

BIG Capital Campaign FAQs

What is “BIG”?

BIG is a 3-year capital stewardship campaign that we pray will be a life-changing journey we will take together. It has been our prayer that, through this campaign, we will experience the depth, breadth and height of God’s grace, love, beauty and power, as we get closer to Him. We believe God is leading us to initiate this capital campaign to expand His kingdom in our community, to cultivate courageous generosity, to address capital needs and to responsibly fund the mission.

Believe.

Through this campaign, we’re being challenged to dream BIG and believe God can do what He says He can do. Are our goals too big? Is this feasible? This IS big and beyond our abilities, and only by His hand will we accomplish what He has set before us.

Invest.

We have the privilege to leave a mark on the next generation and beyond. Gloria Dei has been blessed to serve this community for almost 50 years. Our two beautiful places to worship, a life center, a student center and an Early Childhood Education center are just parts of a building, but through these sacred spaces, lives have been introduced to our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are now being called to reduce the debt from these additions to our church, as well as update and improve these facilities. While the BIG campaign does provide for retiring debt, the greater impact will be felt in how we can serve others more intentionally with the additional financial resources that are made available.

Grow.

Are you ready to grow and be transformed in your faith walk? Growth will happen, both in our hearts and in our lives, as we make these sacrificial gifts. This campaign will challenge each of us. It will not only change your life, but the lives of people in our communities of Nassau Bay, League City and beyond. We are asking you to join us in prayer, specifically, asking God to show you how we can provide for others out of the abundance with which we have all been blessed.

What is a Capital Campaign?

God is using Gloria Dei to grow His kingdom. While we have a church budget that is funded by our regular tithing/giving contributions, there are times in a church congregation when there is additional need in order to position ourselves for kingdom growth and our own faith growth. In the Old Testament, King Joash decided to restore the house of the Lord. He asked the leaders to go and gather funds, but they failed to act quickly. A special offering was initiated and a chest outside the temple and asked the people to bring special gifts to accomplish it. (see 2 chronicles 24:4-14)

Why did we choose Capital Funding Services as our consultant for this campaign?

Your staff and leaders interviewed multiple capital campaign consultants and found CFS to best serve the needs of this campaign. Through multiple congregational meetings (future forums), our members shared a desire to utilize the gifts and resources of an outside consultant. Capital Funding Services is the funding arm of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), which carries our mortgage and indebtedness as a ministry lending partner.

While there were many programs and consultants to choose from, we chose CFS and Pastor John Kieschnick for a variety of reasons. The training material and resources are filled with prayer and biblical content. It is proven, well-organized program with a consultant walking alongside of us during the entire process. Our consultant has a special relationship with Gloria Dei and it is an incredible blessing to have Pastor John Kieschnick serve as our consultant after 33 years as serving as the Sr. Pastor at Gloria Dei.

How has GDLC used capital campaigns to expand kingdom growth in the past?

- 1964 - Texas District purchased 3.5 acres for daughter to Hope Lutheran, Friendswood
- 1967 - 200-seat Chapel with 2 offices, 6 classrooms, restrooms
- 1977 - Added 4 classrooms, sacristy, small office suite
- 1979 - Early Childhood Program
- 1980 - 525-seat Sanctuary, narthex and 50-person Youth Center
- 1984 - Early Childhood wing with 10 classrooms, 2 offices
- 1986 - 8 acres purchased
- 1990 - Life Center auditorium, kitchen, 15 classrooms
- 1998 - 1000-seat Worship Center, Commons, Business offices, parking
- 2001 - Student Center, Administration Complex, Remodeled/Expanded Early Childhood
- 2005 - 49 acres League City property

Why is Gloria Dei conducting a capital campaign now?

We have an opportunity to improve our financial position and thus position ourselves to advance the Kingdom in new and greater ways. By strategically targeting our Nassau Bay campus with such capital improvements that have been suggested, we can offer more dynamic worship and educational experiences. By being good stewards and paying off a large part of our debt, we reduce our overall expenses and reduce our monthly debt in such a way that 'already budgeted money' can go toward new ministry and Kingdom growth. It is also an opportunity for our church family to reap the blessings of personal faith growth by trusting in God and His blessings.

This is Biblical. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, Paul talked about his partnership in the gospel with the church in Philippi, and as he thanked them for their past contributions, he also solicited additional financial help from them. Paul spoke of the sacrificial nature of such giving and how it is not only important to further the kingdom, but that it also helps strengthen us in our faith walk. We are at this place now at Gloria Dei.

What is the BIG campaign?

50% Debt reduction at the Nassau Bay Campus

A highly successful campaign will allow us to reduce our current debt by 50%, improve our balance sheet and increase our capacity to reach more people with the message of Jesus, within and beyond our community

30% Capital Expenses at the Nassau Bay Campus.

Capital improvements are necessary to maintain the facilities God has blessed us with. Instead of reacting when normal use necessitates a large repair, BIG campaign funds will allow us to be proactive when there is a need to repair/upgrade our facilities and infrastructure in areas such as, our worship spaces, classrooms, and air-conditioning and heating units.

20% Missions

10% of these funds will be directed to missions through our League City campus, and 10% will be directed to local and international missions.

What is the financial goal of the BIG campaign? We're praying that God will bless this campaign by raising \$3-5 million dollars, over the next three years, above and beyond our regular giving.

Do we need to reduce debt because we are in financial trouble?

No, Gloria Dei is financially healthy. Reducing debt, while in a healthy position, frees resources to enable us to be more effective in expanding Christ's kingdom. Pastor Dan has stated, "Every dollar that reduces our mortgage principal increases our capacity for kingdom impact within and beyond our Gloria Dei community for the next 50 years."

