

Embrace *the Spirit*



for such a time as this

Strawbridge United Methodist Church

A community compelled by Christ to make a difference in a world of need

SUMC Vision Statement



"Strawbridge has a great history
of graciously welcoming all
to come and be part of
the Strawbridge family."
Don McMath





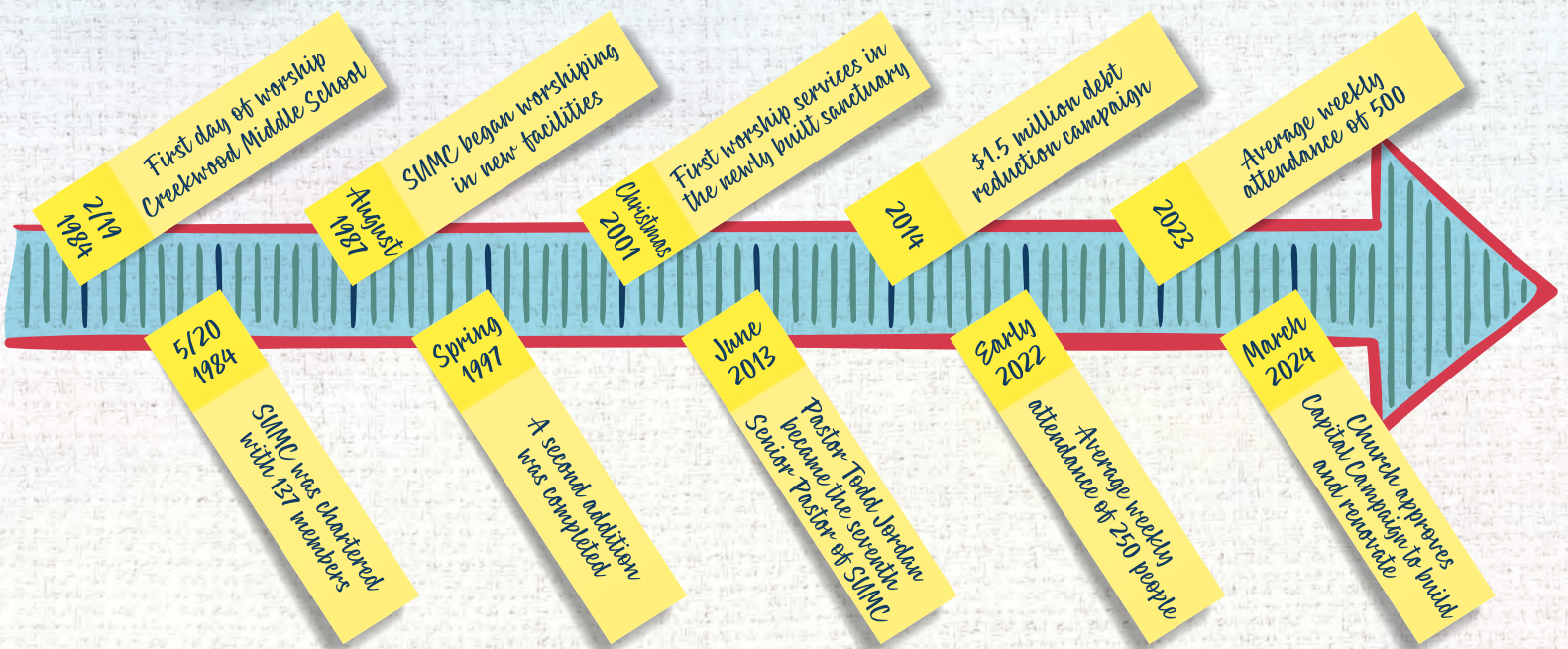
When I first arrived at Strawbridge UMC in July of 2013, I could sense something special about the congregation. The warmth, the optimism, and a strong feeling that the Holy Spirit was moving in our midst all indicated to me that we were headed for something amazing. Over 10 years later I still sense those same things. Furthermore, the generosity that helped us wipe out \$1.5 million in debt, buy two 15-passenger buses, make capital improvements, and add an additional \$500,000 to our savings continues to be stronger than ever.

