

# **FORWARD TO A BRIGHT FUTURE**

***GROWING AND SERVING TOGETHER***



**MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MOUNT VERNON, WA**

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN  
2019– 2022**

Fall 2019

Dear Members and Friends of Mount Vernon Presbyterian,

As a community of faith, we have always had a vision. It's a vision of worshiping God and following the Holy Spirit's lead, a vision of growing in our own faith while also serving God's people in need, a vision of knowing the love of Christ and sharing Christ's love with other people.

In this season, as we embark on our Forward to a Bright Future campaign we set our sights on precisely that vision. What we will do with the money raised by the campaign is important for the future of MVPC, and equally important is why we do what we do. The envelope of the building will be shored up and secured so that the building which is the launch pad for our congregation's ministry will be sound for decades into the future. We'll install a sprinkler system and make a number of safety upgrades so that everyone who uses the church (members and friends of MVPC as well as community members and ministry partners) will be more secure while they are here. We'll update the carpet and AV system in the sanctuary so that our worship space will be more welcoming and inviting.

We believe that these improvements will strengthen the ministry of our congregation and help us venture more faithfully and more boldly into the bright future God is inviting us to as we serve the congregation of MVPC, the broader community in Skagit Valley, and beyond.

Our campaign challenges us to be a part of something extraordinary! Jesus said, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21). This campaign provides an opportunity for you to invest in the ministry of MVPC and our vision of God's hoped-for-future. It also provides an opportunity for genuinely generous giving for something that's greater than any one of us. The call for each of us is to take a step of faith in order to give "over and above" our regular offering for the next three years. We all have a significant part to play in the Lord's work in and through Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church.

The timing is perfect. We, the members and friends of the MVPC family, are ready for the challenge. May God bless our efforts as together we step:

***Forward to a Bright Future,***



The Rev. Dan Holland  
Pastor



Fall 2019

Dear Mount Vernon Presbyterian Family,

On behalf of a wonderfully dedicated campaign leadership team consisting of members from across our church, we ask you to close your eyes and imagine the possibilities that exist here at Mount Vernon Presbyterian. What do you see or hear? We see our children and grandchildren actively enjoying our church while they learn of Jesus' love. We hear a sermon or a class that gives a better understanding of God's grace and how we should respond to it. We hear songs praising God in a beautiful worship service. We see compassionate people reaching out with the love of Jesus through our many ministry groups and community outreach programs.

Picture the many ways our faith grows and how our generous gifts of service and witness help speak "hope" into our lives and the lives of so many others. Because Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church is a caring, welcoming and graciously safe community of faith, opportunities are created daily for all to become devoted followers of Christ and know the love of God. It is the potential for furthering this mission that has led us into a campaign that will enable us to grow as a community and serve our Lord well into the future.

The primary purposes of our **Forward to a Bright Future** campaign are to grow our faith in God, and to grow the faith of others in God through the continued mission and ministry we share. The monetary purpose of our campaign is to fund necessary deferred maintenance and facilities improvements in our church.

Through our campaign we are seeking God's guidance. Giving generously is the way we will achieve our vision, but our generous giving is about much more than that. It is about growing our faith, and this campaign presents an opportunity for you individually—and for us as a community—to commit ourselves to placing God first in our lives.

We encourage you to see this as an opportunity to grow in your giving, and prayerfully consider a financial commitment that celebrates the abundant blessings God provides to you each and every day. Join us in investing deeply in the future of our church. Together, we can achieve our mission and many other amazing things in God's name.

In Christ,



Mary Ellen Byerly  
Campaign Co-Chair



Bruce Lavers  
Campaign Co-Chair





# Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

## *A History of Witness and Service in our Community*



*Original Church Building*

In April 1902, 12 men and women led by the Holy Spirit, organized the United Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon. Worship was shared in the Free Methodist Church until 1923 when a brand new structure was dedicated. Christian education was a key focal point with classes for children and adults in various parts of the building. The Ladies Missionary Society was formed in 1907 and held a Thursday morning Bible Study, a Mother-Daughter Banquet each May and an Advent Dinner in December. The women made crib quilts, layette items, summer outfits and more, for those less fortunate. They even saved cancelled stamps for world food needs.

