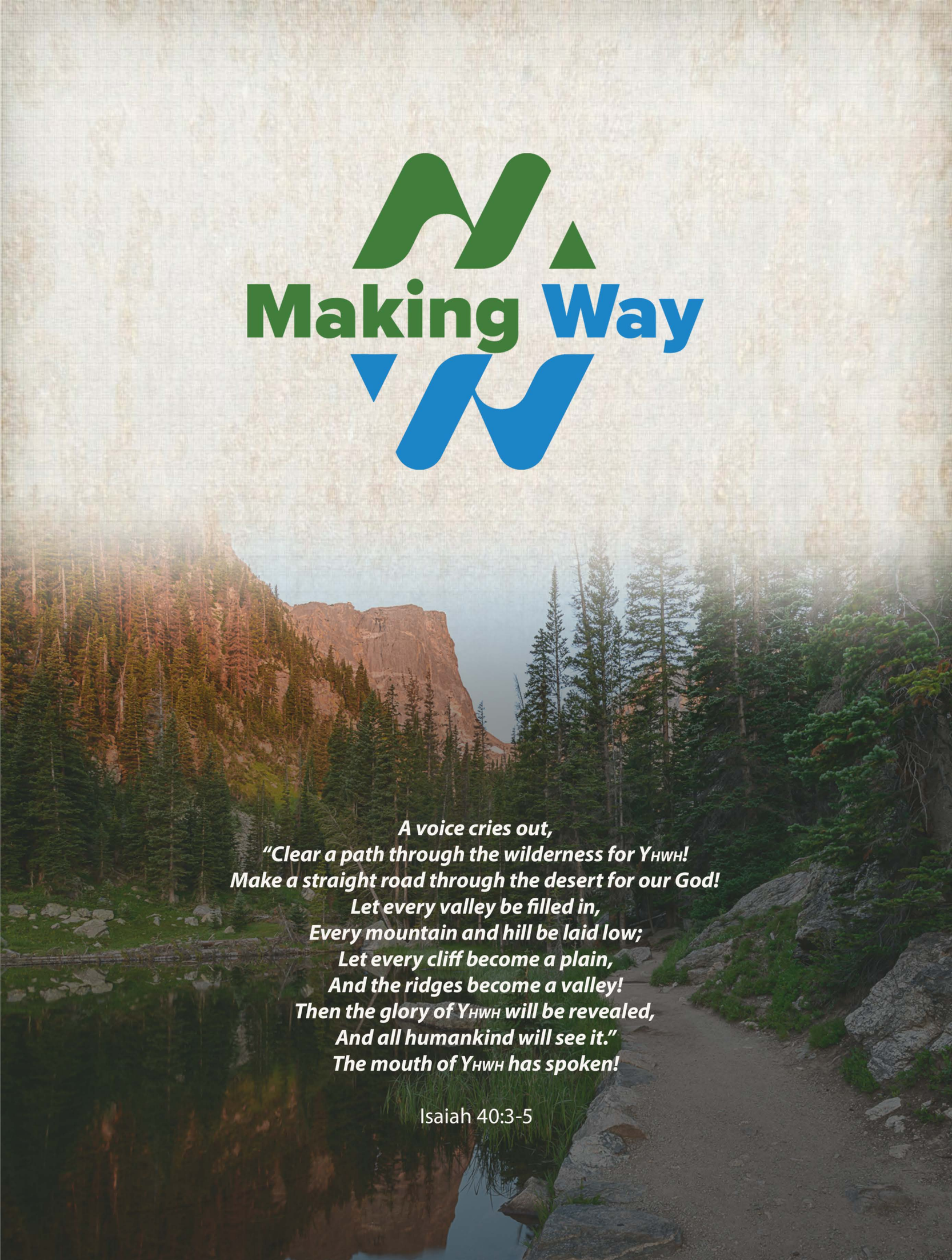
Making Way



A voice cries out,
"Clear a path through the wilderness for YHWH!
Make a straight road through the desert for our God!
Let every valley be filled in,
Every mountain and hill be laid low;
Let every cliff become a plain,
And the ridges become a valley!
Then the glory of YHWH will be revealed,
And all humankind will see it."
The mouth of YHWH has spoken!

Isaiah 40:3-5



A Letter From
Our Pastor

Dear Collegiate/Wesley friends,

This is an exciting time in the life of Collegiate/Wesley. We have spent generations learning what it means to make way for others—to welcome people as they are, to create space for questions and faith, and to invite people into a community where they can find meaning, purpose, belonging, and a deeper relationship with God.

Now we have an opportunity to **make way in a new way.**

Making Way is an invitation to invest in the future of this congregation and in the ministry we share. By improving our parking lot, creating a new south entry door, and revamping signage to make our buildings easier to navigate, we can help our physical space reflect more fully the welcome we have been practicing for decades. These are improvements to our properties, yes, but our hope is for something much bigger: that **removing obstacles will unlock our ability to make way more,** so that our ministries of welcome, connection, and nurturing will reach farther and bear more fruit.

This booklet holds tools and information to help you learn about Making Way. It will guide you in our journey through the coming weeks in worship, in small groups, and in our own homes as we each prayerfully consider our part in Making Way. Here you'll find the vision behind the campaign, the projects we're planning, and resources to help you decide. Bring it with you to worship. Keep it near at hand where you live.