Fast forward to September 2022. The week after our church voted on a position of full inclusion to love, serve, and welcome all of God's children, hundreds of United Methodists in other congregations in our immediate and surrounding area suddenly found themselves in search of a new church home. Strawbridge UMC opened its doors wide to welcome and receive those looking for refuge and a place of healing. Since then our average worship has doubled from around 250 to around 500. Sunday school classes are at or over capacity. Available rooms are difficult to find during the week, and impossible on Sunday mornings. Missions groups are in desperate need of storage, the music program is bursting at the seams, and finding parking between services on Sunday is challenging at best.

In the pages that follow are plans to address our current and immediate future needs in terms of building, renovation, and raising capital for the work. The work is the result of a church wide survey, several Church Council conversations, and a whole lot of meetings with visitors, members, leaders, lay staff, and clergy. Our vision is simple: Make sure we have room for anyone and everyone looking to make Strawbridge UMC their church home. I pray you will read carefully, pray earnestly, and support faithfully this vision I believe God has for our congregation. Thank you ahead of time for all you will do, pray, and give to support our "Embrace the Spirit" campaign!

Peace,

Pastor Todd Jordan



How might God use an improved and expanded space at Strawbridge UMC to help us be a better church for our community?

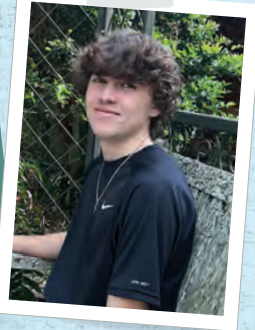


"For the more than 30 years I have been a member, God has determined a few times that SUMC needed to be a little bigger small church to welcome those souls he leads to this campus. This feels like one of those times."

Sam Roxburgh

"An improved and expanded space could help the church become a more welcoming and inclusive place for all members of the community. By creating a space that is both functional and inviting, the church could help foster a sense of belonging and connectedness among its members and the broader community."

Andrew Gill



"We could make people feel welcomed and teach them about Jesus."

Coleman Reed



"We could fill it with more people so they can learn about goodness and Jesus. Also that Jesus loves us and wants us to love others."

Lilly Reed

We are not striving to be the best church in the community but striving to be the best church for the community.

SUMC Motto



"During the past two years, Strawbridge has graciously lived into the United Methodist slogan, 'Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors' as hundreds of new members were welcomed into this church! Our vision of enhanced worship, education, fellowship, and service through missions and ministry to the community requires additional space. Let's make more room to share Christ's love."

Carla Hopkins

"Strawbridge has a great history of graciously welcoming all to come and be part of the Strawbridge family. There comes a time when updates are needed to provide space for our growth with new classrooms, and facility updates to continue our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ."

Don McMath



"Enhancing and expanding the physical space for music programs will help us to engage those in our community who connect spiritually and emotionally to God through the melodies, words, and joyful noises they experience. There are close to 140 individuals participating in music groups at SUMC, as well as countless musicians in our community that utilize our facilities. All of these people are using their gifts to glorify God through music and this offers a beautiful way for them to grow in their spiritual journey."

Donna Wiener



"It would be very inviting, especially once we get the parking lot, for people to know that there is enough space in this church because I think that's always been kind of a worry. We barely have enough room in the parking lot and it's just such a little church. It will be very inviting for people still looking for a church because they'll know that there is enough room."

James Pence

A New Building

We could fill it with more people so they can learn about goodness and Jesus.

- Lilly Reed



What Are We Building?

- Two-story, 10,000-square-foot building with furnishings

New Building Space

- Five Youth Classrooms
- Youth Gathering Space
- Seven Adult Classrooms
- Mission Storage

What Will It Cost?

- \$5.7M for a two-story building and renovations*

*Renovation details on next page

A New Parking Lot

It would be very inviting, especially once we get the parking lot for people to know that there is enough space in this church.

