

## **FUMC Hays FAQ April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

### **What is our campaign for?**

*The Capital Campaign is to raise \$1.2M over three years to invest in building maintenance, upgrades, and transformational ministry to advance God's Kingdom.*

### **What are the priorities for spending the money?**

*Eight general areas have been identified. They are listed in no particular order; some may occur simultaneously.*

- (1) Sealing the stone on the Education Wing to maintain the beauty and structural integrity of the stone.*
- (2) Replacing two steam boilers with more efficient hot water boilers for heating the Church sanctuary, parlor, Fellowship Hall and Education Wing. However, recent unexpected and costly complications have come to light that will delay boiler replacement for an unknown period of time. The condition of pipes transferring heated and chilled water throughout the church and Education Wing require further investigation and possible replacement of some pipes.*
- (3) Repairing or replacing the church organ*
- (4) Paying off the remaining mortgage (~\$75,000) on the parsonage of the senior pastor.*
- (5) Setting-aside 10% of monies raised for a restricted fund to meet church contingency needs.*
- (6) Installing a new sound system in the sanctuary.*
- (7) Funding a discipleship ministry to members, and outreach to new members, in ways not typically supported through the regular church budget;*
- (8) Updating the kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and decor of the parlor.*

### **Who makes decisions on how the raised funds are spent?**

*Decision making will involve directly affected advisory groups, church trustees, and the Administrative Board. Most projects will involve multiple levels of decision making. The campaign Management Team has compiled a list of projects with input from various groups within the church and from professional sources. Those projects have been presented to the congregation and openly discussed in detail at several informational events.*

### **Are the Thank You notes provided by the Thank You team, the church, or Church Development?**

*The Thanks Team will provide Thank You notes with the cover designed by children in the church.*

### **Are there likely to be early/advance gifts made before May 3rd? Are we thanking pledges, or actual money gifts?**

*Gifts of money and assets, such as IRA Required Minimum Distributions, and pledges can be made prior to Commitment Sunday on May 3. Clear designation is needed that such gifts are intended for the Capital Campaign. We are thanking pledges.*

### **Will we accept designated gifts? Can I designate my gift to the kitchen, for example?**

*Yes, designated monetary gifts will be spent as requested as a first priority. However, we ask that any excess funds given for a particular project beyond the expense of renovation/repair*

*of the designated project, the giver allow any excess funds to be used for other projects designated as priorities in the Capital Campaign.*

**How did we arrive at the price tag for the various projects? How do we know if it will be enough money?**

*Project costs include competitive bids and knowledgeable estimates at the time. New information received on the complexity of boiler replacement (asbestos removal and pipe pressure testing for example) indicate the initial estimates may be quite low. Additional information is being gathered on organ repair or replacement in order to make the better decision. Competitive bids have already been received for upgrading the church sound system. Also, bids are currently being sought or will be sought at an appropriate time for asbestos removal, kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and parlor renovations.*

**What are the plans for the organ with this campaign?**

*Proposed options include cleaning, repairing and re-tuning current organ pipes to full functionality; or replacing the current pipe organ with a modern electronic digital organ that will not need as many expensive repairs. Grants may be available to help restore full functionality of the pipe organ. Both options are being researched by individuals with knowledge and expertise with organs.*

**Is the Endowment committee providing any funds? Are they pledging 3% of its net worth to this campaign? Is it providing any matching fund incentives?**

*Yes. The Endowment Fund committee funded the preliminary feasibility study for the Capital Campaign, and they will provide additional support to the campaign. The amount of that support is being discussed.*

**Please say more about how a contingency fund and staffing support is one of the priorities of the campaign as presented in the feasibility study.**

*FUMC has emerged from an unfortunate downturn in the number of people who give financially to the mission of Christ through our church. This downturn includes a 25% drop in giving units sparked by COVID-19 and denominational issues. Our leadership has done a remarkable job in leading us through that time, aided by a contingency fund created in prior years. Up to 10% of funds raised will go to replenish the contingency fund.*

*Our vision and mission for this capital campaign is not just about needed repairs and upgrades to our church facility. It is also about maintaining vital ministry in deepening discipleship for church members and healing communities around us. Seeing that our annual budget for discipleship and outreach ministry is very tight, a portion of our capital campaign funds may be used to help support these initiatives.*

**How long will each phase take?**

*Not all projects in one phase need to be completed before initiating projects in another phase. There will be overlap. Some projects will take a few weeks and others longer depending on complexity.*

**Who will articulate/update us where we are at as far as what stage as we move along?**

*The Capital Campaign Management Team will provide regular updates on project status.*

**Will we be ADA compliant when we are finished?**

*Unknown at this time.*

**Are there funds available from the Memorials?**

*Yes, up to \$40,000 for the kitchen upgrade*

**There are several single pane windows . . . the wind blows through them. Can replacing these windows be added to the list of projects?**

*Possibly, depending on the amount of funds raised.*

**What is the plan to upgrade the capacity of the women's bathroom on the main floor? It is especially problematic during Sunday School, weddings, funerals etc?**

*The subject has been raised but a possible solution is not yet under consideration.*

**Is the Memorial Organ Fund "restricted"?**

*Yes*

***Does the dishwasher and the oven in the kitchen need replacement?***

*The dishwasher needs replacement and the trustees are discussing the best approach toward the oven.*

***What are we doing with the Chapel?***

*In the event of a surplus of funds, we might convert the Chapel into a partial cry room for children and their parents during worship.*

***Do we have to finish phase 1 before we go to Phase 2?***

*No*

***If there is a large financial gift, is there a "Naming" opportunity?"***

*Yes*

***If we remodel the parlor, do families who donated the furniture get it back?***

*Yes, if they so choose.*