This is not simply information about a building project; it's **an invitation to imagine what God will do through us** in this next chapter of our life together.

I am deeply grateful for the generations who have made way for us. And I am excited to see how God is calling us, right now, to make way for those who will come next.

With gratitude and hope,

Lee

Rev. Lee Roorda Schott
Senior Pastor

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I Believe
in Collegiate/Wesley

Over a century ago God called a group of Methodists to plant a new church across the street from the Iowa State campus. With faith they stepped into the mission. Today God is calling us to refresh that vision.

Why do I feel called to invest in the Making Way Capital Campaign?

1. **Because I believe in the project.** The three parts are physical manifestations of the core values of Collegiate/Wesley – safety, access, and way finding.

2. **Because I believe in the future of CW.** This is my way to invest in people and ministries that I may never meet or experience. It is my turn to sustain and grow Collegiate/Wesley as CW people have been doing for 110 years.

3. **Because it fits my understanding of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral.** There are scriptural calls to action, there is the tradition of continuing to improve our worship space, there are reasons that now is the time to make changes, and there is the experience of expanding our ways of welcome to invite more people to become part of this community.

Join me in Making Way for the next century of Collegiate/Wesley's ministry.

Jane R. Jacobson
Collegiate/Wesley Lay Leader

Mission & Vision

At Collegiate/Wesley we believe in our identity as a progressive, inclusive church that loves and serves like Jesus told us to, putting God first and loving God's people. Our stated Purpose is to build an inclusive community that invites all people to experience God's unconditional love, grow in faith, and serve others.

That Purpose builds on a decision we made twenty-six years ago when we claimed–boldly–who we are, with this Statement of Reconciliation:

Our inclusive community welcomes and affirms all persons without regard to gender, ethnic background, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical or mental ability, marital status, economic condition or anything else which threatens to divide God's family. In our quest to follow the example of Christ, we will employ no circles of exclusion and we commit ourselves to loving acts of invitation, hospitality, and reconciliation, providing ministry to, for, and with all persons without exception.

We live out these intentions week by week and year after year with our:

- **Open-hearted welcome** that sees and affirms the image of God in every person

- **Ministries for all ages** to grow in love and service of God through Jesus Christ

- **Outreach and missions** that offer food, clothing, advocacy, care, and service for our neighbors here in Ames and far beyond

- **Thoughtful worship** that connects us to a loving God through words, music, teaching, and relationships inclusive of all





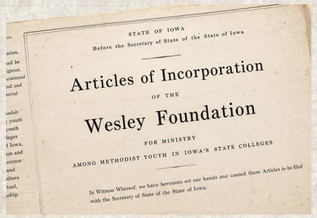
Timeline of Our **History**

"And I am sure of this much: that God, who has begun the good work in you, will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus."

- Philippians 1:6



September 24, 1916
Campus Methodist Church organized



April 4, 1917
Statewide Wesley Foundation incorporated to explore ministry with Methodist youth in Iowa's state colleges



October 18, 1925
Cornerstone laid for current sanctuary and south wings



November 29, 1950
Collegiate/Wesley recognized by Christian Century as one of 12 "Great Churches of America"

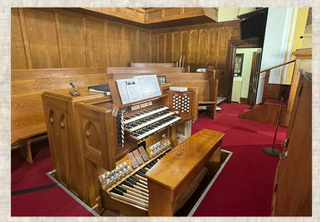




1955 - 1956
Construction of Collegiate/Wesley's west wing



January 28, 1962
Dedication of new Reuter organ and chancel remodel



1986 - 1991
Restoration Project Fund for roof, driveway, organ repairs, Wesley Kitchen, and more



1998 - 2000
Acquisition of Campus Baptist Church properties west of CW's main building (including Annex, Lighthouse building, and parking)



October 8, 2000
CW adopted its Reconciliation Statement claiming its open and affirming ministry



April 6, 2008
Consecration of north connection between east and west building wings, enclosing the courtyard and creating the Gathering Space and Student Lounge

Spring 2011
Raise the Roof campaign for debt repayment, roof replacement, Wesley Kitchen overhaul, worship technology, and more

Fall 2026
Making Way
capital campaign

Making Way

Capital Campaign

What We Are Doing

Through this campaign, Collegiate/Wesley is raising funds for three projects with respect to the accessibility and inclusivity of our properties: **repaving and improving our south parking lot, creating a new south entrance door, and improving interior and exterior signage.**

1 **The parking lot project** will repave and improve our south parking lot, from its east entrance to the garage. We'll create a more visible curb or sidewalk along the ravine. Parking will be pushed back from the east driveway, off of Hayward Avenue, to allow a true entrance, with signage that helps people know they've arrived at Collegiate/Wesley.

2 **The south entrance project** will add a new door, with associated exterior steps and a ramp, near the southwest corner of our building, which will become the new main entrance. Guests will be readily able to identify this entrance, which will be visible from our entire south and west parking areas. Associated interior renovations will be made to create space for this entrance and to convert two offices at the southwest corner of the building into a single multipurpose meeting room.

3 **The signage project** will support the changes described above with clear, consistent signage both outside and within the building, not just in the areas described above, but across our properties. When people approach and enter the parking lot, signs will help them see where they should go next. Inside the building, signage will continue with a similar look and feel in order to guide persons to their intended locations and find restrooms, exits, access to the office suite, and the like.

