



ALL THINGS POSSIBLE!

Caring enough to grow

Capital Stewardship Campaign NEWSLETTER #4: November 15, 2010

Leaders Turn-In \$501,000 in Commitments!

Sunday evening 150 leaders at Grace Community Fellowship met to follow the Biblical principle found in I Chronicles 28-29. The purpose of the gathering was to submit their *All Things Possible!* commitment pledges, demonstrating their steps of faith a week ahead of the balance of the church.

David Dendy, our campaign consultant from Klamath Falls, was the guest speaker who inspired and challenged everyone to sacrificially consider their gifts. All tolled, **76 commitments** were turned in totaling **\$501,000** in the form of three-year pledges to God to further the building expansion at Grace.

Please be in prayer during the week as you will have an opportunity to submit *your* commitment pledge at either morning worship service this coming *Celebration Sunday!*



Our *All Things Possible!* commitment total will be announced at our Celebration Sunday 6:00 Party!

Celebration Sunday Events

9:15 and 11:00 Morning Services:

Everyone will have the opportunity to turn in their 36-month *All Things Possible!* commitment cards.

6:00 in the Evening:

Everyone is invited to an evening of Thanksgiving. Child care is provided.

You Won't Want to Miss This Party!

Who doesn't love a party?! We have great reasons to celebrate here at Grace Community Fellowship! God has done amazing things in our church and we have every reason to trust Him as we move forward in this campaign, *All Things are Possible!*

Please join us Sunday at 6:00 in the evening to celebrate! There will be music, laughter and a great time of togetherness! Oh, and don't forget . . . lots of chocolate and yummy treats!

We will reveal what God has in store for our immediate future.

Creative Giving

By Pastor Steve Hill



But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything, all she had to live on."
Mark 12: 42-44

Unlike the widow, no one can afford to give all they have to live on! But we all should be able to give something.

During this campaign I've been asked about creative forms of giving. Many people will make financial commitments on a monthly or yearly basis. Still others will give a one-time amount. From my experiences, I've seen people give stock, real estate property, time shares, jewelry, proceeds from garage sales, and so forth.

Equal Sacrifice, Not Equal Giving

In the early years of Grace Community Fellowship, the elders took out second mortgages on their homes to finish the initial building. In making the dream a reality, others delayed purchasing cars or remodeling their homes. The sacrifice of the early leaders of Grace has prepared us for this very point in the history of our church.

All of us have been praying about our commitments to the *All Things Possible!* Campaign. Perhaps you have been considering a different kind of gift and you have questions. Loren Stubbert is available to answer your questions: Phone 541-954-2071 or e-mail Lstubbert@windermere.com

Gift Profile Chart

How a church our size can raise \$1.3 Million

| No. Gifts | Gift Level | Total at Level | Cumulative |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1 | \$130,000 | \$130,000 | \$130,000 |
| 2 | \$75,000 | \$150,000 | \$280,000 |
| 3 | \$30,000 | \$90,000 | \$370,000 |
| 4 | \$25,000 | \$100,000 | \$470,000 |
| | | | |
| 8 | \$20,000 | \$160,000 | \$630,000 |
| 10 | \$15,000 | \$150,000 | \$780,000 |
| 15 | \$10,000 | \$150,000 | \$930,000 |
| | | | |
| 20 | \$6,000 | \$120,000 | \$1,050,000 |
| 40 | \$3,000 | \$120,000 | \$1,170,000 |
| 80 | \$1,500 | \$120,000 | \$1,290,000 |
| Remainder | \$900 or Less | \$10,000 | \$1,300,000 |

Collectively, we probably don't have \$1.3 Million laying around that we can commit to the church without missing it. That means, together, we have to make choices and make sacrifices.

A predominate theme during the All Things Possible! Campaign has been "Equal Sacrifice, not Equal Giving." Not everyone has the same financial capacity but everyone can make the same level of sacrifice. In Mark 12, Jesus gave credit to a widow who gave a fraction of a penny and declared her gift as more than all the others. Jesus taught that the size of the gift is not the issue. Sacrificial giving becomes the emphasis of Jesus' teaching.

A Look at One Family's Commitment

| Activity | Week | Year | 3 Years |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|------------------|
| Eliminate family meal out | \$12.00 | \$624.00 | \$1,872.00 |
| Eliminate 1 video rental/week | 3.00 | 156.00 | 468.00 |
| Reduce Christmas budget | | 250.00 | 750.00 |
| Reduce Vacation budget | | 250.00 | 750.00 |
| Eliminate 4 "dates" | | 120.00 | 360.00 |
| Eliminate 1 cup of coffee/day | 3.50 | 182.00 | 546.00 |
| Erik's commitment | 1.00 | 52.00 | 156.00 |
| Andrew's commitment | .50 | 26.00 | 78.00 |
| Two \$10 bills found by Andrew | | | 20.00 |
| THREE YEAR TOTAL: | | | \$5000.00 |

"He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times, so that many will thank God for your gifts which they receive from us."

II Corinthians 9:11

The Gift Profile chart was developed by our campaign consultant David Dendy. He has consulted with 80 churches and created this sheet based on his personal experiences. We are aware that discussing money can be a delicate and sensitive topic. **The purpose of this chart is not to place pressure or guilt on anyone. We make it available to keep you informed and to give you some context for your giving.**

In the first tier one contributor contributes \$130,000. Two contribute \$75,000 each, 3- \$30,000 and 4- \$25,000. These 10 commitments represent \$470,000 or 36% of the \$1.3 million goal.

In the second tier, eight contribute \$20,000, 10- \$15,000 and 15- \$10,000. These 33 commitments represent \$460,000 or 35% of the goal.

These contributors represent a combined total of \$930,000 or 71% of the goal.

