



Dear First Church Friends,

March 19, 2018

The Executive Committee of the Vision Fund (Capital Campaign) has been working diligently over the last several months and we want to update you on our work.

In January our consultant, Dr. Jay Terbush completed a Feasibility Study by interviewing 40+ individuals/couples who are members or friends of the church, in order to recommend an attainable campaign goal and prioritize our projects. The Feasibility Study results were shared with the Executive Committee of the church in February and a summary of the results will be posted in the church office.

We have carefully considered Dr. Terbush's recommendations and have set the Vision Fund goal at \$550,000 with a stretch goal of \$600,000. The project list has been updated and is on the back of this letter. We are excited that we will be able to accomplish all our goals, with the exception of the outside work on the trim and the windows. That project can be done in two stages and we are exploring options for a grant to support that project.

Later this spring, we will be asking members and friends to make a pledge to the Vision Fund, payable over a three year period. Any pledge to the Vision Fund should be in addition to your annual pledge to support the church operating budget.

On April 29, 2018 we will kick off the Vision Fund with a big party and everyone is invited! It will be held in the Crystal Ballroom at the Elks Club immediately after worship. More details will be sent later, but save the date for this family friendly and not to be missed event!

If you have received this letter and no longer feel connected to First Church, you may contact the Church Office to update your status by emailing [firstchurchucc@sbcglobal.com](mailto:firstchurchucc@sbcglobal.com) or calling (860)346-6657. If you haven't attended First Church lately, we hope you will come back and experience what we are all about during our 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary year!

Sincerely,

Jim Miller and Heidi Foster-Cho  
Vision Fund Campaign Co-Chairs

First Church of Christ • 190 Court Street • Middletown, CT 06457



## Honoring our Past Shaping our Future

To support our vision, we plan to raise funds starting 2018 in the following areas:

Estimated Cost	Project Description
\$90,000	<b>Revitalize Youth programming:</b> We have made a commitment to invest in the children and families by hiring staff to support and revitalize our youth programming.
\$167,500	<b>Accessibility for all:</b> Renovate existing elevator and other improvements to make our church building more welcoming and accommodating.
\$135,000	<b>Arts and Worship:</b> Changes to the sanctuary to allow more flexibility in use. 50-year maintenance on our pipe organ. Updating carpeting.
\$57,500	<b>Windows and Trim:</b> Begin repainting our exterior woodwork and updating the protective covers of our stained-glass windows.
\$55,000	<b>Outreach:</b> Extend our Vision of nourishing the community, growing our idea of church, and engaging youth, to the wider community.
\$45,000	<b>Making it happen:</b> Events, consultants, marketing materials, administrative costs.
\$550,000	<b>Total all costs</b>

With this re-prioritization, the Campaign Committee is recommending a fundraising goal of \$550,000 with a stretch goal of \$600,000.

### Key Changes:

- **Exterior maintenance project will be reduced.** It will be phased in and partially completed depending on final funds raised. Achieving our stretch goal and obtaining grant funds could result in all projects being completed.