Why

We Are Doing It

The parking lot project will address existing concerns regarding our parking lot. All who use this lot have long been aware that its aging asphalt surface is uneven and spotted with potholes. We'll do the work to resolve the subsurface issues. We'll add a curb or sidewalk along the ravine and move parking spaces further from Hayward Avenue to create some green space, allow for clear signage, and minimize congestion in that area. The improved lot will improve accessibility and safety for those parking and walking in this area.

Our church family is aware that it's hard to figure out where to enter our building, and once inside, it's hard to figure out where to go next. The new south door will open into a welcoming area with space to sit down. Upon entry, straight ahead is the long hallway that will enable a clear view into the building, creating ease of wayfinding for visitors and long-time members alike. Our church offices will be consolidated into the area to the right of that entrance, which will be secured for the safety of our staff. The two offices currently on the left side of the entrance will be converted into a single multipurpose room that will accommodate meetings and gatherings, with furnishings that can be easily reconfigured as needed.

Why We're Doing It

Now

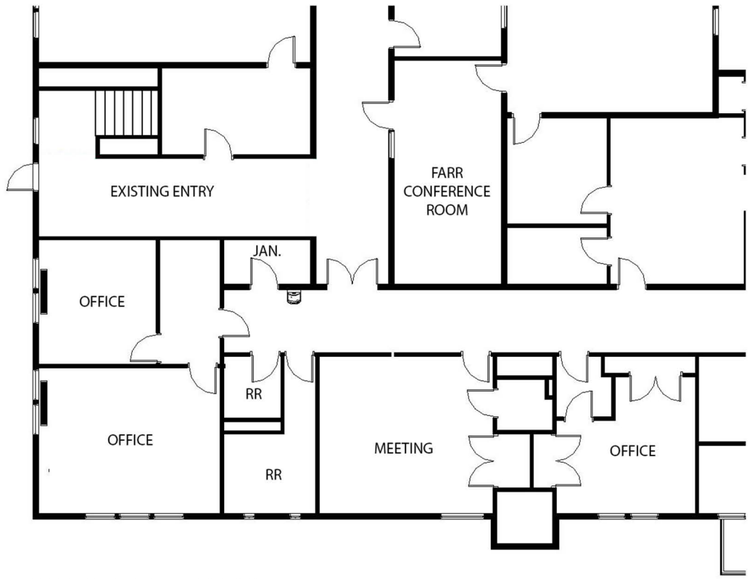
Our leaders have known a long while that the parking lot repaving project has to happen. It was deferred to allow for the Site Analysis process we did last year to be completed. We cannot wait too much longer for the issues with this main lot to be addressed.

In our work with our site analysis consultant, and in our extensive congregational conversations last year, questions of accessibility, wayfinding, welcome, safety, and flexibility surfaced repeatedly, and were identified as important values for us as a congregation. But, as our consultant put it: **Our properties don't speak that language. In fact, they interfere with what we think we're about.**

The proposed changes to our parking lot entrance and to our building entrance and signage are intended to change that—so that they, too, **communicate our intended invitation, welcome, and inclusiveness.** These projects are vital in our ability to continue our purpose to build an inclusive community that invites all people to experience God's unconditional love, grow in faith, and serve others. Through these projects, we will increase our building's accessibility and create a clear, welcoming entrance for everyone who steps through CW's doors, whether it is their first time visiting or their one hundredth time worshiping with us.

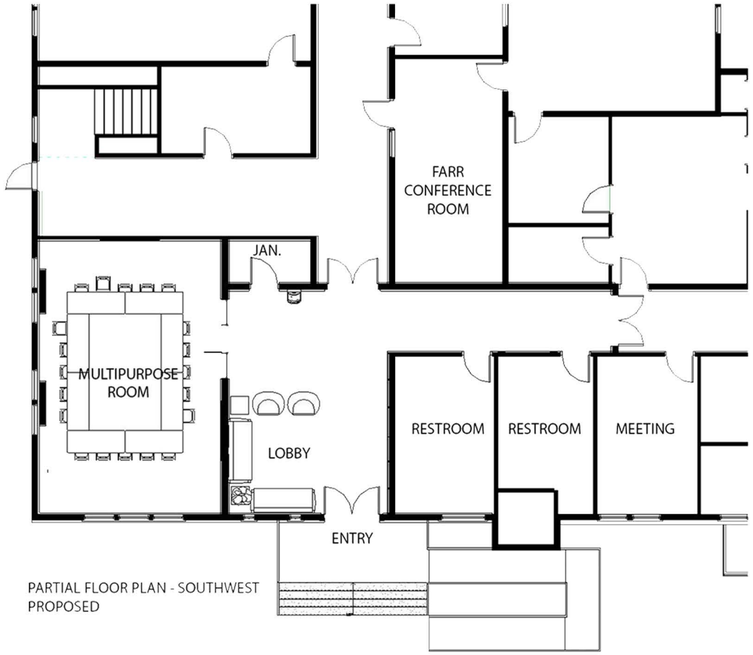
The Capital
Projects

Existing Floor Plan
This is a partial floor plan of the Southwest corner of the building (First Floor). The Existing Entry is the West Entrance door and hallway. The offices in the lower left corner are offices for Pastor Jena and the Campus Ministry Intern. The meeting room shown is Room 123.



