As we have prayerfully considered what the Lord would have us to do in regard to having a greater kingdom impact, the current state and condition of our building has come up. We recognize that God has indeed blessed First Central with a wonderful facility that has served us well as we’ve endeavored to serve Him, but there are many aspects of our building that need improvements and updating which, if done, would allow us to expand our ability to offer greater kingdom impact ministries and programs.

Our goals for renovating are to enhance the worship experience at First Central by:

- Making the Sanctuary brighter
- Providing comfortable seating & ease of access for people
- Maximizing the use of the stage
- Upgrading our worship equipment
- Addressing safety concerns regarding the original building

The Elders at First Central

In 1995 we put a large addition on our building. Building loans were obtained to fund it. The Building Fund was created to pay off this loan. The mortgage was paid off mid-year of 2001. The Building Fund was changed to the Development Fund.

Over the years, many faithful people have donated to this fund for the future of First Central. Development fund available balance as of 9/20/17 is $569,603.

The following description of the development funds has been approved in past annual meetings and revised for this proposal.

“The Development Fund was created to ensure that we can meet the future facility and development needs of our growing congregation. It was previously used to raze the United Methodist Church and turn the property into additional parking, renovate our parking lot lighting, and upgrade our exterior cement steps. As we grow, we will continue to have new and varied facility needs. While the fund cannot be used for minor repairs or general maintenance, it can be used to renovate our building to make it more effective for ministry in the coming years.”

Criteria of Development Funds

The Elders at First Central

Schedule of meetings
10/22—Sunday- Presentation of Renovation at 12:15 PM (after 2nd service)
10/29—Sunday- Q & A at 6 PM
11/4—Saturday- Q & A at 9 AM
11/12—Sunday- VOTE at 12:15 PM

Anticipated Renovation Work will be done Spring/Summer 2018.

Preparing our facility for 21st century ministry!
History

1828—First Baptist Church was organized
1877—Sanctuary was built
1903—Celebration of 75 years as a church
1916—Stained Glass Windows were donated by church members
1938—Panels were installed on stage
1964—Christian Education wing was built. Stage was renovated. Pews & Hanging Lights from Congregational Church were acquired
1977—Balcony was built
1995—Gym and 3rd Floor classroom/kitchen was built
2008—Parking lot across the street was developed

Sanctuary (& related items)—$438,652
- Demolish & Rebuild the Stage
- New Baptistry & Stage Lighting
- New Chairs & Carpet
- Audio Visual Improvements
- Foyer updated to coordinate with sanctuary
- ADA Accessibility—Chair lift for Stage; Wider aisles
- New AC/Chiller Unit & HVAC Ductwork
- Lower Fellowship Hall (LFH)
  * New drop ceiling, lights, flooring & painting of room
  * Remodeling of Clothing Closet, Lord’s Pantry & Ministry Closet
- Remodel Lower Fellowship Hall Kitchen
  * New cabinets, granite counters, lights, flooring & appliances

General Ministry—$20,163
- Copy Room Renovation
- AV/TV: Conference Room, Gym, Youth & Ladies Classroom
- Elevator Sensor Upgrades
- Children’s Ministry Equipment

Safety & Building Department Required Items—$73,944
The following items have been RED flagged by the City of Chicopee Building Department and corrective action must be taken.

Smoke Detectors
- Install Sanctuary & Lower Fellowship Hall
- New Fire Panel Box for Building

Fire Rated/ADA Door Upgrades
- Replace door between the Sanctuary & Christian Education Building
- Replace door between LFH & Christian Education Building

Electrical Upgrade
- LFH Kitchen & Attic

Structural
- Reinforce Cellar Beam supports

Potential Cost Overruns (10%)—$53,276

Total Renovation Cost—$586,035

Q & A Sessions

Building Project Plan
Please submit questions to Dave Guilbert prior to the Q & A meetings.

Questions for the Elders
(Motivation & Purpose of project), please contact Doug McVeigh.

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