To continue to expand God's work in the community and the world, in the early 60's the church relocated to our current site and a new church was erected. Tending to the needs of the people of the Valley was a passion of one of the parishioners who started a tradition of serving Christmas Dinner to those who had nowhere to go on Christmas Day. Traditions initiated several years ago continue today through MVPC including Friendship House. Tall Timber Ranch – a camp for children, families and groups, Christmas Baskets for those less fortunate in our community and Whitworth College are all areas supported by our church. In the 1960's, then Pastor Paul McCann believed "MVPC had a special, God-given task to more effectively serve Christ in our community."



*Good Shepherd Hall Construction*

Today MVPC supports such missions as Family Promise – where homeless families are housed at our church for a week. Care Pals show the love of God through caring, laughter and devotion by having weekly crafting at a local assisted and memory care home. MVPC also opens its doors to community groups including the Skagit Valley Chorale, the Symphony and Northwest Blood Works.

In this season, our congregation – led by the Holy Spirit – seeks to renovate and enhance our church building. Caring for God's house will help us move **Forward to a Bright Future** of ongoing witness and service for years to come.



*MVPC Today*

# ***THE NEXT CHAPTER IN OUR CHURCH'S STORY....***

## **OUR BUILDING REVITALIZATION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**



MVPC's 2017 Discernment Process led to the articulation of the particular way God has gifted us and from which God calls us to minister as:

***Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church is and is becoming a caring, welcoming and graciously safe community because we are deeply committed to seeking Jesus, listening for the Holy Spirit and discerning God's will.***

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church has a wonderful history of ministry - nearly 120 years! Beginning at our original site in downtown Mount Vernon and continuing in our current location since 1970, our church has been a warm, engaging Christian community, welcoming those who seek to know Jesus, nurturing people on their spiritual journey, and sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and hospitality. The ministry began from our building and has continued out to the broader community through service and volunteering. Now the time is right for us to imagine how we will provide for ministry and service for years to come.

Our church family is healthy and eager for ministry, and our leadership is looking forward in a hopeful and expectant manner. Our current facilities are in need of revitalization so that we can continue to serve one another and our community long into the future. Accomplishing the facilities projects below will not only help us continue to do what we already do so well as a faith community, but with God's leading, it will also open new possibilities for us.

### Broadening Welcome and Strengthening Capacity to Serve

**Redesigning the large flat roof over most of our building, replacing other areas of sloped roofing, repairing areas of rot throughout the building, and replacing windows where seals and caulking have failed** will give us a dry facility, safe from leaks and water damage, into which we can welcome members, friends and community neighbors.

### Enhancing Safety and Security

**Replacing exterior and interior doors, installing a fire sprinkler system and making seismic, electrical and code-related upgrades** will create a space that is protected and safer for both our congregation and the variety of mission partners and community groups we host in our facilities.

### Elevating Worship

**Replacing aged floor coverings, making wall repairs, painting and improving the lighting and AV systems** in the Sanctuary will speak to the value we place on regular worship and enable a more welcoming invitation for guests and visitors to share in our worship experience.

These projects are ambitious. To accomplish them will require generosity and dedicated effort from the congregation. They are also instrumental to continued vibrancy of MVPC's mission and vision. They will not only strengthen and serve our ministry programs today but will allow us to enhance our capacity for congregational and community service for years ahead. God is inviting all of us *Forward to a Bright Future!*

# ***Answers to Your Questions***

## **Capital Campaign FAQ**

### **Q: What is our *Forward to a Bright Future* Campaign all about?**

A: Our capital campaign is about investing in the future of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church and the community we serve. It is about building on our faith, and the faith of people who came before us, to strengthen our facilities for ministry. It is about widening our welcome to people who are not yet part of the church and it is about growing as a congregation through a deeper understanding of stewardship, community, and faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Gifts to our ***Forward to a Bright Future*** Capital Campaign are over and above our regular giving. These will help us accomplish renovation and building projects which will empower us to serve our current membership better, as well as our community, both now and into the future.