The next tier represents 140 contributors and \$360,000 in commitments. The remaining commitments of \$900 or less add up to \$10,000. This tier represents 29% of the goal.



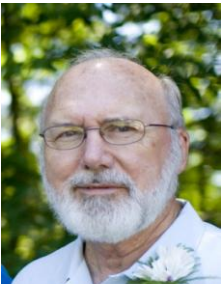
Prayer Not Pressure

It may be expressed in various ways but the root of the concern is always the same. Some of you may be wondering when the pressure and manipulation to give is going to begin. The very nature of the campaign does not allow for anyone to be pressured into giving. You will never be told what you should give. Your financial involvement is a decision between you and the Lord. Giving is a part of worship, but giving must come from your heart to please God, not from a checkbook just to satisfy a program.

Pray: "Lord, what do You want to do through me as it relates to Your will for this church?"

Looking Back . . . Moving Forward

Casual Chats with Grace Members



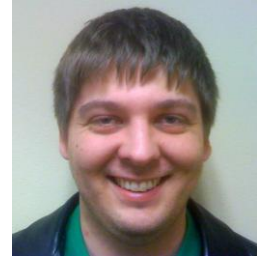
Carolyn Westfall
Sunday School
Teacher



Patrick Rush
Senior of Grace



Wendy Lindsey
Elementary/
Middle School
Mom



Colin Gibson
Musician

Q. You were involved in the Growing Grace campaign a few years back. Why?

A. Carolyn Westfall: "We were very determined to have the children's area expanded. We could not teach how we wanted to teach. We were using the hallways and every other place. God met the goal!"

Patrick Rush: "I felt it was necessary."

Wendy Lindsey: "We were jam-packed into too small an area for our children and fellowshiping was limited because of the entry/foyer area. We saw the need for space."

Colin Gibson: "I wasn't involved in the campaign but I was involved in seeing the effects the campaign had. What we noticed was the commitment level of the church and how unified the group was."

Q. How did God provide to meet the goal of Grace?

A. Carolyn Westfall: "We discussed the needs and prayed. Wayne and I personally found funds within the home budget and we also 'squeezed' a few areas, like giving up some things we planned or putting a couple of areas on hold. In our last campaign we were given an opportunity to read Randy Alcorn's book, "Treasure Principles". It helped formulate the need through the Holy Spirit to trust God and anticipate seeing Him work."

Patrick Rush: "We set our commitment in faith as we felt the Lord wanted us to. We are retired so had to trust Him for the 'extra'. He provided small paying jobs of various types for my wife and me plus some other funds and we almost always met our goal monthly. In the end, all commitments were met and we even had extra to give."

Wendy Lindsey: "God met the goal exceedingly; abundantly! In the history of the church it is amazing how the congregation has always pulled together and had faith that God was going to provide for the things we felt He was leading us to do."

Colin Gibson: "It was definitely a decision of faith by the people, knowing all the changes that occurred. God absolutely provided all that was required. Even though afterwards the budget crept upward, God still provided. It was miraculous!"

Q. What good things came to the church as a whole and to you personally?

A. Carolyn Westfall: "Well, first of all...the children's area. Second, the Atrium which is a big plus! Third, the coffee shop area for visiting and functions but for us personally, we saw the Lord work through so many people to meet a tremendous goal. This was very moving. Seeing the Lord work certainly elevated our faith!"

Patrick Rush: "Space in the atrium to be able to visit and not feel rushed to get out of the building. And space for the children. Personally, I enjoyed working around the building when they needed physical labor done for little projects. Also, our faith grew as we watched God provide money for our commitment; money we didn't have."

Wendy Lindsey: "It has allowed for growth in children's ministry and I have been encouraged to see people having the opportunity to function as a community again and being able to fellowship because of the huge atrium we now have. We have enough indoor space for the children to play so they don't have to go outside on rainy days. Our daughter says, "We can all be together for videos and big group time." It has also given us the opportunity to do a wedding AND a reception in one location."

Colin Gibson: "As a whole, the Growing Grace Campaign was a positive force to propel the church forward as a congregation. And, personally, seeing the church become a group that is so single-minded and willing to serve others is a blessing and encouragement to us to look forward. It's encouraging to see that energy for growth to have so many positive effects on the current membership and future membership."

Q. The need for growth is here again. Are you excited about what's been happening at Grace and our All Things Possible! Campaign?

A. Carolyn Westfall: "Yes. We are at a point where we need more adult classes. We need classrooms for adults. We have tended to our children. Now we need room for our adults to grow. People are watching us in the neighborhood. We need room for them."

Patrick Rush: "Yes. I have no reservations about entering into this program at this time. I figure God is going to give us what we need for our church growth."

Wendy Lindsey: "This is the next step of our vision. I have seen God provide over and over again since the beginning of this church. I have seen Him give our church congregation the passion to work together for many projects and I have no doubt it will happen again this time! I grew up here watching this happen."

Colin Gibson: "Absolutely! What God has done with Grace and its membership and all the new people involved is amazing. It's exciting to see so many new members getting involved and enthusiastic about reaching others. We look forward to the future of Grace and all the people we will reach in the future. That's what the campaign is all about."



You are invited to a party!
Celebration Sunday,
 November 21, 2010
6:00 pm

**Join us as we come together
 for a time of Thanksgiving
 for what God has done
 through our All Things
 Possible! campaign.**

Everyone prepares to turn in their *All Things Possible!* Commitments this Sunday during both morning worship services. Extra commitment cards available at the church.



Grace Community Fellowship
 989 Country Club Road
 Eugene, Oregon 97401

*"The Lord has chosen you to
 build a house for the sanctuary.
 Be strong and do it."
 I Chronicles 28:10*

