

The leadership at Valleybrook Church is sensing God's desire to serve Him in ever increasing ways downtown and around the world. We're asking you to join us on a two-year spiritual journey to seek God's will for VBC.

Our location gives us opportunities with a wide range of people and, with God's help, we can do more. We're deeply rooted in the downtown. We love this neighborhood. And God has entrusted us with four buildings we own debt-free. This journey together allows us to step out in faith for God's provision and to prepare for another 30 years of ministry.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Our ability to stay in this neighborhood means an investment in our buildings as well as asking God what part we're called to in His vision. As we seek His will, we hope to ...

Glorify His name

Invest in security upgrades

Improve our energy efficiency

Make some necessary repairs

Increase our outreach abilities

Step out in faith following where He leads

ASKING FOR GOD-SIZED PROVISION

Project RISE is focused on raising \$800,000 to address necessary repairs in order to make our youth and children's ministries more secure, improve our energy efficiency, and increase our witness in the community. Some needs (*like the roof*) are urgent and must be completed as soon as we can. However, depending on what God provides, we have additional projects in mind, such as updates in the Upper Room. This is a significant challenge and we can't do this without God. We know first-hand that God can use our insufficiency to highlight His power and might. **We ask everyone to step out in faith, asking God what part He wants you to play, and waiting for His guidance and provision.**

What projects are we doing?

Repair roof Theaterside \$540,000 – Generous volunteers have patched and fixed the roof in the past, but in the last two years, we've seen more leaks, which is causing residual damage. It's time to hire professionals to fix the four roofs on the auditorium side, especially because asbestos is involved. Repairing the roof ensures we can stay in these buildings long-term.

Repair foundation The Lodge and replace windows Children's Ministry Area \$90,000 – This addresses the cracked masonry on the Graham Avenue side, replacing lintels, and replacing five windows on the south elevation Children's Ministry Area with new aluminum windows.

Remove skylights and insulate Officeside \$25,000 – The cost of replacing the skylights with custom windows is cost-prohibitive. Removing them saves money and allows us to add insulation, which will reduce heating costs.

Install security cameras and electronic door locks \$100,000 – As a downtown church, safety is a priority. We've had a security assessment done by ACG Security Consultants with recommendations. Their report allows us to apply for a federal grant to cover the cost of these security projects.

Improve online streaming \$15,000 – More people are checking out churches online before they ever visit. Others utilize this option when they are unable to attend in person. Better streaming capabilities will increase our outreach in a digital age.

Raise seed money to help plant a Spanish bilingual church \$15,000 – **ENGAGE THE WORLD** also means tuning in to the needs around us. We'd like to raise funds to hire a Spanish-speaking pastor to launch an autonomous Spanish-speaking church in Eau Claire to reach the growing hispanic population in region. Additional grant funds are also available through *Converge* and *Converge Great Lakes* to help us achieve this.

Who's doing the construction? When will it begin? How will it be paid for?

Our Buildings Team has received quotes and plans from two local contractors; however, specific contractors have not been retained at this time. We will hire a general contractor based on price and expertise, but construction won't begin until we've secured the contractor. Besides grant opportunities and tax incentives, the rest will be paid for through your generosity. We ask everyone to give over and above their normal giving of time, talent, and treasure because this is bigger than all of us. From there, we eagerly anticipate what God will do.

Will project costs exceed pledged amounts?

Possibly. We're working to get accurate bids and be budget-minded as much as possible. If the cost exceeds the budget, we'll communicate with the membership and may consider a construction loan if needed.

Were there costs for Project RISE?

Yes. Every campaign has a budget to create materials, videos, etc. Design and printing costs were covered in this year's budget. Consultation help from *Converge Great Lakes* is based on money raised in the campaign, which goes directly to their church planting fund. We estimate it to be \$17k, but when we plant a church, we can apply to receive grant money from that fund.

How will financial responses be made?

Financial commitments over and above your current giving can be made either by giving weekly, monthly, or quarterly over the next 2-year period. Response cards are available for each family to take home and pray about. Pledges will be turned in on **Response Sunday, March 24, 2024.**

Can my pledges be changed if necessary?

Absolutely. You may either increase or decrease your pledge at any time during the campaign as the Lord leads. We simply ask that you notify the bookkeeper who maintains these confidential records.

GIVING CREATIVELY

Everyone has something to offer from your time, talents, and treasures. What we're asking God to do isn't just about raising money, but about raising up a body of believers who earnestly seek His will and give what they're able to give. In Nehemiah, everyone took a part in rebuilding the wall: *the laborers, the perfume makers, the goldsmiths, the nobles, men, and women.* Ask God what your part is in this project.

If you have particular ideas or talents to offer, please contact Julie at juliesmith@valleybrookchurch.org.

RESTORE the broken

INVEST in community

SEEK our God

ENGAGE the world

So, they said, "Let us rise up and build." Then they set their hands to this good work.

Nehemiah 2:18

What's my part?

It's our goal for more people to know the life-changing love of God, and **Project RISE** is the vehicle to help us implement His compelling vision. We'd like every regular attendee at Valleybrook to ask one simple question: "*God, what part do you want me to play to accomplish Your vision for VBC?*" That is, how should I use my time, talents, and treasures? If every person follows how God leads them, **Project RISE** will be a success.

PRAY

*...for God's leading in this project.
...that every person will ask God what their part is.
...that every person will give sacrificially.*

We're committed to transparency so that everyone has accurate information. Mark your calendars and plan on attending one of these events:

March 3 – Project RISE begins

March 15 – All-church prayer event

March 10-20 – Small groups prayer time

ATTEND

GIVE

We ask you to seek God's will in this. We pray that everyone gives according to their resources and talents. Some will give more, but everyone can give. Working together, we can restore our roofs, strengthen our presence downtown, and continue to serve Him in ever-increasing ways in our neighborhood... and around the world.

March 24 – Response Sunday

April 7 – Celebration Sunday

May 5 – First Fruits Sunday [giving begins]

Our prayer is that, as we move through the various phases of **Project RISE**, God inspires us to write the next chapter for Valleybrook Church – a chapter that, by God's grace, will be a God-honoring, ministry-expanding part of our story.

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RISE **Q**