-James Pence

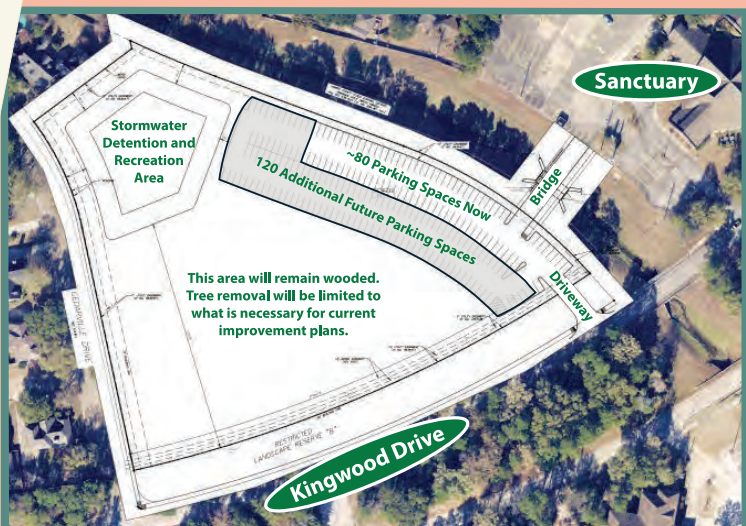
What Will It Cost?

- \$1.7M for improvements

*Funds for the land purchase were generously donated.

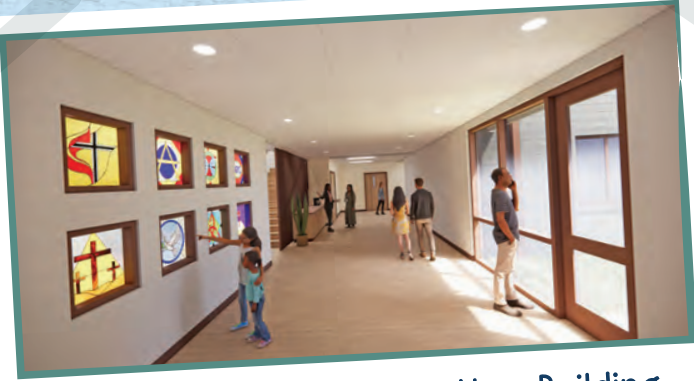
Parking Lot and Improvements

- 80 New Parking Spaces
- Pedestrian and Vehicular Bridge
- Driveway to Kingwood Drive
- Detention Pond
- Recreation Area
- Lighting and Landscaping
- Security Cameras



"By creating a space that is both functional and inviting, the church could help foster a sense of belonging and connectedness among its members and the broader community."