PARTIAL FLOOR PLAN - SOUTHWEST
EXISTING

Proposed Floor Plan
This is the same partial floor plan as above, with the proposed renovations. The hallway to the west entrance and basement stairs would remain. The offices in the lower left corner will be converted into a Multipurpose Room. A new South Entry (main entry) will be added where the restrooms are in the Existing Floor Plan. New accessible restrooms will be added in the place of Room 123.



PARTIAL FLOOR PLAN - SOUTHWEST
PROPOSED

New South Entrance
A conceptual rendering of what the new south entrance could look like





Parking Lot Entrance
A conceptual rendering of what the new parking lot entrance off of Hayward Avenue could look like

Estimated Project Costs

Parking lot:		
Earthwork & subsurface investigation/repair		$100,000
Resurface existing parking lot		$413,032
New sidewalks		$ 3,834
New turf & landscaping (east entrance?)		$ 544
		$517,410
New south entrance—exterior:		
Remove lower level door & infill to grade		$ 15,000
Add steps, ramp and railing		$ 21,586
Remove window & wall, install exterior door		$ 6,144
		$ 42,730
Interior renovations for south entrance & multipurpose room:		
Entry corridor / seating areas		$ 98,000
Multipurpose meeting room		$105,600
Restroom relocation		$133,000
New security door pair		$ 9,203
		$345,803
Signage improvements (interior & exterior)		$ 45,000
	Subtotal	$950,943
General Conditions:		
Design contingency (25% factor)		$237,736
Design fees (10% factor)		$118,868
Construction contingency (15% factor)		$178,302
	Total	**$1,485,849**

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the commitment card for all three years or for one year at a time?

On Commitment Sunday, November 15, we will turn in two commitment cards:

- The **2027 Annual Giving Commitment Card** is for one year, representing your commitment to Collegiate/Wesley's annual operating budget for 2027.
- The **Making Way Commitment Card** is for the three-year campaign in support of our Making Way projects, over and above your annual giving. You will indicate the installments you plan to make during that three-year period, 2027-2029.

What if this campaign does not raise the entire $1.5 million toward our Making Way projects? Will inflation impact the project?

We are confident that our stakeholders, members, and other constituents will raise $1.5 million and more toward the Making Way projects. If at the end of the campaign we are below that level, our leaders will be tasked with deciding how to move forward with the amounts and resources available.

Any estimate of costs is only that–an estimate–and will always be subject to change with inflation, economic conditions, and other circumstances. We will do the work of reassessing and adjusting as needed as these realities unfold.

How will the implementation of these projects affect church operations?

Like any construction project, we'll have times when we'll need members and guests to "pardon our progress." These projects should not disrupt our ability to worship and gather as usual, and we'll communicate any necessary work-arounds as needed.

How long until the Making Way projects will be completed?

At the close of the Making Way campaign, our leaders will consider timing and sequence of design and preparation work toward the projects, based on amounts already received and the expected flow of ongoing gifts. With a three-year timeline for commitments to be fulfilled, construction and installation will likely happen over a 3-4 year period.

How will the new south entry affect spaces we currently use?

The new multipurpose room will replace the two offices currently at the west end of the office/music hallway. We have already identified options for relocation of Rev. Jena and the campus intern who currently use those offices. To make room for the new exterior door and entry area, we will relocate the two current restrooms into the adjacent space that is currently a meeting room (Room 123). The hallway to the current west door and stairwell to the basement will remain as is, as will the Fireside Room and its kitchen, and the Farr Board Room.

How does the possible sale of Collegiate/Wesley's Western Properties connect with these Making Way projects?

The projects we're pursuing as part of our Making Way campaign are independent of any possible sale of Collegiate/Wesley properties.

Last fall a Collegiate/Wesley church conference approved a proposal to explore selling some (or all) of our Western Properties (the parking lots west of our main building, along with the Annex and Lighthouse buildings). Accordingly, Collegiate/Wesley has engaged a broker and the property has been listed for sale. It is impossible to project a timeline for receipt of an offer and ensuing negotiations.

Any potential sale will be the subject of further decision processes and another church conference. The proceeds of any such sale could be directed toward additional interior work and an expanded south entrance with stairs and an elevator, as discussed in 2025 as a potential future Phase 3. None of these decisions have been made.

Except for removing a few parking spaces to enhance the Hayward Avenue entrance, the proposed Making Way projects are not expected to have a significant impact on our parking capacity.

How will these projects improve accessibility?

Through Making Way we're working with the building we have in order to improve accessibility and wayfinding for long-time members and new arrivals. The new south entrance has a ramp. The improved south parking lot will be smoother, safer, and easier to traverse. New signage aids accessibility by improving navigational efficiency.

Have we retained the firm that presented the plan? Is there still time for changes to the conceptual design?

The church retained BBS Architects | Engineers for our 2025 site analysis. BBS has developed cost estimates for the Making Way projects and conceptual drawings for the parking lot, south door, and related interior changes. When we're ready to move forward, Collegiate/Wesley will select firms for design and construction to further develop and implement these projects.

How do these projects help students who enter from the north side of the building?

Our guests—including students—approach the building from every direction. Our clearest entrances are on the north. Even there, our commitment to improve signage will help students find the spaces they seek, including the Student Lounge and Wesley Hall.

