



NEWSLETTER FOUR

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An Update from Our Campaign Chairs

When we officially launched our Building Together Campaign back in September we were excited, but nervous. Okay, maybe even a bit terrified. Raising \$500,000 seemed like a Herculean task, but we had this wild hope and dream that we would draw together as a community and continue the tradition of Urban Grace being a people of sacrificial generosity.

Eight months later we are amazed by God's faithfulness. You all surpassed our wildest expectations. **We are pleased to announce that we reached our Pinnacle Goal through pledges totaling \$508,623!** Additionally, through the hard work of our tireless staff, Jen and Ben have secured matching grants for an additional \$280,000 with the possibility of more on the way.

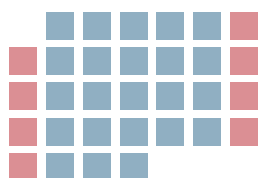
What brings even more joy to our hearts is how many people took part in this campaign. Sixty-three families made three-year pledges, another twenty-three families gave one-time gifts, and many more donated countless days and nights making this campaign a reality.

We can't speak for everyone, but through this campaign we have felt an even deeper connection to the people of Urban Grace. We still have a lot of work ahead, but our fear is gone knowing the depth of our love for one another.

Thank you for your prayers and support,
Willie and George



HAPPENING NOW: Project Planning & Grant Writing



JUNE 17, 2018: Congregational Meeting

UPCOMING
CAMPAIGN
EVENTS

LATE SUMMER: Projects Begin

A Letter from Our Pastor

Friends,

What a winter it has been. We wrapped up our Building Together Capital Campaign in late January with the incredibly generous response of over \$500,000 pledged from the congregation and a few friends. This was almost twice what our initial projections predicted, and a tribute to the commitment of our congregation.

Your generosity means that we will be able to meet the full match from the Partners for Sacred Places grant, which will provide an additional \$250,000 to our campaign. This puts the church in a position of strength to seek funding from foundations that want to support the many ways we use our building to serve the community. We have only just begun to seek the support of local foundations, but our initial efforts have been very encouraging. We have already received \$30,000 from one local foundation, and two other foundations have invited us to apply for a combined \$100,000 grant. (Being “invited to apply” for a specific amount of funding generally means that the foundations hope to give us that amount unless they find something in the grant application that is not in line with their expectations). This grant will be set up as a matching grant to help us find even more support among other local foundations.

This is fantastic news and a testament to the good work y’all began not only in your generous giving, but also in the stewardship of our historic building. Practically speaking, this means that we have the opportunity to accomplish even more needed work in our building; this also means a lot of work for our staff and volunteers. In response to this opportunity the Urban Grace leadership has hired Sue Brown as a Project Coordinator for Building Together Capital Campaign projects. Sue is a on the Board of Trustees at Urban Grace and spent her career managing a facility. She will be working with the staff and volunteers to coordinate the innumerable details and plans that will be necessary for a project as large and complex as ours. Personally, I am thrilled to have Sue on board, both for the ways she will assure that our projects will be well planned, and for how her leadership will help me pour my energies into the needs of our growing congregation.

We at Urban Grace are so grateful for all your support, energy, and contributions to the work we are in doing with our congregation and community. Though we have wrapped up the “active phase” of the Building Together Capital Campaign in the congregation, there is still much work to do. Sue will be overseeing the Planning and Projects Team that will provide opportunities for any of you to help out with practical planning aspects of our projects. If you have gifts to give, we would love your help. I am truly filled with gratitude as I think of you all. Thank you for all your support during this exciting time in the life of our church.

- Ben Robinson

“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

1 Cor. 12: 12, 27



Introducing our Capital Projects Staff

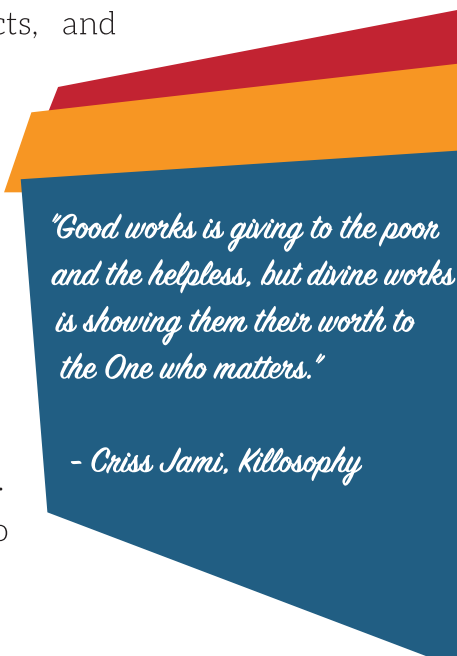
I am very excited and grateful to have the opportunity to be the project coordinator for capital projects. Ben, Jen and Justan have done a terrific job getting things rolling, but are not able to do all the work on their own. As a result, I have joined the Urban Grace staff to assure progress on the projects funded through the Building Together campaign.

