



# A Legacy for the Future

Our Education & Administration Building is the place where faith takes flight. Opened in 2007, it replaced the older Education buildings on the Grace Campus that had been devastated by the hurricanes of 2004. This larger space has allowed us to expand our mission of “Building Bridges Between Grace and the Community.”

Each week, the E&A is filled with the sights and sounds of God’s grace in action: the joyful education of preschoolers; our youth finding their way to Christ; Sunday School participants of all ages exploring and strengthening their faith; outreach ministries like Family Promise, Scouting, Special Gathering and the Home School Co-op changing lives. The E&A makes these blessings, and many more, possible.

Now our dream of creating a debt-free church is finally in sight, as the E&A Building loan has dropped below \$2 million. We’re launching this 2019 “Create a Legacy Campaign” with the goal of raising \$700,000 over the next three years. Through prayer and the commitment of the entire congregation, we know we can be successful because our Grace family has done it before. In 2015, at the time of the last capital campaign, the outstanding loans were \$3.4 million. The progress toward that debt-free future is real thanks to the legacies of the past.

## Creating a Legacy: Our Church Family’s Next Steps

- First, commit to pray for Grace, for its missions and ministries and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as you consider your response to this call to give above and beyond your regular stewardship pledges and tithes. We are asking for this additional Legacy pledge that will be dedicated to paying off the loan.
- Next we say thank you for giving your financial gifts, time and talents to make the life-changing ministries and missions of Grace possible. Generous, sacrificial giving over our nearly 60-year history has enabled our church to meet the needs of people in our congregation and community.
- This campaign is a call for sacrificial giving, and every gift is valued, no matter the size. The amount of a “significant” gift will vary according to people’s individual financial situation. With everyone participating in this campaign and committing to a significant gift beyond their annual giving, we will Create a Legacy for the future generations of Grace UMC.
- Turn in your pledge card by Sunday, April 14, 2019: Commitment Sunday with one service at 10 a.m. featuring Gospel music recording artists Triumphant Quartet.
- Review the frequently asked questions on the back and reach out if you have additional questions: [GraceLegacyCampaign@gmail.com](mailto:GraceLegacyCampaign@gmail.com) or call campaign chair Gary Beatovich at 321-454-4810.

*"As a pastor of Grace, I have heard many stories of how God has transformed lives as a result of the connection with this church. This church family knows that we experience the love of God through Christian community in a specific place and time. Every person who has vowed to support the church through prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness can live out those vows by supporting the Create a Legacy campaign. After we receive the love and grace of God, we are called to pass it on, thereby creating a legacy!" – Pastor Steve Hart*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**What are the key Campaign dates?** – Kicked off in March 2019, we ask for Commitment Cards to be submitted by Sunday, April 14, 2019. On that Palm Sunday, we will gather for one combined worship service at 10 a.m., featuring Gospel Music recording artists Triumphant Quartet followed by a BBQ hosted by Grace Boy Scout Troop 369.

**Why do we need a Create a Legacy Campaign?** - Monthly payments on the loan on the E&A building are \$13,968 in principal and interest, \$167,616 a year. This is a significant drain on the annual budget of the church, impacting our ability to grow ministries and missions, pay our staff, maintain our facilities, and fully participate in apportionments. A successful Create a Legacy Campaign will reduce our annual loan expenses and reduce our exposure to the risk of higher interest rates. If we reach our \$700,000 campaign goal, combined with the ongoing monthly mortgage payments over the life of the three-year campaign, projections indicate the E&A building loan would drop below \$1 million.

**How are my commitments to be made?** - You may make a one-time gift or give in installments on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. We ask that commitments start being paid no later than May 31, 2019 with the full amount pledged given by March 10, 2022. You can make your contributions in any number of ways: automatic electronic giving; check; appreciated assets (stock, bonds, real estate); life insurance; or a variety of other mechanisms.

**Can I make a completely confidential gift to the Legacy Campaign?** - All gifts will be held in the strictest confidence. Only the Financial Secretary and the Campaign Chair will know what gifts are submitted, and only then to track completion of commitments. However, for absolute confidentiality of your gift, campaign donations can be made directly to the Florida United Methodist Foundation. The process for doing this is available upon request.

**Can I donate real estate, collectibles, stocks, jewelry or other similar items?** - Yes. All items that are appropriate in a church environment are acceptable contributions.

**Can I make a contribution to name an E&A room in honor of someone?** - Yes. There are a variety of ways to recognize people through your gifts with recognition levels explained on the back of the commitment card. The Campaign Chair will contact you to answer your questions.

**Will we get confirmation of our commitments?** - You will receive a confirmation letter of your commitment as well as a confirmation of your payments shown in the Legacy Campaign section of your annual confidential giving statement.

**What if my financial situation changes after I make my commitment?** - Your commitment may be adjusted with a confidential phone call to the church financial secretary, Pat Sanders.

**What if I feel that I'm already at my limit? I already give to the church budget.** - The Create a Legacy Campaign encourages sacrificial giving above and beyond regular stewardship pledges and tithes to Grace. All gifts are welcome. You can break it down to a weekly or monthly amount that fits your budget. Each family and person is asked to give to the best of their ability, led by the Holy Spirit.