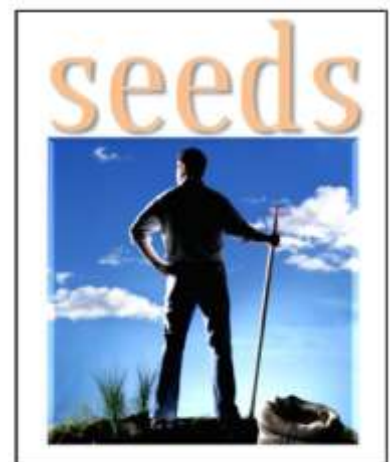


**Important Answers
To Questions You May Have
Regarding Our
“Seeds”
Capital Campaign
At Grabill Missionary Church**



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Q1. Why is our church involved in another Stewardship Campaign?

A. This campaign gives us the opportunity to challenge one another to prayerfully consider our individual involvement in the commitment of our treasures. The finances committed will enable us to eliminate the debt on our building and, at the same time, invest in life-changing ministry in GMC

Q2. When and where will the commitments be made?

A. Most commitments will be made on Commitment Sunday, March 14, during our church services; however, leaders will give their commitments in a sealed envelope to one of the General Chairs (Jack Clark, Matt Swartz, Scott Brune) on or before February 28, one week prior to Challenge Sunday.

Q3. What is expected of my family in making a financial commitment?

A. Every family is being asked to pray about its commitment. No one will be pressured. Nothing will be published. As a fellowship we want all to pray about what they believe God would want to do through them. If God owns everything and we are simply managers, then we believe that God will provide everything we need to effectively do His work.

Q4. Will I be asked to make a public commitment or announce the amount?

A. Absolutely not! Your commitment is a private matter between you and God. We will not make these commitments a matter of public knowledge in any way, shape or form.

Q5. If I should fall behind, will the church take steps to make me pay?

A. We will most certainly *not* take any action to collect on these voluntary financial commitments. Our purpose in this Campaign is to reduce our debt so that we can continue to make forward progress in accomplishing the mission of our church. We are simply asking that you pray and seek God's guidance as to what He would have you commit to Him. We are asking you to complete Commitment Forms in order for us to plan wisely.

Q6. I already tithe to the general budget and feel like that is all I can do. Am I wrong?

A. Only you and the Lord can decide how much you can give. This program has been designed so that everyone can give something, no matter what the size. No gift is too small to count! If each one does as God directs, then victory is assured.

Q7. Can we make one commitment for our entire family?

A. Yes you may. We strongly urge that you involve your children in some way, either by individual commitment or by their participation in the family giving.

Q8. Will God help me make a commitment which right now seems beyond my means?

A. Making a commitment that you know for certain is unrealistic might be detrimental to you and the church. However, sometimes things that seem beyond reach are actually closer than they appear! Priorities may need to be rearranged in order to participate at a sacrificial level.

Q9. Is there a certain amount of money that I will be expected to commit to our stewardship program?

A. No. After asking God for guidance in the decision, each person or family will decide on and make a commitment. *The goal is not equal gifts but equal sacrifice.*

Q10. Why do I need to make my commitment in writing?

A. The total amount of commitments is carefully analyzed to forecast future income and to establish a realistic debt payback schedule and ministry budget for GMC programs.

Q11. May I give assets other than cash?

A. Yes. Any member of the Creative Giving Team will be happy to discuss this with you, or you may choose to consult with your personal tax advisor. There will also be a Special Assets Seminar at the church on February 25.

Q12. Do I have flexibility in making my financial commitment?

A. Yes, there are three general categories under which you can make the commitment.

1. Immediate gifts from accumulated cash.
2. Regular weekly or monthly gifts of a designated amount over 3 years.
3. Non-cash assets such as property, stocks, bonds, etc.

Q13. How will commitments be received?

A. Your financial commitment will be placed in a sealed envelope so that the confidentiality of your commitment can be maintained.

Q14. Can I divide my present giving between the General Budget and the Capital Campaign?

A. We strongly encourage you to make your commitment "*over and above*" any other giving to our church. The present General Budget supplies ministries and missions that we have implemented and support and will need to be funded during and long after the Capital Campaign.

Q15. Will I have opportunity to revise my commitment?

A. Certainly, since this is a commitment between you and the Lord, you have opportunity to revise your commitment. It would be helpful if changes could be communicated in a written manner so church leadership planning can reflect your decision.

Q16. Will my commitment constitute a permanent investment?

