



ACCESS FOR ALL

sustain+seek+serve

COLLEGE PARK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2012-2014

November 2011

Number Four

LEADING THE WAY: OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

One thing College Park does well is to foster our children in the life of the church. From an early age, children participate in worship, serve as acolyte, sing in children's choir, play tone chimes and serve in the community through Outrageous Outreach. We believe our children are important members of this community and we trust them to use their gifts in ways that enrich our fellowship and worship. Following in this pattern, children will also be participating in and contributing to the capital campaign.

Since the beginning of this capital campaign, we have emphasized the next generation as those who will benefit most from the changes we will make to the church through the campaign. Recognizing this, we are taking steps during the campaign to talk with the children about the changes that are happening, why they are important, and how the children can contribute. In October, November and December, the children are doing an "Access for All" Sunday School curriculum during which they will study stories in the Bible that help us think more about the word *accessibility* and what it means for College Park to be an accessible place. They will talk about the physical accessibility of our building, accessibility as it relates to openness and welcome to all groups (specifically children), and accessibility for generations and how the decisions we make about the building now are making room for future College Parkers.

The children are also being asked to contribute financially. On October 2, the children received coin banks and will present their coin banks during the 11 AM worship service in early January.



Our youth are also participating in the capital campaign. As part of a new Sunday School curriculum, the youth designed the "Access for All" Sunday School materials for the children. This means that the youth are not only having these discussions about accessibility, but are also having to think creatively about how to teach these values to younger children. We will also spend the month of October discussing our capital campaign slogan "Access for All." During our Sunday night youth discussions, we will define accessibility, talk about accessibility from the angles of physical and communal accessibility, and at the end of the month will make a youth group campaign pledge. Through these efforts, we are growing our children and youth to be the next generation of thinking Christians in our communities and our churches. When they are older, we hope this experience will guide them in making similar decisions in their future churches.

OUR GOAL

The capital campaign consists of four projects to sustain present and future generations' use of and access to the church.

Church Steeple – \$68,000: Restore and paint the steeple, the front columns and the front of the chapel.

Elevator – \$207,000: Make the church fully accessible to all individuals, regardless of their physical limitations.

Chapel Renovation – \$127,000: Update and beautify the chapel, and make it a more flexible worship space.

Kitchen – \$50,000: Replace deteriorating walls, replace counter and cabinet space and install new ceiling, as well as new paint.

TOTAL GOAL: \$452,000 (pledged in November 2011 and donated through 2014)

MORE DETAILS:

www.collegeparkchurch.com/access

UPCOMING EVENTS

Late October: Pledge cards are mailed

November 6, Commitment Sunday: You are asked to make a capital campaign financial commitment that you will give during the next three years. 9 & 11 AM services.

November 6, Celebration Event: After the 11 AM worship service, all are invited to the fellowship hall for a free lunch and entertainment to celebrate the church's commitment to the capital campaign. (Read about the lunch and talent show on right.)

November 20, Initial Offering Sunday: The financial gifts we bring this day mark the beginning of our commitment to give sacrificially to further the life and mission of our church. A strong response in our offering on this day allows the church to begin implementing our plans. Please consider prayerfully what your initial gift will be as we take this first big step together.

2012-2014, Donation Period: The church relies on commitments made in November 2011 to fulfill the goals of the capital campaign. Plans are finalized for projects. While the work of the committees involved in our Access for All capital campaign will soon end, work of the Follow-Up Committee will be just beginning. For the next three years, this group has the primary responsibility of keeping the campaign alive and fresh.

KITCHEN

Renovations to our kitchen will help us continue and expand the many ways we use this room for church functions, social gatherings and

missions outreach. Currently, the kitchen is used to prepare meals on Sunday evenings for youth (35-40 weekly) and Wednesday night dinners (60+ weekly), to cook dinner for Greensboro Urban Ministry's homeless shelter once a month, to prepare communion elements for worship services, and to prep and serve food for special events such as the Male Bake-Off, the Christmas banquet, wedding receptions, baby showers, and more.



COMMITMENT & CELEBRATION

The **Celebration Event** on Sunday, November 6, gives all of us the opportunity to celebrate the future of our church and show our appreciation for the capital campaign. Enjoy a wonderful time of good food, fellowship and fun. Following the 11 AM worship service on Commitment Sunday, everyone is invited to lunch in the fellowship hall. Starting at 12:15 PM and ending by 1:30 PM, the lunch will include baked ziti (meat and meatless versions), salad, dessert and beverages. The lunch is FREE, open to anyone (church member or not), and requires no advance reservation.

Got Talent?

At the Celebration Event, be entertained by College Park's **1st Annual Talent Show** (or lack thereof), focusing on "The Reason We Give Access to All." Event organizers are looking for performers to share their talent. If interested, contact Amy Lowrance (272-9599 or amylowrance@triad.rr.com) by **Sunday, October 30.**

Ethel Merman [AKA Steve Rogers], top right, and Elvis [AKA Phyllis Kelly] appeared at a College Park event in 2006.