- Andrew Gill

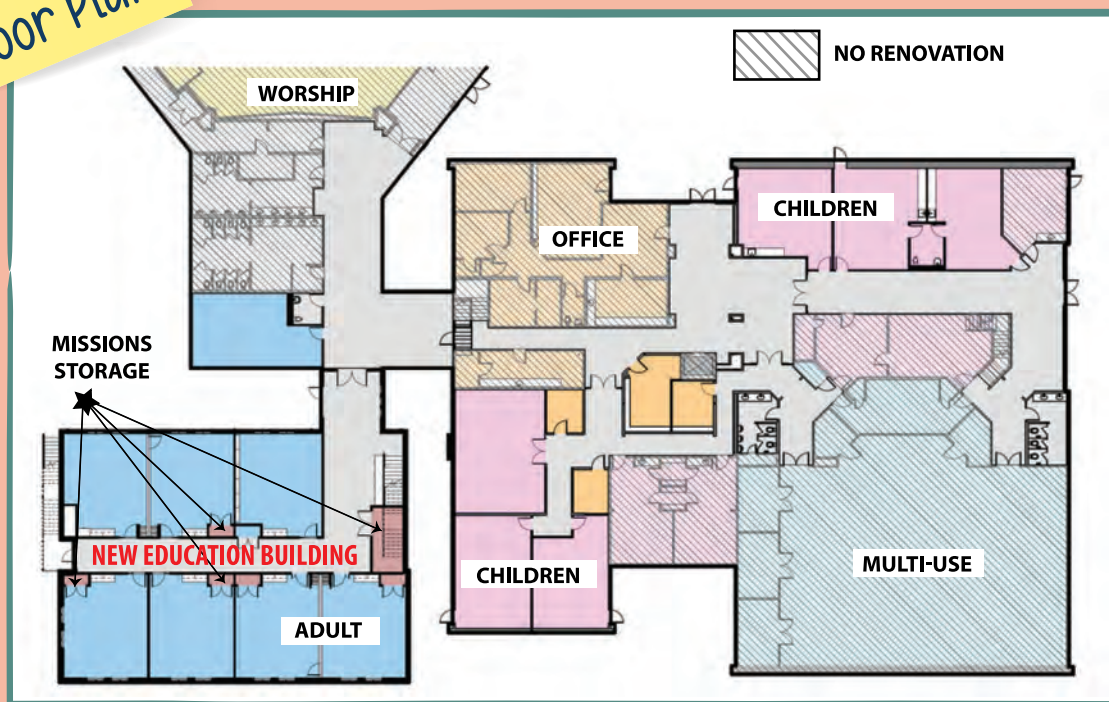


First Floor Connector to New Building



Enlarged and Dedicated Infant Nursery

First Floor Plan



How Are We Renovating?

- Enlarge and update nursery areas
- Update children's check-in
- Enhance security in children's area
- Convert library to offices
- Convert The Great Hall to classrooms
- Upgrade REC bathrooms to ADA compliance
- Convert The Bride's Room to a Choir Robe Room
- Replace risers in The Choir Room for safety purposes
- Move modesty rail to add a fourth row to The Chancel
- Update hallways on first and second floor
- Update bathrooms: Narthex, Sanctuary, and lobby areas
- Create a sensory room for special needs individuals

What Will It Cost?

- \$5.7M for renovations and a two-story building*

*Building details on previous page

"Our vision is simple: Make sure we have room for anyone and everyone looking to make Strawbridge UMC their church home."

- Pastor Todd Jordan

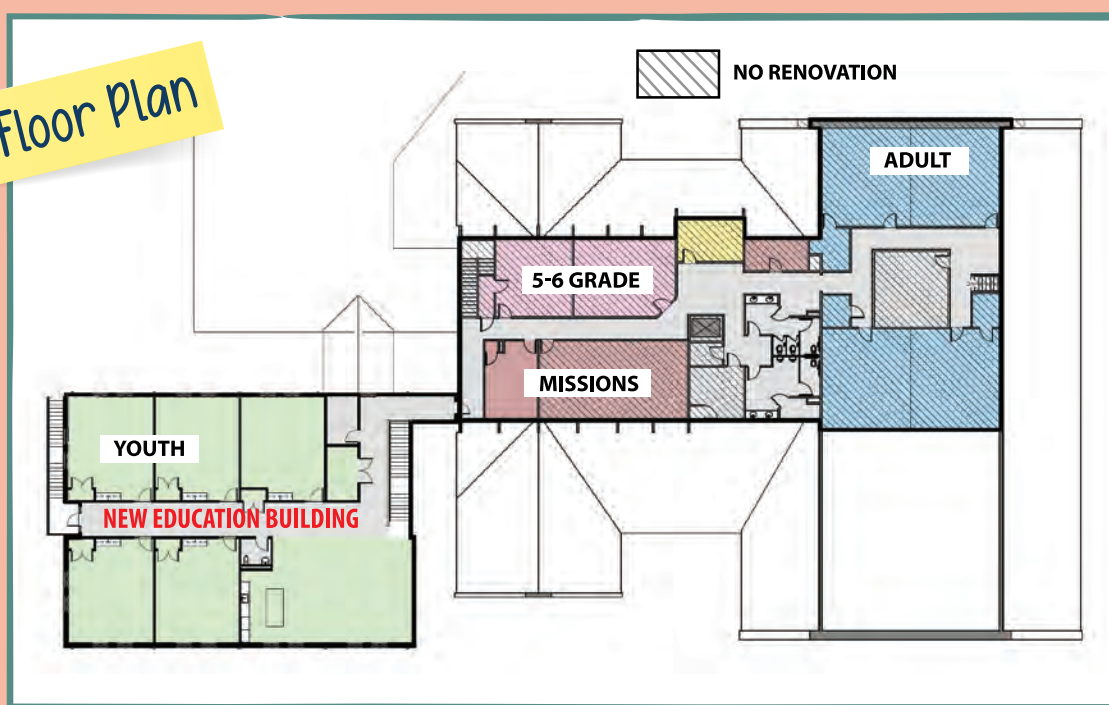


Renovated Children's Check-in Area



Youth Gathering Area - Second Floor

Second Floor Plan



What Are Other Components of the Project?

