

# FAQs



## ***Is the Gospel Now project a capital campaign?***

There is a fundraising component, but Gospel Now is much more than a capital campaign. It is a discipleship journey that our church is taking to pray, give, and act to accelerate our gospel outreach locally. The reason fundraising is needed is that part of the Gospel Now plans involve making the Crossings building into a community-focused ministry center, reducing debt, and adding accessible parking, all of which costs money.

## ***Who should get involved in Gospel Now?***

We hope that everyone will be involved! For some people getting involved may mean giving sacrificially to the Gospel Now project. For others, involvement will mean giving to College Church for the first time. For all of us, it should include a greater commitment to prayer, living a generous life, and serving others. That is the Gospel Now opportunity, and all of us are invited to participate.

## ***What if we don't raise all the money we need? What is the priority?***

The Elders have determined that the Crossings and parking needs are the top priorities, so undesignated gifts will be put 50/50 toward the Crossings and parking portions of the project until \$1.1 million (the remaining amount needed to fully fund the accessible parking) has been raised for that purpose. After that, undesignated gifts will be put 100% toward the Crossings until \$4 million has been raised to complete that project. After that, remaining funds will be put toward debt reduction. However, if you prefer to designate your financial gift to a specific portion of the project (only debt reduction, only parking, or only the Crossings), you can indicate that on the website, and 100 percent of your gift will go toward your designated funding target.

## ***Who was involved in the design of the Crossings?***

Many people! For several years, Eric Schlickman, Eric Ollila, David Gieser, and other Crossings Task Force members from the congregation have met with a wide range of congregants as well as key people from church staff and the community in an effort to discern the best use of the Crossings building. The entire pastoral staff were asked about how their ministries might best use the new space, and their ideas were combined into the current proposal. The result is a design that includes a cafe, a play area, meeting rooms, mixed-use areas, and designated youth space.

## ***When will the congregation get to vote on the design?***

The plans for the Crossings have been created by members of staff and congregation, approved in a general sense by the Elders (who are representatives of the congregation), and a combination of staff and elders will approve the final design. Plan details will be worked out in the coming months, and at that point there will be a congregational meeting to ask questions and comment on the design. There will not be a formal vote on the

design, but the process is being driven by congregants, and everyone will have a chance to interact with the design.

***How long will this take?***

We will start on the Crossings building project as soon as we have half of the funds needed in hand. Once construction is underway, we expect it to take 12 to 18 months start to finish. We will get started on the parking project even sooner, and that should be completed within 6 to 8 months. Debt reduction will take longer, but we hope and pray that sufficient funds will be raised within three years to significantly pay down our debt. The stretch goal for the fundraising campaign outlined by Pastor Moody is \$10.3 million, which would allow us to completely eliminate all our debt. May it be so!

***How much thought and prayer went into this project?***

Many people, for many years, have been praying and seeking the Lord's leading for this project. It has been born out of the church's unified sense that 1) the Crossings space should be a bridge to the community (a CROSSover space) to accelerate our local outreach; and 2) we need to make our campus more accessible and our financial picture more sustainable over the long term. The specifics of the Gospel Now project were crafted by a team of people who believe everyone in our congregation should be invited on a journey of discipleship—whether or not they choose to commit personal finances to it.

***I'm really excited about this, but I can't give a lot. Will my small contribution make any real difference?***

Absolutely! First off, we give because we are commanded to in Scripture and because it helps us remember that we trust in Jesus, not our bank account. It is good for us to give. It's never about how much money we give, but how much of our heart we give. Jesus declared that the widow who gave two mites had given far more than the rich man who gave out of his abundance. In the same way, God is pleased when we give sacrificially, regardless of the amount. For some, \$100 is a huge sacrifice. For others maybe it's \$10,000. Others could give much more. It's not the size of the gift that counts but the attitude of the heart. And don't forget, small gifts add up!

***Will the café generate revenue for the church?***

The purpose of the café is to be a welcoming environment for people in our community, not to be a revenue generator. The plan is that an outside vendor will operate the café and pay rent to College Church, which will help offset any expenses we incur from the expanded ministry space in the new Crossings building.

***Has our commitment to cross-cultural missions changed?***

Absolutely not! That's why our regular budget has such a large component for missions, and it always will. In addition, with so many people living in our community who come from all around the world, the Crossings will also have a cross-cultural outreach compo-

nent. It is our conviction that at this moment, we need to make a concerted effort in the area of community outreach locally even as we continue to invest in our ongoing commitment to global missions.

***Will there be volunteer opportunities at Crossings?***

Yes! This space will be a catalyst for evangelism. We want you to use this space to invite your neighbors into and engage in discipling relationships. Begin thinking and praying now about how you can get involved in the happenings of the Crossings! We will be looking for members to assist with the programming at the Crossings (i.e., storytime for kids, live music at the café, art space shows, etc).

***Will there be a kitchen in the Crossings that will be available for the church to use for gatherings?***

Yes! We are planning a residential style/commercial grade kitchen in the Living Room area on the mezzanine floor.

***What if I have other questions?***

We want to hear your questions and will do our best to answer them. We've set up an email address if you'd like to contact us that way: [GospelNow@college-church.org](mailto:GospelNow@college-church.org). Jeremy and Nancy Taylor are serving as co-chairs for the Gospel Now leadership team. Brian Wildman is the chairman of the Elder Board. Eric Schlickman, David Gieser, Jim Johanik, Mindy Rhybrandt, and Cheryce Berg have all provided input and direction on the design of the Crossings. Eric Ollila is also serving on the leadership team. John Seward is the pastoral liaison. And of course financial questions are best directed to Nancy Singer or Bruce Bonga, chairman of the Deacon Board.