

Sept. 4, 2024

Dear Congregation,

I wanted to clarify the process for identifying how capital campaign funds will be allocated. As a refresher, below is the Motion to which the congregation voted "Yes" in April 2024:

MOTION that the congregation organize a capital campaign, proceeds from which will go toward paying down debt and/or making improvements to the older parts of the church building. This proposed campaign would begin this spring and conclude by the end of 2027.

No decisions have been made regarding how the funds will be spent. The Capital Campaign committee and the Board will consider options once 90 percent of the congregation has pledged or by the end of the calendar year at the latest. An option or options will be presented to the congregation for discussion, possible refinement, and ultimately a vote.

During the Q&A in April, consideration was given to paying off mortgage debt immediately as funds were received, unless pledges were earmarked for capital. However, in keeping with the wording of the Motion, the congregation will decide how the funds will be spent as described above. In the meantime, we are considering the nature of our mortgage agreement which will be factored into the options. For example, there is a prepayment penalty; however, we will ask the bank to consider waiving the prepayment penalty. We would prefer donations not be earmarked to allow maximum spending flexibility.

Sincerely,

Rachael Beam, President, Sunnyhill Board of Trustees