

ROOTED FOR LIFE

Information Packet



ROOTED FOR LIFE COMMITMENT

I (We) want to be a part of building the ECC Worship Center

1. One Time Gift:

\$ _____

☐ Make check to "Edinboro Community Church"

☐ I Gave online to "Rooted for Life Campaign"

2. Commitment - the next 9 months:

\$ _____ a week for 39 weeks

\$ _____ a month for 9 months

\$ _____ in this way _____

3.Total gift (one time gift + commitment):

\$ _____

Name

Date

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Edinboro Community Church Quiz

Make your guess, then share your answers

1. The number of babies born at Edinboro Community Church in the last 5 years:

___ Over 100 ___ 12 ___ Way too many, what is going on?

2. The number of times Pastor Brad has worn a coat & tie to a Sunday morning service in the past 5 years:

___ 0 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___ 14

3. How many visitors have attended ECC in the last 5 years?

___ About 200 ___ About 500
___ About 1,000 ___ Between 1500 to 2,000

4. Number of Goldfish crackers served monthly at Edinboro Community Church:

___ About 200 ___ About 3,000,000
___ About 20 ___ Not enough

5. Approximately what percentage of Sunday morning attendees are involved in Community Groups or Discipleship Groups?

___ 10% ___ 80%
___ 30% ___ 100%

6. How many other churches are part of our network in Northwest PA?

___ 1 church ___ 3 churches
___ 2 churches ___ I wasn't here that week

7. The number of announcements each week at Edinboro Community Church.

- ☐ Too many to count.
☐ I don't know, I'm usually still pondering the sermon.
☐ Who listens to announcements anyway?

8. What was our first community outreach?

- ☐ Boro with the Works ☐ Highland Games
☐ Trick-or-Treat ☐ EUP Homecoming
☐ Wainer Park Trail Building

9. The number of chairs that have been set up at ECC this past year?

- ☐ I lost count ☐ Not nearly enough

10. How many times have we had a worship service in a gym under 50 degrees?

- ☐ 1 ☐ 3 ☐ 5 ☐ Don't remind me!

