

NEXT Campaign Frequently Asked Questions

What is the NEXT Campaign?

NEXT is our opportunity to take a major step in pursuing RCC's vision for the future. The purpose of this effort is to encourage each other to grow in our stewardship of life. As each of us grows in this way, God can work through us to bring glory to Himself, advance the church's mission, bring many more people to Jesus, and meet other needs in our community and world for years to come.

What, specifically, is the need?

Our careful analysis indicates that the upcoming relocation to 2 Keewaydin Drive will be challenging but, with God's blessing and the willing help of His people, very doable. The purchase price is \$1.9 million, and the estimated/maximum up-front renovation costs will be \$500,000, making a total estimated project cost of \$2.4 million. Our land sale (now in progress) and Relocation Fund put us in a position to eventually place about 25% down on the total project expense. The already-budgeted monthly lease payment we've been making for years gives us a strong head start on our new monthly mortgage payment. Via the NEXT Campaign, we're seeking to ensure that we get "over the top" in this relocation project, and to put the church in the strongest possible position to do top-flight ministry in 2018 and beyond.

What is the monetary goal for the NEXT Campaign?

Our monetary goal is three-year (now through 2020) commitments totaling \$700,000, over and above General Fund giving. We believe that's a God-sized but reachable goal. It's based on a lot of serious and prayerful consideration, the giving history of the congregation, and the exciting motivational factor of an excellent facility that's ready to be outfitted and pressed into Kingdom service. It's also based on practical need, since for several months we'll be making double payments (the lease at 5 Industrial Way, plus the new mortgage payments for 2 Keewaydin Drive). Also, building ownership carries with it auxiliary costs such as snow removal, landscaping, etc. We can't yet know exactly what all these expenses will be; but we're confident that if we reach or exceed the NEXT goal we'll be in an excellent financial position to do our very best ministry over the next several years.

in Drive have clearly been God-ordained.



What happened to our dream of building a new ministry center from scratch?

Years ago, we had a vision of building a “ground up” facility on our land at 15 E. Broadway. We were excited about that. However, in the ensuing time construction costs have increased substantially, so such an approach would result in a facility with a market value much less than our construction costs. Also, over the years we observed a lot of congregations nationwide purchasing or leasing existing structures and creatively transforming them into excellent church facilities. We’ve all had to adjust our thinking. We don’t believe the land purchase was a foolish decision, especially since we didn’t lose any money on that purchase and sale. And we believe that the timing and suitability of 2 Keewayd

Why do we need another campaign in order to complete this relocation project?

In the early stages of our facility search, we thought in terms of an interior square footage range of 15,000 to 18,000. (Our current space is about 10,000.) Then early this year, 2 Keewaydin Drive came to our attention. We liked almost everything about it, but we were challenged by its size (over 22,000 square feet). It’s a financial stretch for us. It seems just like God to show us such an appropriate facility, but also to challenge us by not making it a “slam dunk”! There are other substantial expenses – “costs of ownership” – involved in this purchase. These include town permitting fees, inspections and appraisals, costs of additional furniture and equipment, etc. However, we’re encouraged by the fact that on a foot-by-foot basis (\$86 per square foot plus renovation costs), it’s quite economical and in the long term will prove to be an expression of responsible stewardship.

Have we considered using other fund-raising events such as dinners, bake sales, yard sales, etc.?

No. The only fundraising method mentioned in Scripture is the faithful financial giving of God’s people. Our belief and experience is that this is enough. Of course, if you as an individual or household would like to hold such an event and give some or all of the proceeds to the NEXT Campaign, you’re welcome to do so. We simply ask that you not do this in the name of RCC.

What can I do now?

You can talk to the Lord about your participation in the campaign, and watch for His guidance. Spend time in meditation on His Word as you seek His wisdom. “Lord, what would you have my household give, how would you have me sacrifice, in order to advance the mission of your church?”



What about my regular giving to RCC?

Your commitment to the NEXT Campaign should be over and above your regular offerings. We must maintain our giving to the General Fund so that day-to-day church ministries can continue. Shifting our giving from the General Fund to the NEXT Campaign would prove nothing, and could jeopardize our ability to do ministry.

How should I give?

Here are some ways. First, you can make a commitment to make cash contributions during the three-year period described above. (We can give far more when it's spread out over time!) You may elect to give weekly, monthly, quarterly, yearly, or in any way that's most appropriate for you. Second, you can give non-cash assets. You may give real estate, stocks, bonds, coins, etc. Contact the church office with specific questions. Third, you can make the church a beneficiary in your estate. We can put you in touch with professionals in this area. Contact us for assistance.

Why is it important to make a three-year commitment? Can't I just give?

Of course you could. However, as responsible leaders who are charged with making wise plans for the church's future, we obviously find it extremely helpful to know what we can count on for income flow. The commitments that are submitted will be of great assistance to us as we prayerfully make those plans. Beyond this, we believe it's good for you spiritually to make such a commitment. Most of us make similar commitments in the marketplace on a regular basis. God is certainly worthy of the same!

How does the commitment process work?

Please use the NEXT commitment card that we'll be making available. This card will offer a variety of options, and you can custom-make the plan that works for you. On our "Commitment Sunday" (November 19), you'll have an opportunity to bring your completed card to the Lord in a setting of heartfelt worship.

When will we know the total amount of commitments made?

We'll announce and celebrate that result on Sunday morning, December 3.

When may I begin fulfilling my NEXT commitment?

Any time. On December 3 (Announcement Sunday) we especially encourage you to bring a "first fruits offering" – a substantial first step in fulfilling your personal campaign commitment. This might carry a 2017 income tax advantage for you, and will provide RCC with a needed infusion of funds for our immediate project-related expenses.