In what ways will Making Way grow our outreach to become more visible and diverse?

The projects we fund through this Making Way campaign are important and necessary. But they're only a piece of the work to which God is calling us. At the same time we're eliminating obstacles, we will be strengthening our ministry muscles that practice outreach, connection, relationship, and spiritual formation. The projects clear the way for us to reach the people God is calling here. We can't wait to see the fruit of these unified efforts.

Annual
Campaign

Dear Collegiate/Wesley Friends:

I have the privilege of chairing the Finance Committee and want to share some thoughts with you about our annual fall campaign.

If the Making Way Capital Campaign is about securing our future, think of annual stewardship as thriving in the present. Improving our parking lot, creating a new welcoming entry, and making our properties easier to navigate with better interior and exterior signage is essential. Every bit as important is a healthy, regular operating budget for 2027 and that begins with stewardship and our shared commitments.

In 2026, we were involved in so many programs and opportunities they are too numerous to list here. To highlight just a few:
- Celebrated our 110th Anniversary
- Attended the AMOS We The People 30th Anniversary Convention
- Offered Christian Education programming for all ages
- Removed Wesley Place and began creating the new Lincoln Way parking lot entrance
- Distributed Dennis Byrne and Collegiate/Wesley Endowment money
- Participated in many worship services
- Enjoyed a wide variety of music in worship and in other settings
- Expanded Campus Ministry
- Provided clothing through Clothing That Works and food through the Little Food Pantry
- Facilitated summer mission programs for children and youth
- Continued outreach in the community with Food at First and other groups

What does next year look like? Much of the same with some new initiatives added, but involving more people and broadening our reach as we welcome all.

We invite you to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider your estimated contribution for 2027. If you have completed a commitment card and are giving, perhaps you'll be led to increase your offering. If you've never completed a card before, please consider doing so. It will deepen your love for Collegiate/Wesley.

We have so much to celebrate. Your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness make possible ALL of what happens at Collegiate/Wesley as we live into our Purpose: to build an inclusive community that invites all people to experience God's unconditional love, grow in faith, and serve others.

With gratitude from me and the Finance Committee,*

David Orth
Finance Committee Chair

*Brian Brand, Mitch Hoyer, Sherry Hoyer, Jane Jacobson, Jason Janssen, Lori Kappmeyer, Patty King, Dean Phillips, Chris Rettig, Ann Sandine, Pastor Lee Schott

2027 Details

Our 2027 annual giving campaign will coincide with the Making Way capital campaign. Both campaigns will officially begin on Vision Sunday, October 4th. On Commitment Sunday (November 15th), you will turn in BOTH commitment cards – one for the 2027 annual giving campaign and one for the Making Way capital campaign.

Our goal? 100% participation from every household that calls Collegiate/Wesley home. Last year, 102 households completed a commitment card totaling $593,640. Let's exceed that giving total in 2027 to allow us to further expand our ministries inside and beyond the walls of Collegiate/Wesley.

Monthly Total Giving

Annual Income	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%	15%
$20,000	$67	$100	$133	$167	$200	$250
$30,000	$100	$150	$200	$250	$300	$375
$40,000	$133	$200	$267	$333	$400	$500
$50,000	$167	$250	$333	$417	$500	$625
$60,000	$200	$300	$400	$500	$600	$750
$70,000	$233	$350	$476	$583	$700	$875
$80,000	$267	$400	$533	$667	$800	$1,025
$90,000	$300	$450	$600	$750	$900	$1,150
$100,000	$333	$500	$667	$833	$1,000	$1,275
$110,000	$367	$550	$733	$917	$1,100	$1,525
$120,000	$400	$600	$800	$1,000	$1,200	$1,650
$130,000	$433	$650	$867	$1,083	$1,300	$1,775
$140,000	$467	$700	$933	$1,167	$1,400	$1,900
$150,000	$500	$750	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500	$2,025
$175,000	$583	$875	$1,167	$1,458	$1,750	$2,187
$200,000	$667	$1,000	$1,333	$1,667	$2,000	$2,500

This monthly total giving chart is a tool to help you see monthly gifts at different levels, but no one should feel confined to any particular amount or schedule.



What Is God

Calling You To Do?