11. How many missionaries (stateside and global) does ECC help support each year?

- ☐ 3,521 ☐ 1000 ☐ 2,400 ☐ Over 6,000

12. How old is Kevin Hultberg?

- ☐ 25 ☐ 35 ☐ 46 ☐ 57

OUR GOD-DEPENDENT PHASES

Where We've Been



Start Edinboro Community Church



Establish an Office Space in Edinboro



Save for & Purchase Future Property



Sell Extra Property

Where We're Going



Phase 1 – Create Office Space on Our Property

When God Provides \$400,000 | See p. 8 for details



Phase 2 – Create a Worship Center on Our Property

When God Provides \$200,000 | See p. 9 for details



Phase 3 – Finalize the Building on Our Property

When God Provides \$1,000,000 | See p. 10 for details

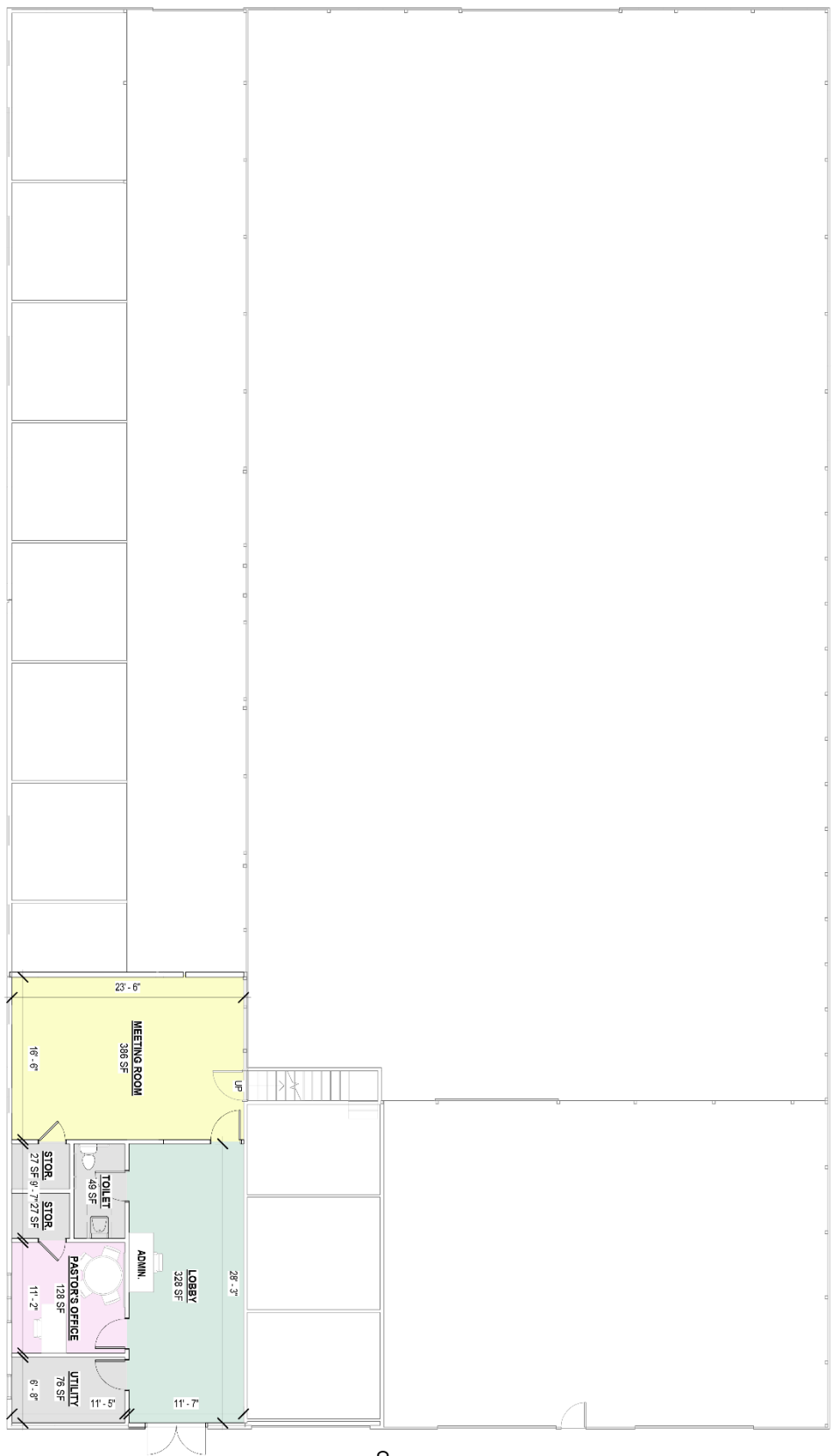


Create a Permanent Outdoor Worship Space

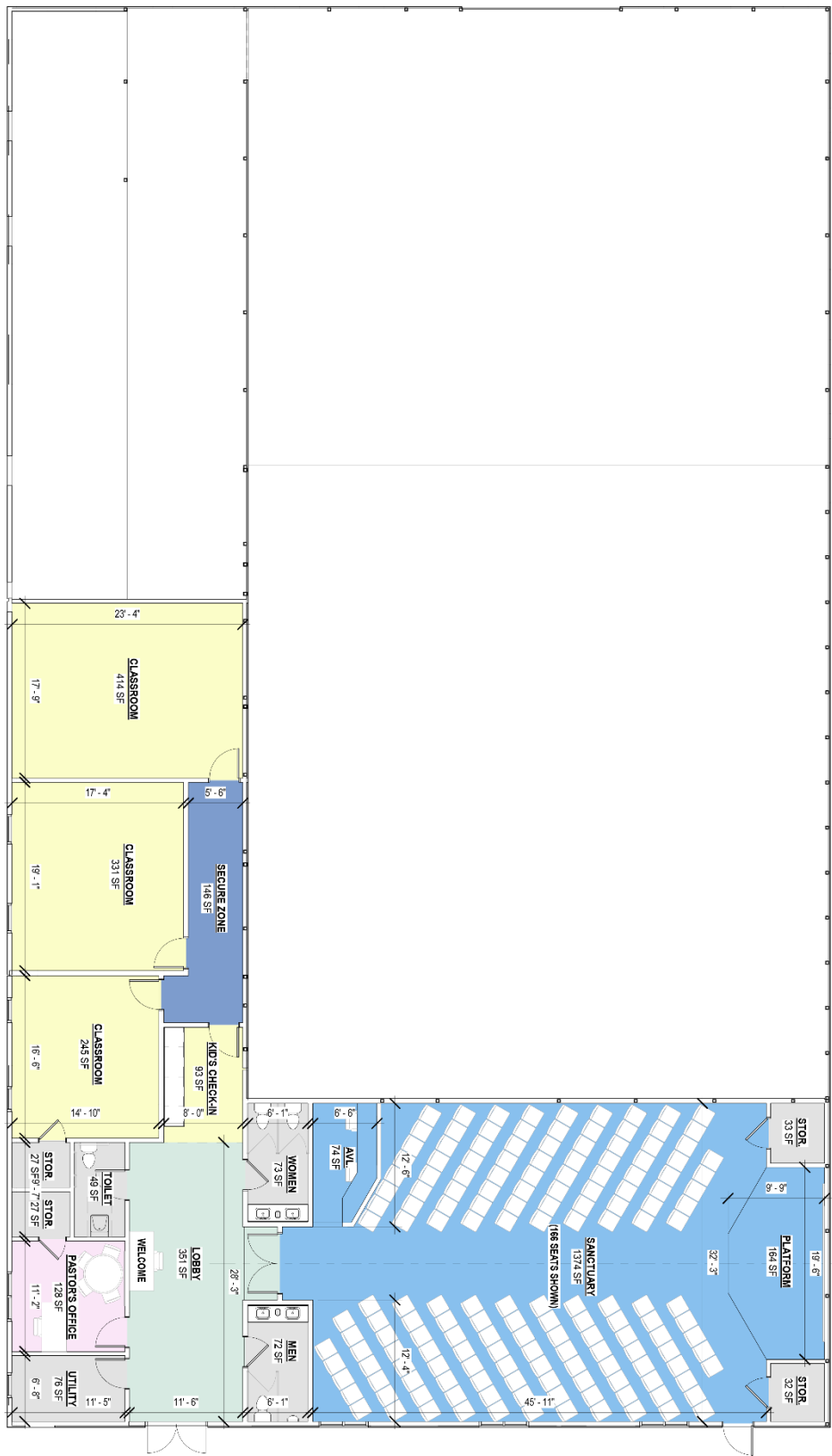
When God Provides

Phase 1 Detail

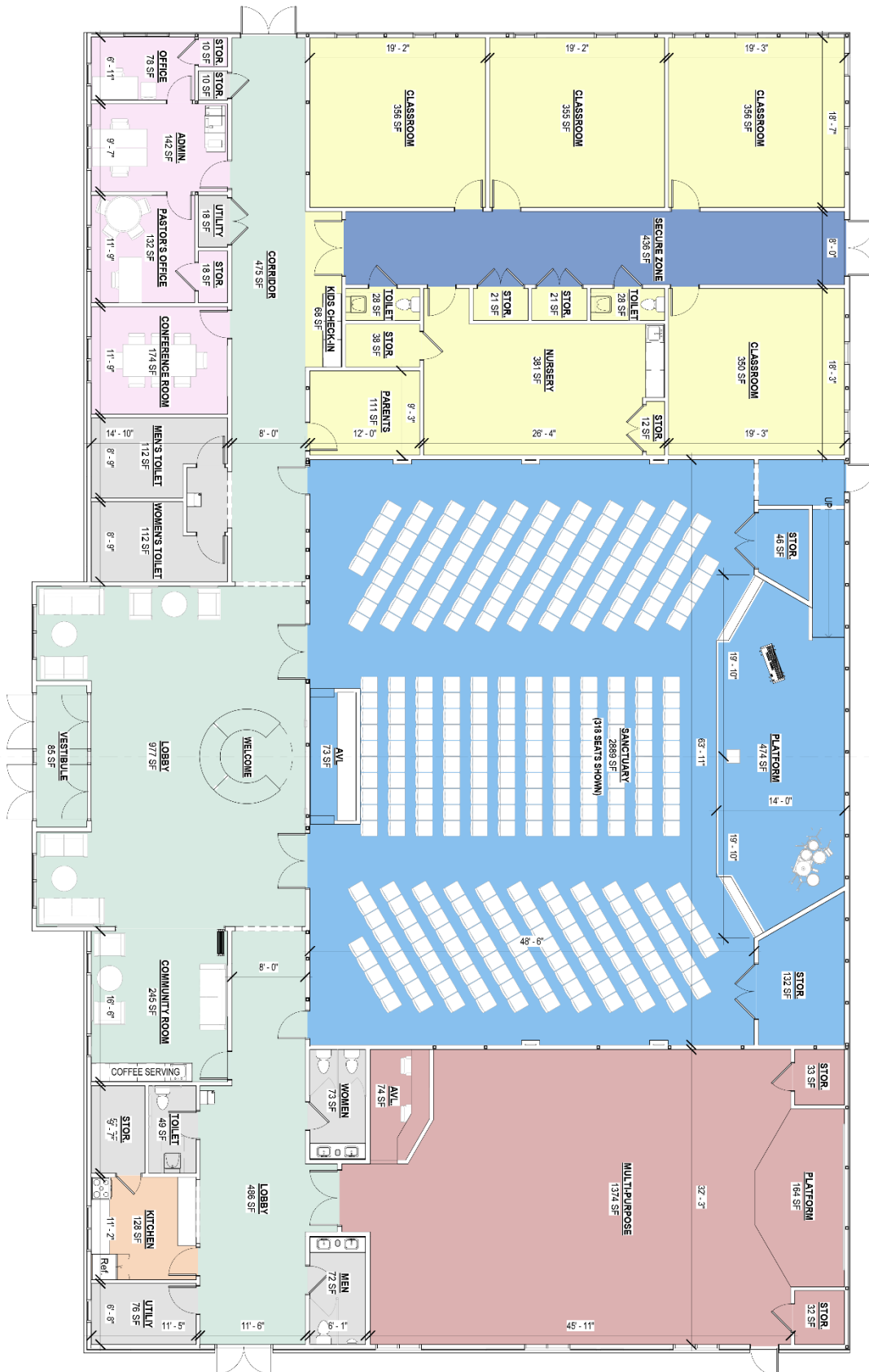
1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN - PHASE 1
1/8" = 1'-0"



Phase 2 Detail



Phase 3 Detail



ROOTED FOR LIFE OFFERING DAY

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

The Rooted for Life offering we give on November 19th will be both a one-time gift offering and a commitment to give over a 9 month period.

Essentials To Reach Our God-Dependent Goals

1. We must place our faith in the God who does miracles!

Jesus said, "If you ask me anything in My name you will receive and your joy will be complete."

John 16:24

2. We must involve EVERY FAMILY in our church!

It will take all of us working, praying, and committing together. The challenge is too great for only a few to carry.

3. We must each be WILLING TO SACRIFICE.

Nothing great is ever done without sacrifice. Your church needs your commitments now, like never before. This is an opportunity to honor Christ with our sacrifices .