We are still in the process of getting all of our grants in place. In the meantime, we will move forward with entertaining more bids, entering into contracts, and scheduling all the work. Over the next few months you will see the beginning of some actual project work, which should be in motion late this summer.

We already have a contractor in place to do the repointing roof masonry work, which is very necessary but will only be partially visible to us. On the other hand, some of the exciting things to look forward to that will be more visible and tangible include bathroom remodels, kitchen upgrades, and a remodeling of the lower temple. There is so much to do, but we are so very excited and thankful to be able to do it!

I am creating a Project and Planning Team that will determine recommendations on the details of specific projects, review contracts, plan for construction, and research items that fit the historic character of the church, such as bathroom sinks and lighting fixtures. If you have specific talents in any of these areas and would like to be part of the team, please contact me at sue@urbangracetacoma.org. For those of you that have already contacted me, thank you!

- Sue Brown



"Good works is giving to the poor and the helpless, but divine works is showing them their worth to the One who matters."

- Criss Jami, *Killosophy*

Stay tuned for monthly progress announcements coming soon!

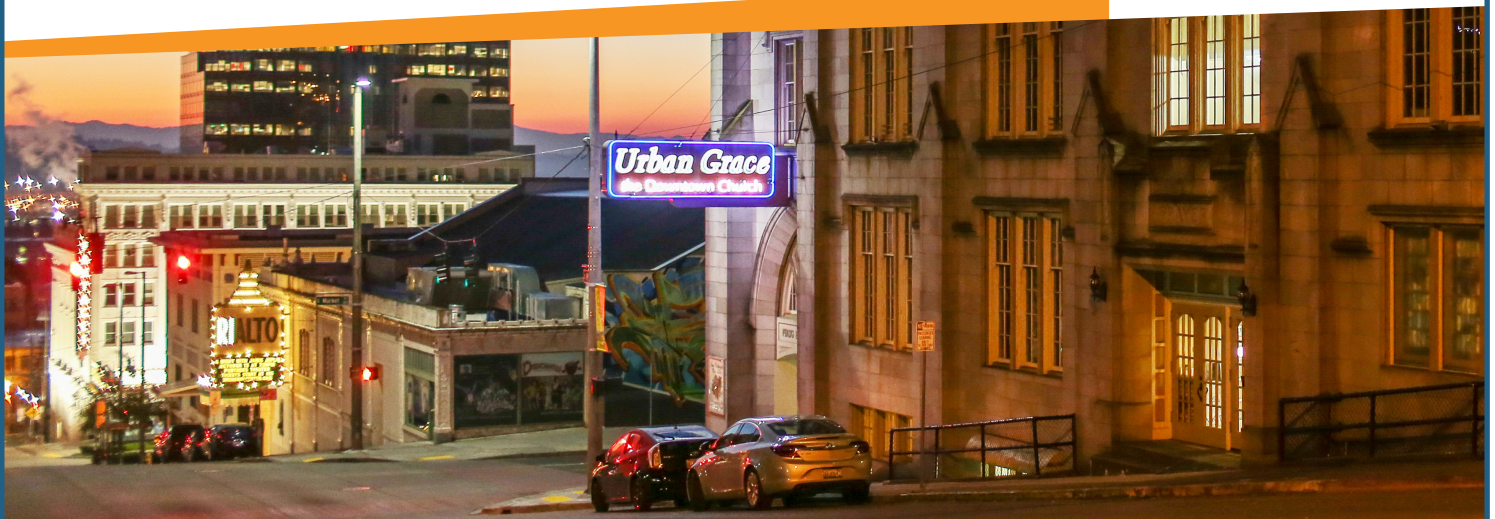
Giving Update & Invitation

We are so grateful for the generosity of our congregation and the friends of Urban Grace throughout our Building Together Capital Campaign. You all pledged more than we had anticipated (or dreamed!) and we are now able to plan for facility projects that seemed out of reach a few months ago. Thank you for believing in what we are doing here at Urban Grace and committing to the longevity of this place!

Thank you also to those that have already fulfilled their entire pledge or have begun your monthly donations toward the capital campaign. These early gifts make it possible for us to move forward on some projects while we wait for our financing to be secured. We will be sending out regular donation updates throughout the three years of the campaign to make sure our records match yours and you know where you're at with your pledge.

If you have not begun your pledged giving yet, please do so as soon as possible or let us know when your giving will begin if you haven't already. If you'd like to sign up for electronic monthly giving either through your credit card or direct withdrawal from your bank account, please contact Jennifer Dean at jdean@urbangracetacoma.org or 253.272.2184 x1 to get that started.

Also, if you're new to the church or just weren't quite ready to make a commitment in December, the opportunity to become a Building Together donor is ongoing! There are informational booklets and pledge cards at the welcome table at the back of the sanctuary (or we can mail one to you), so feel free to fill one out and put it in the offering plate any Sunday. Ask anyone that has already committed—being a part of the Building Together Capital Campaign has deepened their relationship with Urban Grace and those that call this church home. Join us!



URBAN GRACE CHURCH

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