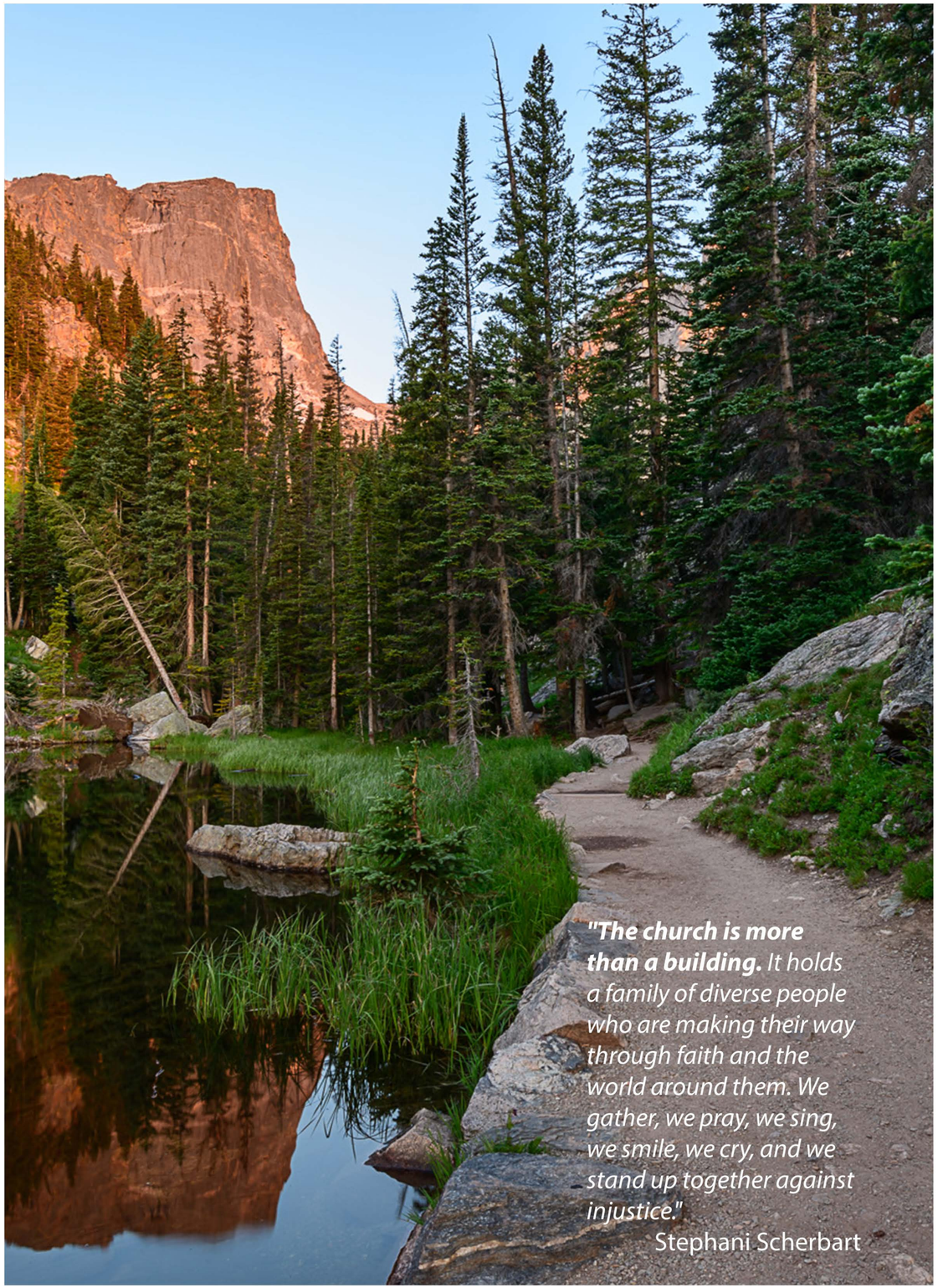
READ AND ENGAGE
in the campaign materials provided.

PARTICIPATE
in the events and worship services.

PRAY
for guidance.

TAKE ACTION
through your own commitment to both our 2027 Annual Giving and, over and above that, to the three-year **Making Way** campaign.

Commitment Sunday is
NOVEMBER 15, 2026



Making Way

Making Way isn't first something we do.

It's who God has always been.

Making Way
Worship Series

A voice cries out,
"Clear a path through the wilderness for YHWH!
Make a straight road through the desert for our God!
Let every valley be filled in,
Every mountain and hill be laid low;
Let every cliff become a plain,
And the ridges become a valley!
Then the glory of YHWH will be revealed,
And all humankind will see it."
The mouth of YHWH has spoken!

Isaiah 40:3-5*

God has forever been making a way through whatever separates us from God. Now God calls us to join that work—making way for the people God is still gathering.

The Bible testifies to God's consistent pattern—from the beginning—in which God has, again and again, made way between God and God's people. The story of God's interaction with God's creation is one of clearing the way to make possible a true and transforming connection between us humans and God's presence and purposes.

Week 1: God begins

Week 2: God persists

Week 3: God surprises

Week 4: God arrives

Week 5: God reaches

Week 6: God dwells

* *All scriptures in this booklet are from The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (2007). The Inclusive Bible uses YHWH to represent the Hebrew name for God, which is rendered as "the Lord" in many English translations. Biblical Hebrew was mostly consonants, with vowel markings added much later, so the original pronunciation of this name is uncertain. "YHWH" respects the roots and holiness of this name that is beyond gender.*

God Begins

Clear a path through the wilderness for YHWH! from Isaiah 40:3



KEY PASSAGE - Genesis 12:1-5a

YHWH said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people, and the home of your parents, and go to a place I will show you. I will make of you a great people. I will bless you and make your name so great that it will be used in blessings. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you. And all the people on the face of the earth will be blessed through you."

Abram, who was 75 years old when he left Haran, began the journey as YHWH had instructed, and his nephew Lot went with them. Abram took Sarai his spouse, Lot, all their possessions, and all the dependents they acquired in Haran, and set out for Canaan.

We all, even God, have to begin somewhere.

Creation has happened. The flood has risen, and ebbed, under Noah's ark. Eleven chapters of stories—legends—of the earliest humans have been shared. And at the start of the 12th chapter of the Bible, God calls Abram. In these verses we enter the story of God Making Way between God and humanity. Calling, promising, forming, lamenting. God has to start somewhere—and does.