4. We must BE CREATIVE in finding ways that each of us can give more than we initially think possible.

Read Ephesians 3:20-21 and talk with a friend or family member about what God could do that is beyond what we think.

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

WHAT WE WON'T DO IN THIS CAMPAIGN

1. We will not pressure anyone to give.

"Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:7

2. We will not sell junk, participate in fundraising, or promise big givers seats in the new building.

King David – "I will not sacrifice an offering that costs me nothing."

1 Chronicles 21:26



WHAT WE WILL DO—WITHOUT APOLOGY

1. We will show how everyone can give *something*.

- It is a myth that some people can't give anything. (Mark 12:43)
- There are many ways to give - if one is *willing* to give.
- God will lead you individually, not based on others gifts.

2. We will ask people to sacrifice.

You cannot become like Christ without learning to sacrifice, and certainly the Body of Christ is worth sacrificing for.

3. We will be grateful to be participating in what God is doing in our church.

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."

2 Corinthians 9:11-12

MY GIVING POTENTIAL

Each of us can give far more than we think. One way to give more for this special offering is to increase your current giving by a certain percent. For example, by adding 10-30% to what we already give in our regular offerings to Rooted for Life over a 9-month period (December 2023-August 2024):

| Weekly Offering | Rooted for Life Increase (10%) | 9-Month Total |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| \$100 | \$10 | \$390 |
| \$50 | \$5 | \$195 |
| \$20 | \$2 | \$78 |

| Weekly Offering | Rooted for Life Increase (20%) | 9-Month Total |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| \$100 | \$20 | \$780 |
| \$50 | \$10 | \$390 |
| \$20 | \$4 | \$156 |

| Weekly Offering | Rooted for Life Increase (30%) | 9-Month Total |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| \$100 | \$30 | \$1,170 |
| \$50 | \$15 | \$585 |
| \$20 | \$6 | \$234 |

If you are considering giving ECC an asset:

1. The church cannot accept an asset with any debt attached.
2. The church cannot give you an appraisal. We can only acknowledge you gave it.
3. It is better to give an appreciating asset to the church instead of selling it yourself.
4. It is better to sell a depreciating asset yourself and give the cash to the church.
5. Please call Pastor Brad if you have any questions.

A GUIDE TO DISCERNING GOD'S WILL

In Deciding Your Giving Commitment

The most important decision you or your family will make during our ***Rooted for Life*** campaign will be the decision about your own giving commitment. This sheet gives suggestions on how to decide what your commitment will be.

As you begin praying about your commitment, keep in mind that our offerings are meant to be seen as ***"EQUAL SACRIFICE, NOT EQUAL GIFTS."*** Obviously, God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars. However, God does call us to make the same desire of commitment.

Remember, your ***Rooted for Life*** Commitment can include both ***a one-time gift AND a 9 month giving commitment***. Most of us can give far more than we initially think by giving it over a longer period. You will help your church most by making ***both*** gifts.

Each of has a choice to make:

1. I can give based on ***REASON.***

This means I look at what I have, figure out what is "reasonable," and commit that amount. It takes no faith to give by reason. **Reason simply asks, "What can I afford?"**

2. I can give based on ***REVELATION.***

This means I determine my gift by praying, *"Lord, what do you want to give through me?"* This requires faith. When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. **Revelation giving is asking, "How much am I willing to trust God?"**

Paul said of the Macedonians, *"They gave not only what they could afford, they gave even more than they could afford!"* (2 Corinthians 7:3)

SUGGESTED STEPS

For Determining God's Will

1. Begin by praying every day, "Lord, I **want** to give sacrificially. Now please show me **how** to give a gift that will stretch my faith." If you're married, pray together with your spouse.

2. Give yourself time! Don't rush your decision. You'll find that the longer you genuinely pray "Show me **how**," the more ways God will show you, and you'll be able to give more than the first amount that popped into your head.

