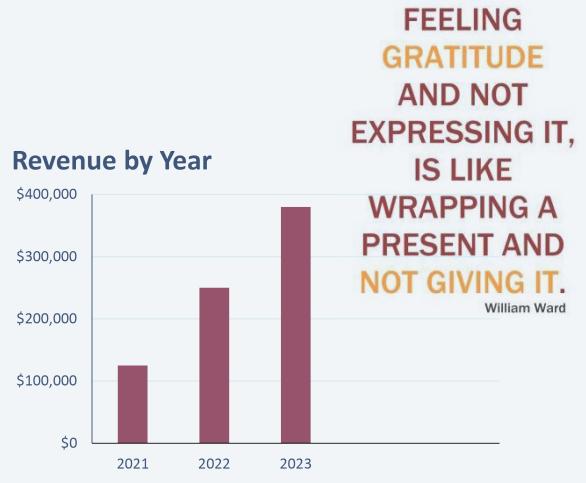
Immediate Goal

Celebration Goal

Acting On Faith Goal

The Numbers

Gift Level	Gifts Needed	Annual Gift	Monthly Gift	Total Gift
\$ 72,000	1	\$ 24,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 72,000
\$ 36,000	1	\$ 12,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 36,000
\$ 25,400	1	\$ 8,467	\$ 706	\$ 25,400
\$ 18,000	1	\$ 6,000	\$ 500	\$ 18,000
\$ 14,400	2	\$ 4,800	\$ 400	\$ 28,800
\$ 9,000	2	\$ 3,000	\$ 250	\$ 18,000
\$ 7,200	4	\$ 2,400	\$ 200	\$ 28,800
\$ 5,400	8	\$ 1,800	\$ 150	\$ 43,200
\$ 3,600	8	\$ 1,200	\$ 100	\$ 28,800
\$ 2,700	10	\$ 900	\$ 75	\$ 27,000
\$ 1,800	30	\$ 600	\$ 50	\$ 54,000
				\$ 380,000



"Not an equal share, but an equal sacrifice"



The Dream

By *Acting on Faith*, we will raise the full \$380,000 over the three-year Capital Campaign. This will enable us to pay off any mortgage we incur upon purchase of the building and allow us to redirect those funds to ministry programs.

While giving toward the payoff of a building doesn't seem like a very God-serving endeavor, every dollar we can take away from debt is a dollar we can use to expand our impact into the community, the next generation, and beyond.



Next Steps

- 1) Kickoff the public phase of the Capital Campaign in November 2020
- 2) Solicit mortgage lenders to secure necessary financing
- 3) Secure approval from the Congregation to purchase the building after review of funds raised
- 4) Purchase the building as early as January 2022

Please join us in this effort and pray about what God can do through you. We are asking for you to consider joining the effort to secure our home in the community. Be a part of the movement to open our arms to ALL within Hampton Roads – and become a place where everyone is welcomed and valued for who they are – children of God.

"In the Spirit...Out In the Community...Changing Lives One Person At A Time"

The Prayer

Creator God, in Your love for us, You have blessed us abundantly. We glorify You, and give You thanks, for all the gifts you have given us: our faith, our lives, our loved ones, and especially for the wisdom and love of our founding members whose example of sacrifice in time, talent, and treasure, continues to bless us. Most of all, we thank you for Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice on the cross is made present to us through Christ's presence in each of us.

We also thank you for the opportunity to purchase our church home and for making that purchase possible by supplying our every need, according to Your riches. You have blessed us with both the gifts and finances necessary to reach our goal. Continue to pour out Your Spirit upon us, give us hearts of humility and gratitude. Help us to live as disciples modeling our lives after Christ's own pattern of self-giving love.

We humbly ask You to send Your Spirit upon our community during this crucial time as we embark upon this Capital Campaign to build upon the foundation laid by those who came before us in faith.

We offer our prayers, joys, works, and treasures to You, and we unite them to the love and grace of Christ. Let the beauty of You, our God, be upon us and establish the work of our hands for us. May our work manifest our gratitude and glorify You, O God, forever and ever.

AMEN.





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Frequently Asked Questions About the 2020-2023 Capital Campaign





Why Are We Launching a Capital Campaign?