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How would you react to a voice you've barely heard before, telling you to "Go" to a place you've never seen, with a handful of promises you struggle to understand? What would it take for your answer to be YES?

2. If you were God and wanted to be in relationship with the humans you newly created, how would you go about initiating that?

3. How have you seen God beginning in your own life? Has God called you to something or someplace new? When have you known of God doing that here at Collegiate/Wesley?

4. Is there only one beginning? Or does beginning happen again and again, for God, and for us?

DURING THE WEEK

READ some of the Biblical stories from the beginnings of God's relationship with humanity.

Genesis 1.1-2.4a	The first creation story
Genesis 2.4b-3.24	The second creation story
Genesis 28.10-22	Jacob's dream
Exodus 1	God hears the Israelites
Exodus 3	God calls Moses

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: What do these early Bible stories tell us about God? How would I react if that story had happened to me? How does each of these stories show us God beginning to Make Way between God and humanity?

BEGIN something you've been thinking of doing. Think about what it's like to start something new. If it involves another person, what does it require of them? Is this your last "beginning"?

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Begins: Take the first step.

Scripture Connection
Genesis 12:1–5
(Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible Page 24-25)

God called Abram to leave what was familiar and begin a new journey. Abram didn't know exactly where the journey would lead, but he trusted God enough to take the first step.

Talk Together
What is something new you have started recently? How did it feel to take the first step?

If God asked you to go somewhere new or try something different, what might make you nervous?

What do you think God might be beginning in your family, your church, or your community?

Making Way Activity: Take a First Step
As a family, choose at least one new thing to try this week that helps make way for God's love.

It might be:
- inviting someone new to join you (to the park, to church, to a meal etc.)
- trying a new way to pray
- volunteering somewhere
- starting a family tradition
- introducing yourself to someone you don't know
- taking a step toward something you've been afraid to try

Before you begin, talk about what makes first steps exciting and what makes them difficult.

Youth challenge: Think about a place in your life where you feel God may be inviting you to take a first step. Write down one specific action you could take this week.

Practical Ideas for Generously
Living & Giving

Written by: **Rev. Jena Finch-Manchester** Associate Pastor & Campus Minister

Every day, we make decisions about how we use our money. Some decisions are small: Do we eat out or cook at home? Do we make another online purchase or wait? Others are much larger: Where will we live? How will we save for the future? What will we do with the resources entrusted to us?

And then there is giving. Giving can be one of the most meaningful—and sometimes challenging—decisions we make. When we give, we are invited to consider more than what we have. We are invited to consider what matters most.

Giving is not simply a financial decision. It is a spiritual practice.

Giving invites us to pause, pray, and ask: What is God calling me to do with what I have been given? That question is at the heart of our journey together through this Making Way campaign. We are not simply being asked to support a project. We are being invited to imagine what God can do through us and to consider how we might participate in making way for the ministry and people who are yet to come.

Financial giving looks different for every person. Our circumstances, resources, and responsibilities are not the same. There is no "right" gift and no need to compare ourselves with one another. Instead, each of us is invited to listen for God's voice and respond faithfully.

Perhaps the question is not, "What should I give?"
Perhaps we begin by asking, "What is God inviting me to make room for?"
That is where generosity begins—not with pressure or guilt, but with prayerful attention.

Making Room for Giving

Living generously means being intentional. It means taking time to look at our resources and priorities and asking whether they reflect what we value most.

Sometimes giving means making a change. Perhaps we choose to eat out less often, delay a purchase, or find a less expensive alternative. Perhaps we redirect money we are already spending toward something that matters deeply to us.

Sometimes giving means using unexpected resources. A tax refund, bonus, inheritance, gift, or other unexpected income may provide an opportunity to give in a way we had not anticipated.

Sometimes giving means planning ahead. Instead of waiting to see what is left at the end of the month, we can make giving part of our financial planning. We can decide what we want our resources to say about our values and make room accordingly.

And sometimes giving stretches us. A meaningful gift may require us to rearrange our priorities or give up something we would otherwise choose for ourselves. That does not mean giving should leave us in hardship. But it may invite us to trust God, examine what we truly need, and discover that giving can bring a deeper sense of joy and purpose than simply accumulating more for ourselves.

As we move through this **Making Way** campaign, each of us is invited to pray, listen, and discern. Each gift will be different. Each story will be different. But together, our generosity can make a difference far beyond what any one of us could accomplish alone.

Together, we can make way for ministry.
We can make way for new relationships.
We can make way for the people who are searching for a place to belong.
We can make way for the possibilities God is already placing before us.
As you continue this journey, may you take time to pray, reflect, and listen.
And then, in your own faithful way, consider what God may be inviting you to do.
Together, we are **Making Way.**

A Generosity Toolbox

As you pray and discern your participation in **Making Way,** consider these practical ideas:

Pray. Set aside time to ask God how you are being invited to participate. Listen before you decide.

Look at your spending. Review where your money goes each month. Is there something you could reduce, postpone, or redirect?

Start with what you value. Consider the ministries, people, and possibilities that matter most to you. How might your giving reflect those values?

Consider unexpected resources. Have you received or do you expect a bonus, tax refund, inheritance, gift, or other resource that could become part of your gift?