### **Q: What types of projects are we seeking to accomplish?**

A: Our projects flow from our desire to *be – and continue to become - a caring, welcoming and graciously safe community*. Capital Campaign funds will be used for improvements including:

- **Redesigning and repairing the flat roof** over most of our building (narthex, offices, classrooms and Fireside room), and **repairing the remaining sections of the sloped roof** over our Sanctuary, Good Shepherd Hall and classrooms
- **Repairing areas of rot** throughout our facility
- **Replacing windows** where seals and caulking have failed
- **Increasing fire detection**
- **Installing fire sprinklers** (depending on final scope of work this may be required by building code)
- **Improving security** in the church building
- **Installing new carpet** in our Sanctuary
- **Improving our A/V system** in our Sanctuary for better visibility and sound

### **Q: How were these projects determined?**

A: As we asked the questions: “What needs to be addressed in our facility to enable MVPC to continue providing quality ministry long into the future?” and “What will allow us to more faithfully become the caring, welcoming, graciously safe community God has called us to be?” these projects were identified by church members and confirmed with detailed inspection by two major building contractors.

### **Q: What are the cost projections for our campaign projects?**

A: There are two separate but related priorities. The first is the building envelope (roof, siding, windows, exterior doors, skylights, seismic upgrades, and code related upgrades). The best available estimates place the cost at approximately \$700,000 for this first priority. The second priority includes safety and interior building improvements (Fire detection, security upgrades, sprinkler system installation, wallboard repair and painting, increased electrical capacity, updated lighting, floor coverings and A/V system in the sanctuary.) The best available estimates place the cost at approximately \$800,000 for this second priority.

### **Q: How firm are these numbers?**

A: Our cost projections represent our best understanding of the scope of work. We continue to review and refine these to get our firmest numbers before any work begins. There is always the potential for expenses to increase once we open portions of the building to repair areas of water damage. The priority is to secure the building envelope first, then turn to items interior to the building.



## Capital Campaign FAQ (continued)

### **Q: When and how do I pay my pledge? What if my financial circumstances change?**

A: Your three-year commitment to the **Forward to a Bright Future** campaign may be paid incrementally in weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual installments, or as a one-time gift. The gifting period is December 2019 through December 2022. You, as the donor, will decide how best to complete your pledge.

Financial pledges are not legal obligations; however, we anticipate that members will make their pledges in good faith and fulfill them fully. If circumstances change, you may revise your pledge by notifying the church.

### **Q: How can we be successful in achieving the goals of our campaign?**

A: While the financial goals for our campaign represent a significant challenge for our church, we are a congregation of great capacity. We have conducted a feasibility study and believe we have the joyful opportunity to stretch ourselves to meet the future needs of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church.

Our beloved community has been blessed by God and we continue to grow in our giving. It is vital that we maintain our commitment to support our current worship, work, and witness (our regular offerings). We also need to build a strong financial base for our capital facilities projects.

To meet the financial goals of our capital campaign, each of us will be asked to commit a generous and joyful gift above and beyond our regular giving. Each of us is encouraged to prayerfully consider—and celebrate!—the many blessings God has given us, and the capacity we have for giving and sharing generously. The choice is ours to freely commit that which has been entrusted to us. Seek God's guidance as you consider:

*To what extent does my giving truly reflect the value I have for this congregation?*

*To what extent am I acting purposefully, intentionally, and faithfully in my giving?*

*How is my giving helping me grow in faith toward God, and in service to others?*

Your support continues the tradition of generosity in our congregation and will help Mount Vernon Presbyterian move forward in its mission and ministry.

### **Q: Why is our campaign – Forward to a Bright Future – so important?**

A: Throughout its history, our church has discerned and followed God's dream through our mission as God's people to be a place of welcome for all. Our campaign honors the commitment of all who have provided for our church over the generations, and ensures a bright future for our congregation, our community, and our ministries for years to come.

This is our opportunity to keep our church home - our "launch pad" for ministry and service – safe, strong and secure so that we, too, can follow God's dream for us and imagine the ways in which we can expand our programs and the reach of God's love in our community.

We have the privilege and opportunity to carry forward the legacy of Mount Vernon Presbyterian, celebrate the abundance God places in our lives, and carry forward God's vision for us here.