The impetus for this campaign is the desire of the landlords to sell our current church building. New Life MCC leadership knew we needed to act in order to have a permanent home and we needed to raise funds to purchase the building. The mandate was clear, it was time to invest in fulfilling a dream that will impact the next generation and beyond.

Why Is "Acting On Faith" the Capital Campaign Theme?

While it is true that we are working to raise funds to purchase the church building, more importantly, we are "Acting on Faith" of our congregation and the community for it to happen. The most important thing for us to remember as a church family is that we must never lose sight that this building is for God's Honor and Glory. Let us not forget that God needs to come first in all things ~ in our daily walk, our prayer life, and ~ in our tithing. This campaign isn't just about raising funds, it's about "Acting On Faith" and learning what God asks of us.

Why Do We Need An Outside Consultant?

After careful consideration, it was determined that this type of campaign was not something our church family was capable of undertaking on our own. It was apparent we needed professional help and wanted it to be from an organization experienced with church capital campaign fundraising. In our efforts to recruit, Horizons Stewardship, and specifically Tom Melzoni, was recommended by churches who had experience in this type of campaign. Both the company and the consultant were thoroughly vetted before the decision was made to recommend to the congregation that we pursue his assistance. A common refrain from churches that had either attempted to raise money on their own or chose someone else was, "We wish we had gone with Tom from the very beginning."



What is the Capital Campaign Fundraising Goal?

Immediate Goal (within FIRST Year) – \$100,000 which would enable us to purchase the building

Celebration Goal (within TWO Years) – \$250,000

Acting On Faith Goal (within THREE Years) – \$380,000

What Is Sacrificial Giving?

Giving sacrificially is going above and beyond your regular giving. It requires a reassessment of our spending and lifestyle and readjusting our priorities. Sacrificial giving requires a measure of stewardship that one may never have experienced. Sacrificial giving costs the giver something, yet it brings a sense of joy, and accomplishment, knowing that you did something to further God's work. Therefore, when you look back over your life and see how you lived and gave, you will be blessed in knowing that you contributed to the cause that gives others hope and life.

Who Makes the Decisions? Who Has Oversight?

The New Life MCC Board of Directors has oversight of the Capital Campaign. For the duration of the campaign, the overall fiduciary and operational responsibilities sit with the members of the New Life MCC Board. This group provides the ongoing leadership needed to ensure transparency and integrity over the life of the campaign's key priority areas. The Board will ensure that the funds raised are managed effectively in accordance with IRS rules and the Capital Campaign purpose including any donor-directed restrictions. The Capital Campaign Committee acts in a planning capacity to move the campaign plan and strategy forward. The Pastor and members of the New Life MCC Board are on the Capital Campaign Committee so there is coordination and overlap of the two organizations and their respective missions.



When Will Financial Commitments Be Received and For How Long?

On Sunday, November 22nd, 2020, we will have our Celebration of Commitment, where we will be asking people to make their estimate of giving for the upcoming three years and accept pledge cards.

On **Sunday, December 13**th, **2020**, we will hold our **First Fruits Offering**, where we will celebrate everything God has done to bless our Church Family.

We will continue to accept pledge cards and offerings throughout the Campaign!

Is Now the Right Time to Launch the Capital Campaign?

Now is an ideal time to conduct a Capital Campaign for three very important reasons:

- The owners want to sell now so we may lose the opportunity if we wait
- Due to the pandemic, interest rates have fallen to record lows which allows for lower mortgage payments
- For tax year 2020, charitable donations are deductible up to 100% of your adjusted gross income

What Can I Do to Help?

- PRAY. Individually, collectively; the most important thing you can do is pray. Pray for our church, for this campaign and that we will be "Acting On Faith" to fulfill God's will for our Church.
- MAKE A COMMITMENT. When the time comes to make a commitment, earnestly seek the Lord's guidance and follow your heart.
- <u>PARTICIPATE</u>. When asked to assist, step forward, take part and follow what God has laid on your heart.



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Our Capital Campaign Leadership Team



Reverend Mark Byrd

Senior Pastor

Tony Crisp

Campaign Chair

Joy Gibbon
Campaign Chair

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