

Dear Austin Heights Members and Friends:

The year 2020 will be remembered for many things, including a worldwide pandemic and a contentious presidential election. On a more positive note, the year 2020 also marks the 50th anniversary of our Austin Heights church building. This building has served us well. It did, however, develop structural issues that required immediate attention. The wooden support structure over our sanctuary was failing. Over time, the weight of the structure was pushing down on the exterior wall, causing the wall to tilt outward and the roof to sag.

Financial Details of the Project:

The total cost of this project is \$210,000.

We have covered \$30,000 of that amount from church reserves which leaves a balance of \$180,000.

We have been approved for a bank loan that would require a monthly payment of \$1,500 for the next 15 years.

We are asking you to help raise the roof!

We would like to reduce the amount of our loan and future payment obligations so that we can continue and expand our ministries here in Nacogdoches. **If we all make a generous one-time gift we can reduce the principal on our loan.**

Giving Options

You may give using PayPal on our website Giving page or by sending gifts by mail.

This spring, the church voted to take the steps necessary to remedy the situation and, in so doing, make the building more energy efficient and technologically up to date.



As God's timing would have it, we were holding our worship services online due to Covid, not in person at the church. With the building not in use, our builder, Gary Stripling, was able to complete construction in about three months. **Our building is now stronger, greener, more versatile, and tech-enabled.**

We are ready for the next 50 years!

The challenge our congregation faces now is paying for the repairs and upgrades while sustaining and growing our ministries.

Amish barn-raising are famous for everyone showing up and in one way or another contributing to the task. Usually the barn is constructed while nearby others build the roof structure. When the time comes to raise the roof, everyone, together, picks up the newly constructed roof and moves it to where, with horse-powered help, everyone lifts it to its place.

Each and every one of us, contributing together, can raise our Austin Heights roof. We know that not all gifts will be equal, but we do believe in equal sacrifice. Equal sacrifice by each and every one of us is the gospel way: Paul says in II Corinthians 8:3 "They gave according to their means, and even beyond their means." You may give via PayPal on our website or via mail.

By the grace and gifts of God, we can do this – together.

In gratitude,

Kyle Childress, Pastor

Susan Rushing, Chair of Building and Grounds