# Our Campaign Financial Goals

***CELEBRATION GOAL = \$1,500,000***

***CHALLENGE GOAL = \$1,100,000***

***CORNERSTONE GOAL = \$700,000***

**How We'll Reach Our CELEBRATION Goal**  
***It takes everyone . . .***

<b># of Gifts</b>	<b>Amount</b> (Total Gift Over Three Years)	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>
1	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
1	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$400,000
2	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$550,000
4	\$51,000	\$204,000	\$754,000
5	\$30,000	\$150,000	\$904,000
7	\$21,000	\$147,000	\$1,051,000
10	\$15,000	\$150,000	\$1,201,000
12	\$12,000	\$144,000	\$1,345,000
14	\$6,000	\$84,000	\$1,429,000
16	\$3,000	\$48,000	\$1,477,000
38	\$600 - \$1,800	\$23,000	\$1,500,000
110			<b>\$1,500,000</b>



# Responding to God's Call

## Pray

Pray for God to guide you as you consider how to share your financial resources in our ***Forward to a Bright Future*** campaign over the next three years. Remember that these gifts are above and beyond our regular offerings, and will help revitalize our church facilities for improved ministry and service.

## Listen

Tune your heart to discover how God wants you to give of your time, talents, and financial resources.

## Commit

As God guides you, make your commitment to the ***Forward to a Bright Future*** campaign. The key is not so much the amount of the gift, but rather the degree to which that amount demonstrates generosity and sacrifice on the part of the giver. ***Everyone's*** precious gifts are needed!

## Celebrate

Thank the Lord for the abundance in your life, and give thanks for the calling you have to carry out God's work in this place.

## How Your Gifts Add Up Over Three Years

You may use this chart to easily calculate the total of a certain gift over a 3-year period to see how a smaller sacrifice results in a large contribution.

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>3-Year Total</u>
\$300	\$46,800
\$200	\$31,200
\$150	\$23,400
\$125	\$19,500
\$100	\$15,600
\$90	\$14,040
\$80	\$12,480
\$70	\$10,920
\$60	\$9,360
\$50	\$7,800
\$45	\$7,020
\$40	\$6,240
\$35	\$5,460
\$30	\$4,680
\$25	\$3,900
\$20	\$3,120
\$15	\$2,340
\$10	\$1,560
\$5	\$780

<u>Monthly</u>	<u>3-Year Total</u>
\$1,000	\$36,000
\$800	\$28,800
\$600	\$21,600
\$500	\$18,000
\$400	\$14,400
\$360	\$12,960
\$320	\$11,520
\$280	\$10,080
\$240	\$8,640
\$200	\$7,200
\$180	\$6,480
\$160	\$5,760
\$140	\$5,040
\$120	\$4,320
\$100	\$3,600
\$80	\$2,880
\$60	\$2,160
\$40	\$1,440
\$20	\$720

# CREATIVE GIFT PLANNING

Many of us are experienced at stewardship to the mission and ministry of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. Some members tithe (give 10%), and some exceed the tithe in their giving. Most of us provide from our current resources – checking and savings – to supply our support of the church. Often, however, gifts for capital campaigns are contributed in ways other than cash and checkbook. Let's think outside the conventional box and be creative in our giving.

## **Gifts of Appreciated Investments**

Donations of appreciated long-term stocks, mutual funds, or other investments are an excellent way to support our church. When you donate appreciated investments, you do not pay capital gains tax, and you receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value on the date of the donation.

## **Gifting from an IRA**

If you are over the age of 70 ½ you can make a tax free charitable contribution to the church from your IRA. The contribution must be made directly from your IRA to the church and it may be applied to your Required Minimum Distribution.

## **Life Insurance**

You may consider donating existing life insurance by making the church both the owner and the beneficiary of the policy. If the policy is whole (ordinary) life insurance, you will receive an immediate tax deduction for the cash value on your federal income tax, and, if you continue to pay future premiums, can take future deductions.

## **Lifestyle Giving**

Another way to generate gifts for our campaign is to consider lifestyle adjustments. Postponing the purchase of an automobile or remodeling of a home, are all ways to “find money” in order to make a generous gift.

## **Rental Income from Real Property**

Some members may own either a vacation home/condo or a time share property. Consider renting out your property and gifting all or a portion of the rental income to the church.

## **Real Property as a Charitable Gift**

There are two main methods for real estate to be given as a charitable gift. The first is an outright gift of the property. This is the simplest, most direct method resulting in the most immediate tax benefit. The second method involves bequests either through one's will, establishment of trusts or annuities. For the latter there are various tax benefits depending upon the specifics of the bequest and upon the individual's life circumstances and desires.

## **Help with your Gift Planning**

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church has people who can assist you if you are considering making gifts using the techniques listed above. For assistance or more information, please contact the church.