A. Definitely. That's the heart of **The Treasure Principle**: "You can't take it with you but you can send it on ahead." That which we keep for ourselves can be lost, but that which we willingly give away can never be lost. The gifts you give for the purpose of expanding God's Kingdom here will flourish and bear fruit as God adds His blessing to your faithfulness.

Q17. How much money do we trust the Lord to supply in this campaign?

A. We have set a faith goal of \$1.3 million. This will eliminate the building debt and allow us to redirect the \$10,500 monthly payment to towards our future vision of changed lives in our church, in our community, and across the world.

Q18. Why are we choosing to have a debt reduction campaign when the poor economy is a concern of all families?

A. There may be no perfect time to have a debt reduction campaign. Combine that reality with the elder board's desire that the campaign be **NOT JUST ABOUT MONEY**, but focused on our primary goal of changed lives that reflect obedience to God and complete stewardship of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. The elder board has been praying and gathering input from the congregation and outside coaches over the past two years.

Based on God's guidance the elder board has unanimous agreement that we should move forward at this time.

Q19. Why did we go into debt to build the church additions?

A. There never was a desire to go into debt. The congregation decided to start the building addition only after we had first raised ½ of the funds needed to build, with the prayer that the rest of the funds would be raised/pledged during the building process. This plan was approved by the elder board and voted on by the entire congregation, where it was overwhelmingly approved. The money raised/pledged during the building phase did not cover the total cost, and a loan was needed to cover the remaining balance.

Q20. When the church took out the loan for the remainder of the existing building debt, was the plan to pay it down over the 20 year term?

A. No. The hope was that the debt would be repaid over a short period of time. The loan terms were set up for manageable monthly payments for as long as the debt is still with us.

Q21. I was not here when the building addition was going on, should I still give to "Seeds"?

A. While many people who attend GMC today were not here when the building addition was started and finished, our hope is that your participation in the life and ministries of GMC would give you some feeling of ownership in the benefits of the building decision, and that you would prayerfully consider giving to the "Seeds" campaign to eliminate the building debt and help plant the seeds for changed lives for those who will come after us. Over the past century, many decisions have been made that have benefited those who come after, including everyone currently at GMC.

Q22. How should we view the importance of our Time, Talent, and Treasure?

A. God has told us that he wants *ALL* aspects of our lives to be devoted to him. Using the analogy of a three legged stool, with the legs being Time, Talent, and Treasure, our lives can get out of balance when we don't use all of the gifts God has given us for his service. Everything comes from God, and our obedient response is to be good stewards of what God has given us.

Q23. The goal of eliminating \$1.3M in debt in 3 years seems really ambitious. Can we meet this goal?

A. The goal of eliminating the debt in 3 years is a **GOD SIZED** goal. We firmly believe and trust in our awesome GOD to open our hearts to his service and provide for his stewards to accomplish this goal. GOD will do amazing works in our lives if we are willing to sacrificially give not only our Treasure, but also of our Time and Talents.

Q24. How will we keep "Seeds" going for 3 years?

A. We will continually update the congregation of progress in paying off the debt, and will also be sharing opportunities for service both inside and outside of GMC.

Q25. The Master’s Plan had a Phase III blueprint for a new sanctuary sometime in the future. Are we still planning on building a new sanctuary in the future?

A. It is true that there were futuristic plans for a Phase III new sanctuary as part of the Master’s Plan. Those kinds of plans are often drawn for building projects as a “what if.” *There is no plan for a new sanctuary in the foreseeable future.*

Q26. What is the vision for using the money we no longer are paying to the debt?

A. This is the most exciting question of the whole campaign. What is God going to do with these resources? We are identifying a dozen projects that we *could* do, projects that reflect our activity in the church, around the community, and across the world. With what we spend each month on our mortgage payment, we could build a church in India or send 50 kids and sponsors to Camp BLAST and CDYC or fill 220 baby bottles with quarters for A Hope Center. There will be much more about this as the campaign moves on.

Q27. What are trying to accomplish through the “Seeds” campaign?

A. We are first looking for a renewed commitment to stewardship for everyone attending GMC. This campaign is providing a focused opportunity to examine our hearts and our lifestyles and see if they are compatible with GOD’s definition of stewardship, and to respond accordingly with renewed commitments of our Time, Talents, and Treasure. Our personal response will not only determine our ability to eliminate our debt, but more importantly will shape our future ministries and missions because we will be better stewards of GOD’s resources.

Q28. Will there be future help for me to learn about budgeting after the “Seeds” campaign?

A. We plan to offer budgeting training as part of the Creative Gifts Seminars being planned during the campaign, and we are making plans to continue to offer help with budgeting after the campaign.