- Re-roof existing buildings
- Add interior digital signage throughout
- Enhance lighting for sanctuary chancel area

What Will It Cost?

- \$300,000 is the projected cost for these components

What Timeline Could We Expect?

- Parking Lot: Spring of 2025
- Renovation: Summer of 2026
- New Building: End of 2026

Equal Sacrifice, Not Equal Giving

What Is the Projected Total Cost?

ITEM	COST
Parking Lot and Bridge	\$1.7 M
New Building and Renovations	\$5.7
Other Components	\$0.3
Construction Phase Finance	\$0.2
Total Cost	\$7.9 M

Equal giving is never the goal at our church, but rather to come together as a church community - each sacrificing to achieve our vision.

What Might Sacrifice Look Like for Your Family?

ACTIVITY	WEEK	YEAR	3 YEARS
Eliminate a family meal out	\$40	\$2080	\$6240
Reduce Christmas budget		\$460	\$1380
Reduce vacation budget		\$200	\$600
Delay car purchase 6 months		\$3000	\$3000
Eliminate one cup of coffee	\$5	\$260	\$780
THREE YEAR TOTAL			\$12,000

"In addition, we will continue to support the annual budget and the mission programs."

What Is Expected of Me?

- Please pray about the sacrifice that God is calling you to make over and above your current tithe or offering.
- Continue to pray: "Lord, what do You want to do through me?"
- Plan to turn in your three-year commitment card no later than May 19.

What Does a Three-Year Commitment Look Like?

WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY	3-YEAR TOTAL
\$10.00	\$43.33	\$520.00	\$1560.00
\$20.00	\$86.67	\$1,040.00	\$3120.00
\$40.00	\$173.33	\$2,080.00	\$6240.00
\$64.10	\$277.77	\$3,333.20	\$9999.60
\$80.00	\$346.67	\$4,160.00	\$12,480.00
\$100.00	\$433.33	\$5,200.00	\$15,600.00
\$128.20	\$555.53	\$6,666.40	\$19,999.20
\$140.00	\$606.67	\$7,280.00	\$21,840.00
\$160.25	\$694.42	\$8,333.00	\$24,999.00
\$180.00	\$780.00	\$9,360.00	\$28,080.00
\$192.30	\$833.30	\$9,999.60	\$29,998.80
\$300.00	\$1,300.00	\$15,600.00	\$46,800.00
\$500.00	\$2,166.67	\$26,000.00	\$78,000.00
\$1,000.00	\$4,333.33	\$52,000.00	\$156,000.00