*Note: Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church cannot give legal advice. You are encouraged to consult your professional advisor before implementing any of the above plans.*

## ***God's Grace Flowing . . .***

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh,  
and the fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks.

Trees spread their branches over it and  
stretch out their roots to sip of its healing water.

Along its shores the children play.

The River Jordan makes this sea with  
sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs  
in the sunshine. And people build their houses near it,  
birds make their nests, and every kind of life  
is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea.  
There is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf,  
no song of birds, no children's laughter.  
Travelers choose another route unless on urgent business.  
The air hangs heavy about its waters, and neither  
humankind nor beast nor fowl will drink.

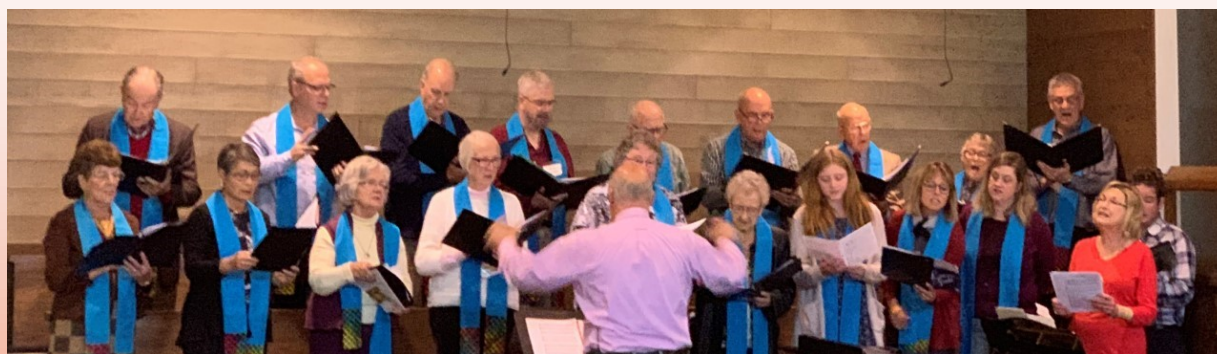
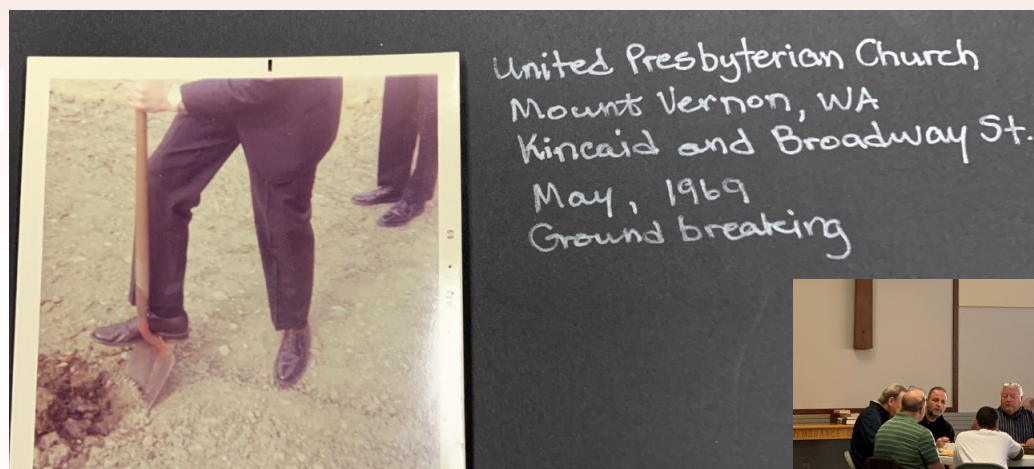
What makes this difference in these neighbor seas?  
Not the River Jordan. Not the soil in which they lie;  
nor the country round about.

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee  
receives but does not keep the River Jordan.  
For every drop that flows into it, another flows out.  
The giving and receiving go on in equal measure.

The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously.  
It will not be tempted into any generous impulse.  
Every drop it gets, it keeps.

The Sea of Galilee gives and lives.  
The other sea gives nothing. It is named the Dead Sea.

*"Two Seas"* Original by Bruce Barton, adapted by Bruce Rockwell



## Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

1511 East Broadway Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Church Office: 360-424-7675  
MountVernonPres.org