

Home Group Gatherings

As part of our BIG campaign, 8 Home Group Gatherings will be held from September 30 through October 8. We strongly urge those who have served, or are serving in leadership positions at Gloria Dei, to attend one of these home group gatherings. These gatherings are for anyone who is interested in learning more, or may have a question about their participation in the upcoming campaign. Please contact Gloria Lastinger at 281-333-4535 or email her at glastinger@gdlc.org and she will be happy to assist you!



Attend An Awareness Forum

We know you have questions and want to learn more about the BIG Campaign! Please make plans to attend one of our Awareness Forums! Campaign Leaders will share detailed campaign information and answer questions that you and others might have. Select one of the following forums that best fits your schedule:

- **Thursday, Sept 22, 7-8:30pm, in the Chapel**
- **Sunday, Sept 25, 5-6:30pm, in the Chapel**

Key Dates to Remember

These dates are just a recap, so you can mark your calendar!

- **Gloria Dei's "Day of Prayer" • Wed, Sept 21**
- **Awareness Forums • Thurs, Sept 22 or Sun, Sept 25**
- **Home Group Gatherings • Sept 30-Oct 8**
- **Vision Sunday • Sun, Oct 2**
- **Commitment Celebration • Sun, Oct 30**

A Letter from Your BIG Campaign Directors

"BIG." What comes to your mind when you see that word? Is it about obstacles? Or is it about our amazing God and what He can do through us?

believe. Through this capital stewardship 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.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." • Ephesians 3:20-21



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.

"Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." • Luke 12:33b-34

Giving to the BIG Campaign enables His kingdom to be advanced. Think about the little one in Guatemala who experiences the love of Jesus through one of our members serving there. Or right here in our backyard...the youngster from across the parking lot, who plays basketball in the Student Center. Over time, they have the opportunity to encounter Jesus through our staff. Then, Jesus is introduced to their family, and in turn, they introduce Him to others. This is how His love, His grace and His forgiveness is shared. And isn't it amazing that we all have the opportunity to be a part of it?!

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 over the next several months. Specifically, we are asking God to show us how we can provide for others out of the abundance with which we have all been blessed. Please pray about how you can serve on a team, and what type of financial commitment God is calling you to make, in order to further the mission and ministry of "helping one another live life with Jesus every day."

"But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving." • I Corinthians 8:7

Thinking BIG,

Todd Ariens, Mike Maron and Alice Rosenhagen
Campaign Directors

believe. invest. grow.



BIG Small Groups Bible Studies Launch on “Vision Sunday,” October 2nd

2 weeks ago, over **50 Small Group Leaders** (wow!) gathered together to learn about our upcoming BIG Small Group Bible Study called, “Children of a Generous God”! This special 4-week study for Small Groups, starting October 2, will be connected to the sermons each Sunday during the campaign. The study contains 4 lessons that will cultivate a “believe, invest and grow” response to God’s generosity, as children of a generous God. The Bible studies will provide an opportunity for God’s WORD to shape us, as we seek to believe God’s promises. Prayerfully consider investing in His Kingdom work. We will grow in our faith together as God leads us in His generosity.

If you are a Small Group Leader who needs more information about the BIG Small Group Bible Study, or if you who would like to join a Small Group, please contact Pastor Lonnie Gonzales at lgonzales@gdlc.org.

Day of Prayer

Autumn begins this month. We’ll be shifting our focus to football, school work and activities, the candidates on the November ballot, planning for upcoming holiday gatherings... and Gloria Dei’s BIG Capital Campaign. This is an opportune time to spend a special 30 minutes in prayer as a congregation.

Join your friends Wednesday, September 21, 2016 between 6am and 9pm for a DAY OF PRAYER, uniting us in our steadfast faith!

Observing a day of prayer links believers from God’s family, imparting strength and hope, as we come together in faith through prayer. You may choose to come to our campus for your prayer time or you may pray off campus. First, select your time, between 6am and 9pm. Then, sign up at the Guest Gathering kiosk on Sundays, Sept. 4, 11 or 18— or call the church office to schedule a time that is convenient for you. We also encourage you to pick up a prayer aid at that time. On September 21, our Chapel will be open for your use during the Day of Prayer.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIG CAMPAIGN?
Email us at gloriadei@gdlc.org

Thinking About Your Gift Levels

Weekly Commitment	Total Commitment (156 Weeks)
\$5.00	\$780.00
\$10.00	\$1,560.00
\$15.00	\$2,340.00
\$25.00	\$3,900.00
\$50.00	\$7,800.00
\$75.00	\$11,700.00
\$100.00	\$15,600.00
\$250.00	\$39,000.00
\$350.00	\$54,600.00

Giving is for 3 years, over and above your regular giving.

Some Ways to Give:
Cash, Real Estate, Stocks or Bonds, Life Insurance Policies or Cash Values of Policies, Antiques, Works of Art, Jewelry, Coin or Stamp Collections, Income Tax Refunds, Irrevocable or Revocable Trust, etc.

**Equal Sacrifice,
NOT Equal Giving**



BIG Gift Profile

Above and Beyond Our Abilities Goal

\$5,000,000

Beyond Our Abilities Goal

\$4,000,000

Our Natural Abilities Goal

\$3,000,000


**Equal Sacrifice,
NOT Equal Giving**


Giving extends over a period of three years, and is over and above our regular giving.

Biblical Principles of Giving


In considering your gifts, you may find it comforting to know that God has given us several principles that we can apply.

The Stewardship Principle Stewardship is recognizing that God already owns all that we possess, providing the resources for our lives and the life and ministry of Christ’s church through us. We are accountable for what God has given us.

 **Proverbs 3:9** Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything your land produces.

 **Deuteronomy 8:18a** But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

The Voluntary Principle No one in our church is going to determine the amount of another’s gift.

 **2 Corinthians 9:7** Each should give what he has decided in his heart to give not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

The Sacrificial Principle The word sacrifice can be defined as “to set apart” or “to make holy.” Jesus chose those who gave sacrificially as models for giving. Further, Scripture makes clear that God measures the gift not in comparison to others but in relation to one’s resources and what is left over after the gift.

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord God Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10

# 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