3. **Plan a family conference** to discuss ways to give. Ask your family members to be thinking of ideas in advance. Be sure to involve your children, no matter how young they are. This is a great opportunity to teach giving and faith.

4. As a family, read the following Bible promises and instructions and make a list of what you learn:

***Prov. 3:9-10; Prov. 11:24-25; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2;
2 Cor. 8:1-12; 2 Cor. 9:6-12; Matthew 6:19-20.***

5. As a family, ask yourselves these questions aloud:

Regarding our one-time gift:

- *How much offering could we gather by November 19?*
- *Is there anything we could sell or convert to cash?*
- *Do we have any assets or tangible items we could give?*

Regarding our 9-month commitment:

- *Are there ways we could **decrease our expenses** in order to make a larger commitment?*
- *Are there ways we could **increase our income** in order to make a larger commitment?*

6. Decide as a family the total amount you'll give, hold hands and have a prayer of commitment similar to this:

"Father, this is a big step for us. We're asking you to strengthen our faith and help us grow spiritually through giving. We thank you for all you have given us. We know we wouldn't have anything if it weren't for you. We want to be cheerful givers. We're claiming the promises you've said in your Word that you'll take care of our needs if we trust you. Thank you for this opportunity to grow. Thank you for our church. Provide for us to reach our goal to build our future church and make us Rooted for Life. In Jesus' name, Amen!"



GOD'S WAY TO BUILD A HOUSE OF WORSHIP

1 Chronicles 29:1-22

The greatest amount ever raised in a single offering in history was the offering given to build the Temple in Jerusalem. God's people ***gave over \$400,000,000 in a single day*** to build a house of worship! At Edinboro Community Church, we are following the same pattern described in 1 Chronicles 29 for our own offering.

1. THE LEADER SET THE EXAMPLE IN GIVING.

First, God told King David to publicly announce the specific amount he'd sacrifice for the building fund.

"David said to the whole assembly...the task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man, but for the Lord God. I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, OVER AND ABOVE everything I have provided: 110 tons on gold and 260 tons of silver...Now, who else is willing to give to the Lord?"

(verses 1-5)

2. NEXT, THE LEADER OF EACH FAMILY GAVE SACRIFICIALLY

"Then the leaders of the families...gave willingly. They gave toward the work on the temple: gold...silver...bronze...iron...and any who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple. The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord."

(verses 6-9)

We've prepared instructions for every head of household to hold a ***family conference*** to decide what God wants them to give a **one-day** offering and **9-month** commitment.

3. THEY HELD A SERVICE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING.

"David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying... 'Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have only given you what comes from your hand... So they all praised the Lord...'"

"They ate and drank with great joy in the Lord's presence that day."

(vs.10-22)

We will have our Thanksgiving Service and Offering on

November 19, 2023.



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: Why does Edinboro Community Church not do fundraising? What is the difference between a "fundraising" campaign and a "giving" campaign?

ANSWER: A BIG difference! The purpose of a **"giving"** campaign is to challenge each of us to give out of our OWN resources, as God provides. In a **"fundraising"** campaign, you collect money from someone else by selling them a product or service. A *giving* campaign always results in personal spiritual growth – a *fundraising* campaign focuses on raising money. The **Rooted for Life** campaign was designed to (1) Stretch our *faith*, (2) Build our *hope* in God's promises, (3) Deepen our *love* for Christ & his church, and (4) Teach us **Christ-like generosity**. By learning to sacrifice personally for the cause of Christ you will grow toward spiritual maturity.

Q: "I am a single parent and almost no income, but I want to be a part of building our church. How can I give?"