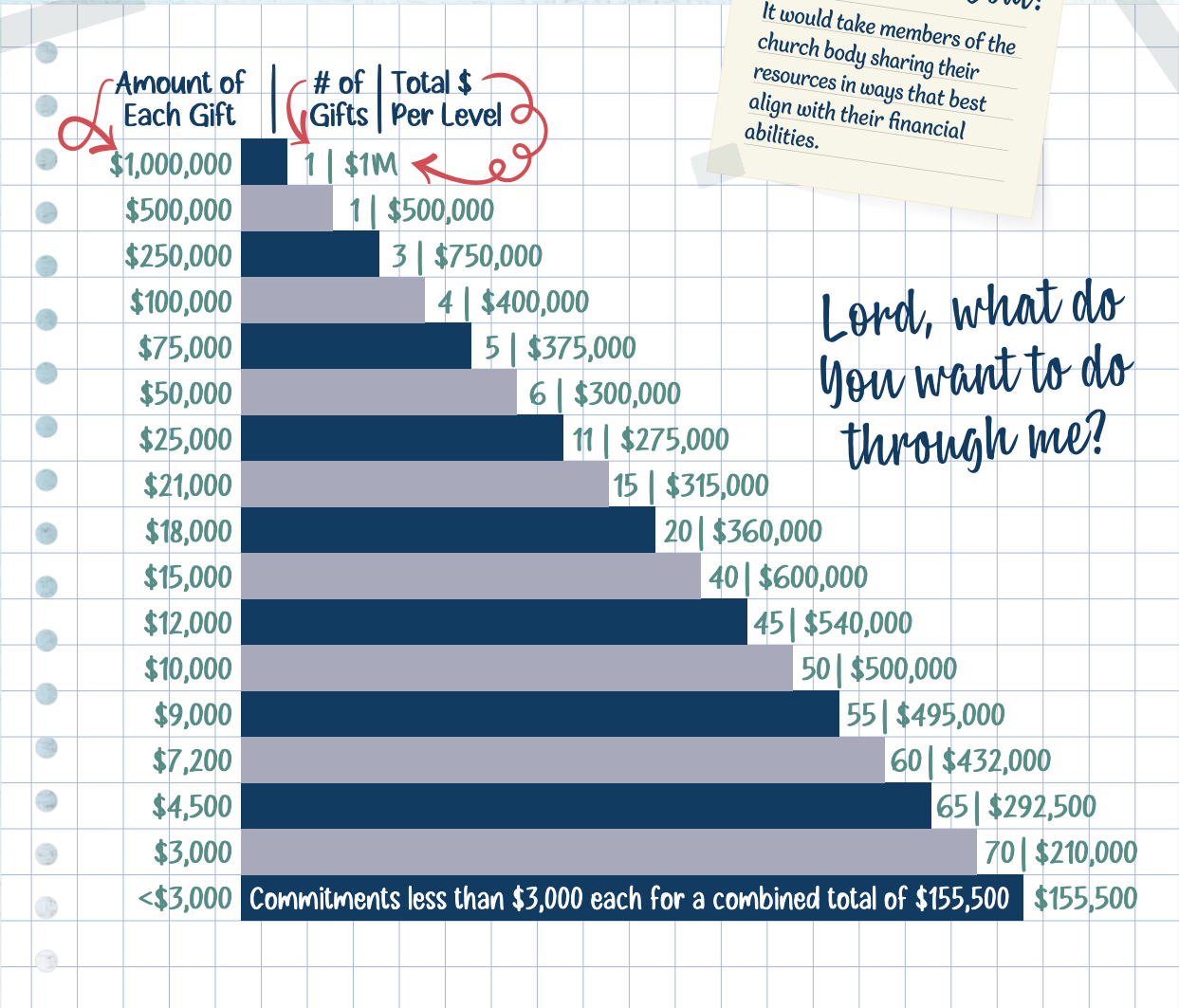
EACH OF YOU MUST GIVE AS YOU HAVE MADE UP YOUR MIND, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPELSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.

II CORINTHIANS 9:7

There is a role in this capital funding campaign for every church member, and each contribution enables our success.

What Would It Take to Reach Our Goal?

It would take members of the church body sharing their resources in ways that best align with their financial abilities.



Lord, what do you want to do through me?

Embrace the Spirit
For such a time as this

Submitting a commitment card is a helpful tool during the planning process. It also helps the church to budget for our new initiatives. Commitments may be changed at any time by calling the church office.

Strawbridge
5629 Kingwood Drive • Kingwood, TX 77345
strawbridge-umc.org • (281) 360-4500

CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT CARD

Name(s): _____
Phone: _____
Address: _____

I/We have embraced the spirit of this campaign and commit to participate with our prayers, service, and gifts. In addition, I/we will continue to support the annual budget.

Weekly X 156 weeks from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027
Monthly X 36 months from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027
Per Year for 3 years from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027
Other - As follows: _____

Signature(s): _____

Please select your preferred method of giving:
☐ Cash or Check
☐ Electronic Funds Transfer/EFT (Church Initiated)
☐ Bank Direct Pay (Member Initiated)
☐ Securities Transfer

*see back of this card for details about this giving

Commitment Cards will be mailed and also available at the church

Use this QR Code for a digital version of the Campaign Commitment Card



Notes From Our Campaign Co-Chairs



I am so excited to see all the new mission work SUMC will be involved in when our campus can accommodate the incredible giving hearts of our church.

