

**9. Who makes the final decision? Who provides the leadership for these important decisions?**

The church makes the final decision. In reality, a series of decisions must be made. We have adopted a Master Plan. We have completed an initial study. The decision to employ a consultant and work with Generis Partners is the third decision in the process. We will make other decisions as the Capitol Fund Raising is conducted and decisions to build must be made. The Finance Board provides leadership in making decisions regarding finances. The Building & Renovation Committee gives leadership to determine the Master Plan and what will be built in what order. The Deacons are kept up to date and are involved in discussions as needed and by their request. The church in business meetings makes the final decision on recommendations from these committees.

**10. What happens to budgeted giving?**

In most churches, budget giving goes up during the campaign. People who never gave to the church before begin to give to the campaign. They become more involved in the life of the church. They give because they have evaluated what is most important in their life. God has given us resources to share. We are stewards. That lesson is taught as part of the Campaign. It has long term benefits as well as funding the building renovation. What happens to people in their walk with God is more important than the money we raise or the amount we need for budgeted giving. Stewardship is an outgrowth of spiritual growth and maturity.

**11. Is our commitment to missions affected?**

We have resources to do both. Most of our money for missions is from designated giving. This year in October we are asking every person to commit to a church ministry, a community ministry, and a missions focus in Florida, in the USA, or internationally. We believe that our commitment to missions will grow. We cannot focus on church ministries alone. We cannot be focused only on missions. *We are invited by the Great Commission to do both.*

**Business Meeting  
Wednesday, September 19th at 6:15pm**

Gary McCall, 9-10-07

# **FAQ's Regarding Capital Fund-Raising Program and Building Renovation September 2007**

**1. What is the condition of our education buildings? Is renovation really needed?**

Our buildings were built in the 1950's and 1970's. We have repaired roofs and kept the buildings safe and clean. We have kept them maintained up to a point. The first floor is very functional. The proximity of the Fellowship Hall, Preschool Reception Area, and Sanctuary work well, but the offices are too close to the Sanctuary. Any space close to the Sanctuary is "prime" space and can better be used for "gathering" space and educational classrooms for preschoolers and children. Restrooms are outdated and too small. The hallways are too narrow.

Air conditioning units on the second floor work in about one-half of the rooms. The Youth Area was remodeled several years ago and is some of the best space we utilize. The children's departments and adult classes are adequate. The rooms for children's departments are large and spacious. Air conditioning, fire protection, and electrical systems need to be added, replaced and upgraded. Restrooms in the entire church complex are outdated, are limited in number, and in locations difficult to find.

**2. Why is a capital fund-raising campaign needed?**

The cost of the entire project is approximately \$10-12 million. The Master Plan encompasses a total renovation of the present education building and the construction of a new multi-purpose building. Most churches of our size with our annual budget do not raise the amount given above in any one campaign. If we raise a portion of that amount, we will decide what we can build for the amount of money we raise and maybe borrow the additional funds from a lending institution. We begin building and then consider the next step toward completion of the Master Plan. The church makes the final decision each step along the way.

### **3. What if we delayed and decided to do this campaign later?**

We would be delaying renovation. The buildings already need repair and upgrading. We would spend a significant amount of money bringing them up-to-date. We have air conditioning units that do not work. Even with repairs, we would still have a building that was built in the 1950's. It would be similar to having a "classic car." They look nice but they are still old cars. The cost of renovation and construction goes up every day. Delaying increases the cost for what we know needs to be done now.

### **4. Why is the Master Plan so important?**

The Master Plan shows what we are working to achieve. Renovation and new construction give us the opportunity to respond to the changing needs and expectations of our congregation. For example, preschoolers need more space per child. Elementary children need to be closer to the Sanctuary. The hallways in our education buildings on the first floor are too narrow contributing to a sense of constriction. Most of us grew up sharing a bedroom with a brother or sister. Now almost every child has their own room. Our homes are larger and more spacious. What we become accustomed to in our homes and workplaces impacts what makes us feel comfortable when we come to church. Our best first impression is the Sanctuary. We want our educational space to be as appealing as our Sanctuary.

### **5. When is the capital fund-raising campaign scheduled to begin?**

Planning for the campaign begins after we vote as a church to move forward with the enlistment of a Campaign Committee. The Campaign Committee will organize teams of people who will have a variety of responsibilities to insure that every person understands the project and has the opportunity to participate. Teams will be formed between now and the early part of 2008. The official campaign is five weeks beginning Sunday, February 17, and ending on Sunday, March 16, Palm Sunday. To celebrate, we are planning a picnic at the Tampa Bay Baptist Conference Center similar to last year's event in the afternoon of March 16. Easter is Sunday, March 23. We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on this day.

### **6. Why Generis and Ruben Swint?**

Ruben Swint is our campaign consultant. He is a Senior Consultant for Generis Partners. He has a long standing relationship with us which goes back to when Dr. Randy Ashcraft was Pastor. He worked for CBF Foundations. He has served churches in Kentucky and Georgia as Administrator and Minister of Education. He has been very successful in working with churches to raise money for capital needs.

We know Ruben Swint well. He has met with us over the past year several times to guide us to this point. We have a relationship of trust with him that we would have to develop with someone else if we chose to go with another company.

### **7. Is there a cost to using a company like Generis?**

Yes, the cost is figured either on a percentage or flat fee. Generis uses a flat fee. The fee is \$65,000. We have paid \$6,500 for the initial study. That is included in the \$65,000 if we go forward. We will have to pay \$58,500 for Ruben Swint's continued service to us in the Campaign. The amount needed will come out of the monies pledged.

### **8. Is there another way to conduct the Campaign? Is it possible to do this ourselves and not pay this amount?**

It is possible. Churches that do these campaigns themselves are not as successful. They raise less money in the end even taking into account the savings of not paying a company and the consultant. Those most committed in a church do not need to be persuaded. Those most committed could write an amount on an index card and hand it in. A professional campaign is targeted toward people who will make a conscious decision to give when they understand the need. The Campaign when done well also involves a large number of people in a variety of responsibilities. The appeal of the Campaign is in the way we communicate our mission and the importance of renovation to accomplish that mission. We will challenge people to give to something that is lasting and eternal.

Churches that conduct campaigns themselves depend on staff to provide leadership. Your staff does not have the expertise that is required by the level of excellence that you expect.