ANSWER: First, let me thank you for your heart's **desire** to give. It reminds me of the widow Jesus honored for her faith in giving in Mark 12:41-44

"Jesus sat near the Temple Offering Box and watched the people put in their money. Many rich people gave large sums of money. Then a poor widow came and put in two copper pennies. Jesus said, I tell you the truth, this poor widow gave more than all those rich people together! They gave only what they did not need. This woman is very poor, but she gave all she had; she gave all she had to live on."

From this moving example of sacrifice, Jesus taught 3 important truths:

- Your **attitude** is more important than your **amount** in giving.
- It is **always possible** to give *something IF* we really trust God.
- God measures our faith by comparing what we've given with what we have left over after we've given.

This is what dependence in God is all about.

This is why it's important to remember in the Kingdom there is meant to be **"Equal sacrifice, not equal gifts."** As you pray about what a genuine "sacrifice" will mean to you, I urge you to read the Bible story of the **miracle** that happened when another single parent gave away what little she had (1 Kings 17:8-16). God took care of her the rest of her life. **And God is still doing miracles today in the lives of those who dare to trust him!**

There are many ways to give, if one is *willing* to give. Pray about giving what you can give as a one-time gift on **November 19th**, and then make a faith commitment to give an additional amount over **the next 9 months**. Then watch God fulfill his promise to meet your needs (Phil. 4:19).

Q: What kind of reactions should we expect from people?

Answer: We began this campaign knowing there would be **three different reactions**: **First**, there are those who are *already committed to giving*. They don't need this campaign. They are spiritually mature, they understand all the reasons why we must build, and they already give sacrificially whenever they are asked to. **Second**, there are those *who are not going to give no matter what we do*. They will come up with objections, excuses, and criticisms about giving to the **Rooted for Life Campaign**. *But the real issue is they simply don't want to give*. We're not doing this campaign for this group either. And we won't let the objections of a few rob the rest of us of the joy of giving. **Third**, there are those *who will want to give when they catch the vision* of what we're attempting and how giving will help them grow spiritually. These people are the main reason for this emphasis.

Q: Why did we not hire a fundraising consultant for this campaign?

Answer: Pastor Brad has met with several churches who have used fundraising consultants to learn from these churches' experiences and apply the lessons to our process. Pastor Brad and the Elder Team along with several people who have been praying for several months, have designed the campaign based on the biblical instructions God gave for raising money. A good example of God's instructions can be found in the building of the Temple in 1 Chronicles 29.

Q: How will the money we raise be used?

Answer: The building fund is kept separate from the general ministry funds. All **Rooted for Life** gifts will be used to pay the expenses of building facilities. It is important to remember that our **Rooted for Life** gifts are to be *in addition to our regular giving* for the on-going operation of the church. Otherwise, our day-to-day ministries would suffer.

Q: What about money that has been already given to our building fund?

Answer: It will be used for site preparation, storm water management, and the ordering of the new building.

Q: How soon will we be able to move into our new church building?

Answer: We are seeking to do this as soon as possible, and complete the project in phases that let's us be on the property soon. First will be offices and a small meeting area for classes and prayer. Then we will have a couple more rooms added for children and a worship center space. It all depends on God's provision.

Q: Will mission teams be helping us?

Answer: Yes, we are in contact with some churches requesting their help. We will also need men and women of this church to sacrificially give of their time and talents.

GOD'S PROMISES TO YOU

"A generous person will be enriched, and the one who gives a drink of water will receive water."

Prov.11:25 CSB

"The point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously."

2 Corinthians 9:6 CSB

"Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

Luke 6:38 LSB

"Good will come to the one who lends generously..."

Psalms 112:5 CSB

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."

Malachi 3:10 ESV

"...do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed."

1 Timothy 6:18-19 LSB

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 ESV

Please pray at each family meal...

- for God's wisdom and provision
- that God will show you what your part should be in giving to build our Worship Center.
- for every other family as they decide the sacrificial gift they will make.
- for a great miracle of generosity on **Commitment Day, November 19th.**

ROOTED FOR LIFE