Why is Nassau Bay Debt Reduction important to the mission and ministry of Gloria Dei?
 Financial health positions Gloria Dei for future ministry strength, in order to expand opportunities for outreach and growth. Debt reduction frees resources to fund kingdom impact by modeling biblical stewardship, demonstrating fiscal responsibility, and growing God's kingdom.

How much debt is there on the Nassau Bay campus?

Current NB Campus Debt \$3.8 Million
 Annual mortgage payment 275K

How will BIG help improve Gloria Dei's ability to fund additional ministry opportunities?

Goal	Now	Abilities	Beyond	Above & Beyond
Campaign	0	3.0 mil	4.0 mil	5.0 mil
Debt Reduction	0	1.5 mil	2.0 mil	2.5 mil
Monthly Payments	\$22.8k	\$13.8k	\$10.8k	\$7.8k
Annual Payments	\$275k	\$166k	\$130k	\$94K
Annual Savings	0	\$109k	\$145k	\$181k
Total Interest costs	\$1647k	\$997k	\$780k	\$562k
Total Interest Savings		\$651k	\$868k	\$1085k

What are some examples of improvements needed at the Nassau Bay campus?

We will utilize these funds to upgrade, repair, improve our Nassau Bay Campus, SUCH AS:

Worship Center Improvements / Upgrades

- Video Projection Improvements
- Audio System Improvements
- Organ Repairs

Technology Upgrades

- Worship Center
- Classrooms
- Student Center

Facility Upgrades

- Day One Christian Academy
- Early Childhood
- Children's Ministry
- Replace/Repair Air Conditioning Units
- Paint, Carpet and Aesthetic Improvements
- Repair Parking Lot

Which of these improvement projects will be completed? As funds become available through BIG contributions, Gloria Dei Staff and Board of Directors will select and implement projects based on prioritized needs at that time.

Why is 20% of the money we raise dedicated to Missions outside of our current campus?

The Great Commission calls us to reach out and make a kingdom impact in our local communities and beyond. One tithe (10%) of BIG funds will be used to support outreach through our League City property. Another tithe (10%) of BIG funds will be used to support outreach through local and international mission partners.

How will a tithe of BIG funds be used to support outreach through our presence in League City?
 The funds received will be used for the start-up plan for outreach.

How will a tithe of BIG funds be used to support outreach through local and international mission partners? Support needs of local organizations SUCH AS: LINC Houston, Anchor Point, Mercy Tree, and others while continuing our partnership in Guatemala with CALMS (Central American Lutheran Mission Society)

What types of gifts are needed to reach the “Above & Beyond our Abilities” Goal of \$5 million?

# of Gifts	Impact Gifts
1	\$500,000
2	\$250,000
3	\$125,000
4	\$75,000
5	\$50,000
Pacesetter Gifts	
10	\$45,000
12	\$36,000
15	\$27,000
18	\$18,000
23	\$12,000
Additional Gifts	
30	\$9,000
50	\$6,000
70	\$4,500
100	\$3,000
Many	As God Enables

Thinking About Your Gift Levels	
Weekly Commitment	Total Commitment (156 Weeks)
\$5	\$780
\$10	\$1,560
\$15	\$2,340
\$25	\$3,900
\$50	\$7,800
\$75	\$11,700
\$100	\$15,600
\$250	\$39,000
\$350	\$54,600
\$500	\$78,000
\$750	\$117,000
\$1000	\$156,000

If I choose to give weekly over a three-year period, what would my total be?

How do I decide how much God is leading me to give?

Since making a special commitment is an act of faith, it is imperative to begin the process with prayer. Ask God for an open mind and heart. Ask Him what He wants you to do, not what you think you ought to do. Pray for His guidance in the sacrificial gift He is preparing for you. Give out of God's grace and love as you "excel in the grace of giving." And, finally, make a commitment that reflects an act of faith and sacrifice. The above Gift Profile can be helpful as you consider His direction. We are called to equal Sacrifice, not equal giving.

What are some examples of ways I can give sacrificially?

Salary and/or Budget

Second Tithe

Appreciated Assets (stocks, bonds, real estate)

Retirement RMDs (IRA, 401K, 403B)

Give up Vacations

Postpone House Additions / Renovations

Postpone Purchases (cars, furniture, etc)

Postpone Retirement, Return to Workforce

Insurance Policy

Inheritance

Gifts-in-Kind (Parking Lot repairs, Air Conditioning, Technology)

Collections that can be liquidated

Company Matching Gifts

Skip daily stop at Starbucks, etc

When will I give my gifts?

Giving toward BIG starts with a First Fruits Offering on November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Giving then continues over the next 3 years, through the end of 2019.

When do I turn in my commitment toward BIG?

Commitments from the congregation will be received and celebrated in a Commitment Celebration Worship Service at 10:00am on October 30.

What can I expect during the BIG Campaign? The BIG Campaign kicks off with Vision Sunday on October 2. The following weeks in October will include worship services with sermons sharing God's Word in relation to BIG and testimonies from Gloria Dei members who will share how God has called them to give. Small group studies will correlate with the worship services and students will be given their own ways to participate.

What are some areas in the Bible I can read as I seek how God wants me to participate in BIG?

2 Corinthians 8

2 Corinthians 9

1 Timothy 6:6-10

Malachi 3:9-10

Matthew 6:25-34

Proverbs 3:9-10

Exodus 36:1-7

1 Chronicles 29

Who do I contact with other questions I have?

Send an email to BIG@gdlc.org and someone will get back with you.