FORWARD CHURCH

Renovation & Financing FAQ

Why are we renovating the building?
A number of factors led to this decision. The most important is our mission to make disciples of Jesus, and our responsibility to be good stewards of the building entrusted to us for that mission.

Our building is at an age where it needs work to maintain the facility. Other problems — like water leaking through the skylight in the foyer and the courtyard in the back — have made additional construction necessary.

As part of the process, we've also looked at how these renovations could help us minister more effectively, creating more welcoming spaces and safer spaces for children.

Why are we doing the work now?
We've been working on this project since 2022. We're at the point where many of the building's challenges are now affecting ministries, and it's time to give the building a reset so we can focus more on the mission. The current market also means we may secure trades at a lower rate than in recent years.

How are we paying for this?
Last year, the church membership voted to sell up to four acres of our back property to fund the renovations. But the timing of the land sale won't line up with the timing of construction.

The membership has approved a $4 million bridge loan from Church of Christ Development Company to cover part of the costs. We need an additional $1.8 million to cover the remaining construction and renovation costs in 2027 and 2028.

We're asking people from Forward Church to contribute loans toward that $1.8 million. Any remaining costs can be delayed until after the land sale.

What is a Promissory Note?
A Promissory Note is a written, legally binding document where one party (the borrower) promises to repay a specific sum of money to another (the lender) under agreed terms. It acts as a formal "IOU," establishing the loan amount, interest rate, and repayment schedule.

Why are you asking for a loan pledge?
We don't need the funds until construction bills start arriving in 2027. Waiting to receive money until closer to when it's needed saves the church interest payments.

The pledge helps us plan for the 2027 construction work with confidence that the funds will be there.

What happens after I pledge?
In the coming months, we'll follow up with a detailed, legally binding Promissory Note for you to sign.

Can I donate instead of loaning money?
Yes! We'd gladly receive a donation instead of a loan. We're asking for loans because it opens the door for more people to participate, and because the membership voted to sell the back land to help pay for the project.

You can donate by making a cheque payable to Forward Church noted for the Facility Fund, or by donating online and selecting Facility Fund.