Getting to work with so many loving and caring members of SUMC through the “Embrace the Spirit” campaign has been just one of the many blessed experiences of the last few months.

I am confident our efforts through this campaign will result in more disciples coming into the United Methodist Church and more individuals being part of a community of inclusivity and faith.

Our campaign combines the needs of a growing adult education program, affords the necessary infrastructure renovations, and provides facilities second-to-none for our children and youth.

David Klosterboer, campaign co-chair

The music program at SUMC, of which I am just a small part, is such a blessing that the improvements and renovations to our sanctuary and music wing will ensure it continues to be the heart and soul of our services.

Since coming to Strawbridge, I look forward to attending worship and Sunday School every week. Seeing the many faces of the congregation that I have known for over 20 years gives me assurance that God will continue to grow our church.

Strawbridge was a beacon of light when life felt overwhelming. As part of the campaign leadership, I want to ensure that Strawbridge is a place for everyone.

Blending the history of Strawbridge with its recent additions makes for a community of faith that the entire Lake Houston area can be proud of – we are United Methodists.

Susan Klosterboer, campaign co-chair



Strawbridge is the church Adam and I chose as an engaged couple in 2010. I wanted to visit because when I was in high school I attended a mission trip with a couple of friends who attended Strawbridge. It was a pivotal experience for me. I saw the impact Strawbridge had on my friends in school and through adulthood. Even as a young bride I knew this was the place I wanted to support my marriage and future children. Over the last 14 years, Adam and all three of our children have been baptized at Strawbridge.

For us, Strawbridge is a safe space for each member of our family to grow in their faith, and it provides us opportunities to live out that faith with service and community.

I'm most excited about a future at Strawbridge with more engaging spaces for kids of all ages that can accommodate programs, activities, and service opportunities.

Sarah Mowery, campaign co-chair pictured with husband Adam Mowery, campaign co-chair, and their children Charlotte, Ruth, and Paul.

Upcoming Dates and Leadership Team

Upcoming Dates for the
"Embrace the Spirit" Campaign

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	1	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

APRIL 21 GRATITUDE SUNDAY

Visually experience the gratitude that people of all ages will share about SUMC

MAY 5 PRAYER SUNDAY

Powerful testimonies about hearts transformed through the power of prayer at SUMC

APRIL 28 MINISTRY SUNDAY

A time to acknowledge and embrace all the amazing ministries that are impacting lives at SUMC

MAY 12 SACRIFICE SUNDAY

Sacrificial giving will become a reality as the early commitment total is announced in worship

MAY 19 COMMITMENT AND CELEBRATION SUNDAY

An opportunity to place your commitment card at the altar to pledge your support of the campaign

JUNE 30 ANNOUNCEMENT SUNDAY

The culmination of the "Embrace the Spirit" campaign will include a report of the total commitments made

Sunday-Funday Event
including food, fun,
and fellowship
for all ages.



Leadership Team

CHAIRPERSONS:

David & Susan Klosterboer
Adam & Sarah Mowery

COORDINATORS:

Dave & Barbara Ploch

COMMUNICATIONS:

Nancy Shortsleeve

AFFINITY GROUPS:

Melissa Perry
Kathy Spirakes

ADVANCE COMMITMENTS:

Darwin Logerot

LEAD GIFTS:

Jim Telljohann

PRAYER TEAM:

Judy Hampshire & Karen Dillewyn

GRATITUDE/MINISTRY:

Carol Bodin

CELEBRATION:

Mikel Russell-Nelson

STUDENTS/CHILDREN:

Andrea Villella

REACH TEAM AND RESPONSE TEAM:

Kelly Olsakovsky

There are over 60 volunteers serving across 10 teams, and more people are stepping up daily to help.
On behalf of the entire leadership team, heartfelt thanks to each and every volunteer.

Esther 4:14

2024

the Spirit of, SUMC, Growing / Growth, Teach, more space, welcome, Jesus, United, Grace, together, Investment, home, Family, Gratitude, love, youth, together, Inviting, serve, children, Open Joy, Heart, Embrace, the, Spirit, Community, and a lightning bolt symbol.



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