BRIAN CARDEN: THE ELEVATOR

Presented during the October 9th worship service

I'm going to try this standing up. Don't worry if I fall over. I fall over a lot, actually. In fact, if it were an Olympic sport, I would medal in it next year.

Atha Raulston. That was a lady that some of the congregation knew. She was a member of our church here. In the early 90s, she decided in the memory of her husband that she wanted to install an elevator here in the church. The bill then was around about \$100,000, and unfortunately out of her personal reach. In the late 90s, the idea of the elevator was again resurrected. That's a good word for church. The cost then being \$150,000. Again, it would appear there wasn't even enough enthusiasm or enough money at that point to install the elevator. Today, with the cost of the elevator adjusted to today's cost of living, the cost of \$207,000.

As part of the capital campaign, we are trying to raise the money to install the elevator. The elevator, as far as I'm concerned, is an absolutely necessity in this building. We have elderly members of this congregation, some of whom have come up to me when they learned that I was the guy responsible for ensuring that the elevator is installed and that the elevator is installed on budget and that the elevator is installed properly (it's something that I've done in my previous life quite a lot, actually), and they told me how wonderful it would be to have an elevator to allow them to have some inclusion in what goes on in this church.

There are a lot of people, and I was one of them for the longest time – almost eight months – who are unable to go downstairs, who are unable to go upstairs, and who are unable to join in the fellowship, predominantly, of this church, which happens mainly downstairs – the Wednesday nights, the Bible study, everything else that happens. And it's a great pity and it should not be the case in today's society.

The elevator cost is \$207,000. I will work diligently to ensure that we get the elevator in for less than that money, but please, please think about this hard. Pray about it. Please understand that the elevator is a necessity.

Three years ago, I was managing a large company, working out every day, enjoying life to the full. Now, at the age of 54, I've got one leg and half a foot on the other leg, which is a bit like standing on stilts. Things happen to all of us. Everybody's need becomes apparent at different parts of their life. And I really do look forward to seeing our older members, our infirm members being allowed to join us all downstairs in fellowship and enjoying that wonderful food on Wednesday night. Thank you.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIVING

On November 6 we all will be asked to make a financial pledge to the Access for All Capital Campaign. Our goal is to raise \$452,000 over the next 38 months (Nov. 2011-Dec. 2014) through donations that are *in addition* to our regular tithes and offerings. With creativity and commitment, College Park folks have accepted this challenge and are coming up with resourceful (and unique!) ways to tighten their personal budgets and give to the campaign.

Here are a few of the ideas (most true, a few in jest).

- Juanita Lojko: "I'm selling pink flamingo book-marks [College Park's mascot] for \$10 each and donating the entire amount to the capital campaign." (To buy bookmarks, email Juanita at lawcop@triad.rr.com.)
- Nancy, Matt, and Isaac Cravey: "We will cut back on discretionary spending. We will eat more dinners at home, buy fewer new clothes for Matt and Isaac, and cut back to the streaming-only package on Netflix, which means we will have to rely on borrowing the remaining seasons of *The Wire* from the Mileses."
- Daniel Miles: "I plan to fake my death, collect the insurance money, and donate it."
- Instead of the hopped-up pickup truck he originally planned to buy next year, Robert Kirkman will purchase a more modest model.
- Cindy Dillon will sell gold jewelry she no longer wears.



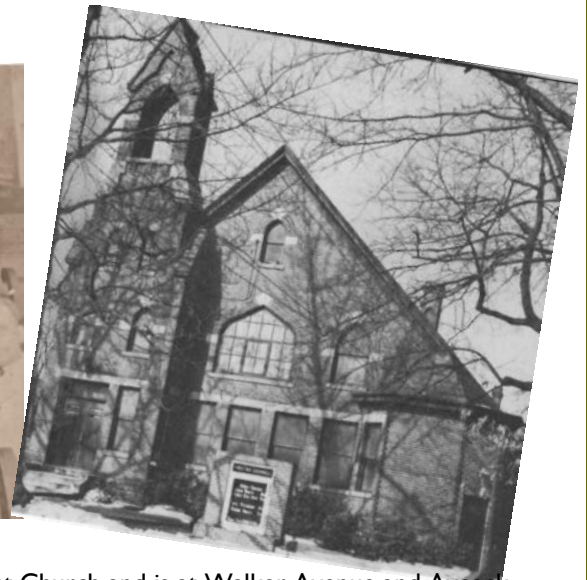
Working together, sacrificing together, we can reach our goal and provide complete access to every part of our building for everyone. Will you join us?

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Read & See More @
www.collegeparkchurch.com/access



College Park, originally called Forest Avenue, was a mission of First Baptist Church and is at Walker Avenue and Aycock Street. The church's organizational meeting on March 11, 1906, took place in the old Administration Building on the college campus that was at State Normal School for Women, now UNCG. These photos of the congregation and building were taken in the 1920s or 30s. We thank our early members for preparing a place for us!

2,160 The number of us that were fed on Wednesday nights with food prepared in our kitchen last year.