

Pursuing His Glory
Capital Campaign Case Statement
Draper's Valley Presbyterian Church
March 2017

Our History: 185 years of Faithfulness

Nestled amidst the rolling green hills of Southwest Virginia, Draper's Valley Presbyterian Church has been a continuing witness to the glory of God and the gospel for almost two centuries. It began as a dream in the hearts of a group of Presbyterian settlers who in 1832 gathered to form the original congregation. They had a vision of a permanent place to worship the Lord and to serve as a beacon of God's grace and the good news of our Savior's person and work. Their vision took shape in 1840 as hands were put to shovels and hammers and course after course of brick was laid and became a reality when the doors of the church swung wide for its first worship service. From that moment on, Draper's Valley Presbyterian Church has been, by the grace of God, a place where men, women and children have been raised and nurtured in their faith by gathering for prayer, the study of Scripture, and fellowship.

Over the many years since our founding, our church grew as people were raised in the church and new families joined this body of Christ. Many new faces have come and gone over the years, and yet DVPC has steadily grown with more and more people coming to join us in our pursuit of the Glory of God.

Like the congregation, the building has not remained static either. Changing circumstances gave rise to particular needs and these needs were met with various building additions and changes with features such as a steeple, padded pews, classrooms, a fellowship hall and kitchen, as well as things we take for granted like electricity, heat and air conditioning. In recent years, by the goodness of our Lord and one generous donation made in 2009, we have been able to undertake several major projects. The repointing of the sanctuary brick, adding an exterior ramp, a new roof, paving, etc. have helped to protect our building, maintain it and make it accessible.

Throughout the years and the various developments in both the congregation and the building, DVPC has, by God's grace, remained constant and steadfast in its witness to the glory of God and the glory of the Gospel in the Valley and beyond. Now we have the need to raise a substantial amount of money not only to renovate and restore but also to expand our facilities, as has been done many times in the past.

Our Need: Renovation, Restoration and Expansion

Worship in the Sanctuary: As our highest purpose is worship, we want this space to enable us in every way to be the people of God before the face of God. A desire to upgrade our pews, carpet, paint, etc., led the Deacons to seek advice about the cracks in the west wall. Engineering studies indicate that indeed, something major needs to be done to not only maintain our historic structure but also to protect worshipers, now and for generations to come. For many years, our entire congregation has not been able to fit in the present structure. We also have a need for an interior ramp to facilitate access to the rest of the building for those using wheelchairs, wheeled walkers and canes who find stairs impossible or difficult. We should replace exposed wiring, widen our side aisles, remedy fire code violations, add accessible restrooms, and we would like to increase seating capacity.

Congregational Growth: We continue to attract people from the area and beyond as we maintain our adherence to the Scriptures, preaching and teaching the Word of God and desiring to grow in grace as we minister to each other and the world in which we live. As people are drawn to our Gospel-centered, Word-focused worship and family-oriented life together, we need to continue to provide a facility that will not only serve us but also future generations. The structures provided for us by those who were part of DVPC in the past are worn, tired and underutilized. Renovating existing rooms and re-purposing some of them are needed to best utilize our spaces for the ministries of the church.

Educational ministries: A survey of our educational spaces shows that with a complete overhaul of existing classrooms and the addition of movable dividers in the Fellowship Hall we can more than meet our current education space needs. Access between classrooms and the Fellowship Hall is difficult.

Other areas: The kitchen, parking areas, play areas, signage, & HVAC systems all need attention.

Our Plan: Phased Renewal and Growth for our 200th Anniversary and Beyond

PHASE 1 – To address the failing the west wall we will remove some of it, add a beam to support the roof and create an opening to a sanctuary addition with seating to accommodate a minimum of 236 people. Our current average morning worship attendance is 180 and often reaches 200. Using the “80% feels full” rule, this configuration would meet our current needs and provide room for some growth. Additionally, there would be space to add more chairs for additional seating as needed.

This addition would also enable us to address other issues such as adding a ramp to access the annex, wider aisles, space for wheelchairs and walkers, and would direct all movement towards bathrooms and entrances to the rear to minimize distractions. We want our worship to be wonderful and holy, as God-centered and distraction-free as possible, so that God receives all the attention and all the glory.

The addition design will maintain and even high-light the current historical nature of the sanctuary. Similar interior design to our existing building will be employed. Similar brick and trim on the exterior will blend with existing construction, windows to match the current, etc. The addition’s roof height will be below the current peak and steeple to accent the original structure. The design would incorporate the best of our existing building, preserving its historical look, matching the new structure to the old, while also using modern heating, lighting and sound to enhance our worship. Estimated cost: \$683,000

PHASE 2 – Remodel existing sanctuary and annex area. Build ramp, paint, etc. Install two handicapped accessible bathrooms for multiple users. The current two single-use bathrooms (up and down the stairs near the sanctuary) will also be renovated. Estimated cost: \$145,175

PHASE 3 - Renovate all existing Sunday School rooms as needed. This would possibly include: paint, carpet, furniture, bulletin boards, whiteboards, etc. Additionally, the kitchen and choir room would be upgraded and renovated as needed. Partitions would enable multiple classrooms in the Fellowship Hall. Estimated cost: \$78,900

PHASE 4 - Parking area improvements, signage, play areas, upgrading older HVAC systems, wiring and lighting. Estimated cost: \$51,400

Adding construction contingencies, architectural & engineering and other fees, etc., the total estimated cost of all 4 phases is approximately \$1,200,000. You have already given approximately \$100,000 indicating a desire to move ahead. That leaves \$1,100,000 to raise. We will ask you for pledges to be fulfilled over 3 years. At the end of the Capital Campaign in June, 2017 we will reassess where we are and bring this to the congregation’s attention. We will then vote on which phases we will be able to undertake. We hope that we will be able to do all 4 phases.

Our Commitment: Pursuing the Glory of God

This focus on our places to worship, learn and serve the Lord may seem to be earthly, and non-spiritual. But we have these spaces as a gift from God, bequeathed to us by our brothers and sisters. As the Lord repeatedly reminds us, all that we have comes from him and is to be used for his service. Now, perhaps for the only time in your life, you will have the opportunity to ask God how he would use the financial resources that he has given you to extend his kingdom work, not only for yourself, but for future generations who will be part of the ongoing worship and work of Draper’s Valley Presbyterian Church.

This call moves us beyond ourselves, what we might want or think we need, to depend on the Lord as we engage people with the Gospel in a loving community. We urge you to pray, *“Lord, what would you do through me to accomplish your vision for our church? Help me discern a sacrifice for our capital campaign that is meaningful and joyful.”* We do not seek equal gifts from families, but equal sacrifices. We believe God is calling us as a church to be active in making disciples of Christ in our community as we worship, grow, and serve together in Him. Surely, He will provide the means for those ministries through His people.

It was the diligence, faithfulness and sacrifice of those who have gone before us that built and repeatedly expanded the facilities which were cared for and given to us for our use. It is our duty and joy to now be able to sacrificially provide for ourselves and future generations, so that they too might continue the rich heritage of Christian faithfulness that is characteristic of Draper’s Valley Presbyterian Church, all to the Glory of God.