

## How can we accomplish this?

The Leadership Team hopes that by giving you the facts you can make an informed decision and prayerfully give with a joyful heart. Our goal is to raise the **approximately \$250,000 plus the cost of the at least one of the big windows which is \$67,000.** We have already raised **\$130,000** the other **\$120,000 plus the cost of the windows is what we need to raise.** We are actively seeking grants and partnerships to help pay for some of the project. We are seeking gifts from our neighbors and friends in the community. In order to ask for partnerships from these groups we have to be sure that our own congregation is committed to the vision of making our church the best it can be. The time has come for us to show our renewed commitment to this vision. We need to join in and commit ourselves to the upgrading and refurbishing of our building. It is important that we as a community of Christ vow to use our resources to the best of our abilities and to make our church a valuable partner with the community.

## Q. What is the Church asking from you?

The Church is asking you to pray and to consider the importance of this vision to the ministry of our church. Think about how exciting it will be seeing all of our fellow congregants be able to enjoy our beautiful Stain Glass Windows for generations to come, to better utilize the space on the main level and in time, for everyone to be able to join us in fellowship hall because we have made it assessable by elevator. Take some time to review the gift chart and the brochure you have been given. Remember this gift is an over and above gift. Think of ways to stretch your gift and remember this is a partnership that will last a life time not just the three years of the campaign. Come on Sunday, April 7, 2019 prepared to make your confidential 3 year commitment to

**Bridge Our Future Through Faith,  
Lift It Up.**

The team hopes that this booklet has been a help to you in making your decision to become a partner in the campaign.

**Thank you for being our BFF!**



187 Stockton Street PO Box 137  
Hightstown, New Jersey 08520  
609-448-0041

[www.hightstownmethodist.org](http://www.hightstownmethodist.org)

Jeremiah 29:11 " For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good....to give you a future and a hope



# Questions and Answers about the BFF- Lift It Up Campaign

## What does the project consist of?

At this time hopefully you have had a chance to look over the information you have been given. Now is the time to start to make an informed decision on what it is you are willing to give to this vision of First United. Here are some of the hard facts of the campaign. The estimated cost and the estimated time frame are still being determined but as of right now the cost for the main level is approximately \$250,000. The cost of the stained glass windows is \$67,000. This project will be done in at three stages.

**Stage one** Renovate the main level, remove existing bathroom on the main level and replace with 2 new bathrooms one of which will be ADA compliant along with doing restoration work to our beautiful stain glass windows.

**Stage two** Build an enclosed entryway at the parking lot door that would include steps to go to fellowship hall and to the 3rd floor and an elevator! This would also include the fix to the wall which has stabilized over the past few years but still is in need of being repaired.

**Stage three** Remodel the kitchen area.

## Why make these changes?

The last time the main level was renovated was during the 1970,s. At this time the one large room was partitioned into rooms

we now have. The sanctuary was renovated in the late 1980's and the rest of the building went through major renovations in the early 2000's it is now time to up update the main level!

## Why the stain glass windows?

It has come to our attention that the windows are beginning to buckle and this is causing the windows to put pressure on the vent windows therefore making them in operable. We need to preserve the windows which are a signature part of our building. Over the years they have been repaired now they need to be refurbished.

## Why remodel the main level?

Our main floor is in need of a face lift but more importantly we need handicap assessable bathrooms. This plan would add that bathroom plus give us another bathroom for all to use. Also one of the bathrooms will be an easy access to the Nursery which will help in the care of the children in the nursery. The remodel will change the entryway to the Carlton Room and have a direct hallway entrance to the nursery. The update of the hallway will help us to be more user friendly.

## Why put in an Elevator?

For many years we have struggled with people being able to get downstairs to Fellowship Hall. We have literally carried people down in chairs, had people make the trek in wheelchairs going backward down the outside steps. We have had people sit upstairs while the rest of the congregation has gone downstairs for Fellowship time. We have had many who have opted out of going downstairs and left instead of attending the function. If we are to be inclusive we need to think about how we can make our building more accessible to our congregation and to those that use our building. Adding an elevator to our building would allow ease of access to both Fellowship Hall and to the third floor of the building allowing us to be more open for our use and for the use of the from the community that use our building on a regular basis.

## Why remodel the Kitchen?

The kitchen will need a remodel as the new elevator will be coming in through the kitchen wall making the kitchen area smaller and in need of reconfiguration. The kitchen will not be a full kitchen but will have the necessary items to make it usable and to suit our needs. It will also have a pantry and new storage.