Think creatively. Your gift may come from savings, investments, appreciated assets, or another source beyond your regular income. Explore the possibilities available to you. (Reach out to the Capital Campaign team for any clarification you might need about timing or creative possibilities.)

Talk with those who share your financial decisions. Make generosity part of the conversation. Pray and dream together about what you might do.

Consider a stretch. Ask whether God might be inviting you to do something beyond what feels easy or automatic—not out of guilt, but as an act of faith and trust.

Most of all, remember that generosity is not about equal gifts. It is about faithful participation.

WEEK OF PRIDE **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026**

Join in SUNDAY PRIDE worship at the Memorial Union, as we move our worship service there as an expression of our commitment to Make Way for our LGBTQIA+ siblings.

God Persists

Make a straight road through the desert for our God. from Isaiah 40:3



KEY PASSAGE - Exodus 15:19-22

Once Pharoah's horses, chariots and charioteers came into the seabed, YHWH let the water collapse back upon them. But the Israelites walked through the sea on dry land.

Then Aaron's sister, the prophet Miriam, picked up a tambourine, and all the women followed her, dancing, with tambourines, while Miriam sang:

"Sing to YHWH
who has triumphed gloriously,
who has flung horse and rider
into the sea!"

Moses led the Israelites from the Sea of Reeds into the desert of Shur. They traveled for three days in the desert without finding water.

Eventually we will have to persist with God through uncertainty.

The Israelites have just survived a defining test, and triumph, with their deliverance from Egypt through God's parting of the Red Sea. These thousands of people arrive at the far shore and celebrate with joy and song. The next day, though, they awaken to the hard reality that their exodus was just one step in what will be a long journey. Now they face the punishing desert sun and an uncertain path strewn with hardship. Neither they nor we will ever outrun that experience: What do we do now? How are we to live? What next?

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Can you remember a time you woke up to a place or situation you wanted or said yes to, but in practice it was harder, or different, than you expected? What kept you going, and continuing to pursue what you were after?

2. If you were God, looking at these people you've freshly delivered in the exodus, and you wanted to be in relationship with them, what would you do next? Remember they've been enslaved up until now. How do you help them along the path of becoming free, whole persons?

3. In what ways have you had to persist in your own experience with God? Have you had to work through uncertainty or disappointment in a situation or place you thought God had led you?

4. What helps you persist when you need to? What support do you find for the slow, long-time work that is sometimes required?

DURING THE WEEK

READ some episodes from the Israelites' travels through the wilderness on their way to the promised land:

Exodus 15.22-27	First steps into the wilderness
Exodus 16	Complaining, and manna from heaven
Exodus 17.1-7	Quarreling, and water from a rock
Exodus 18	Jethro's advice
Exodus 24.9-18	Meeting God on the mountain

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: Imagine yourself among these travelers—would you have been complaining? quarreling? trying to calm others down? What do these stories show us about God and God's nature? How do they show God persisting in Making Way between God and humanity?

PERSIST toward a goal you've been pursuing by doing one tangible thing. Reflect on what has kept you going, or what has slowed your progress. Have you had to endure friction from other people whose support you needed? from your own ambivalence? Honestly evaluate whether your goal is worth the persistence you'll need to get there.

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Persists: Keep going

Scripture Connection
Exodus 15:19–22
(Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible Page 58-59)

The Israelites celebrated when God made a way through the sea, but their journey wasn't over. Soon they were tired, thirsty, frustrated, and unsure what would happen next. Sometimes Making Way means to keep going when the way gets hard.

Talk Together
When have you wanted to give up on something?

What helps you keep going?

Who are the people who encourage you when something is difficult?

How can we help someone else keep going?

Making Way Activity: Encourage Someone
Choose someone who may be having a difficult week: a friend, teacher, coach, neighbor, family member, or someone in your church. Find a way to encourage them.
- Write them a note.
- Send a message.
- Make them a card.
- Help them with something.
- Or simply tell them, "I'm glad you're here. You are not alone."

Then talk together: How might a few words or a small act of kindness help someone take another step?

Youth challenge: Think beyond your immediate circle. Is there someone at school, work, church, or in your community who might be struggling quietly? Find a thoughtful and appropriate way to let them know they are not alone.

Generosity Journey

An Initial Giver is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the Church with this gift. (2 Corinthians 8:7-15)

A Consistent Giver is someone who decides to give something and to give it on a consistent basis to exercise the discipline of giving on a regular basis. Often, someone who decides to make their gift an online recurring gift will be someone who is learning the behavior of consistency. (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

An Intentional Giver is someone who is beginning to think about their giving in relation to other things on which they spend their money. This giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice that reflects how they prioritize it in relation to other things they spend their money on. (Luke 14:28-35)

A Sacrificial Giver is someone who recognizes the cost that Christ paid on the cross for us and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. A Sacrificial Giver is someone who gives in a way that changes them, in a way that reflects that their giving is governing their spending/saving rather than their spending/saving governing their giving. (Colossians 1:15-18, 22-23)

A Lifetime Giver is someone who is thinking about the longer tail of generosity rather than just the shorter term of month-to-month generosity or even year-to-year. A Lifetime Giver makes decisions in the short term that have longer term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. A Lifetime Giver might be someone who has a lifetime giving goal, something that will govern their larger-ticket decisions. Much like a Sacrificial Giver makes a commitment that will govern their monthly and annual decisions, a Lifetime Giver makes a lifetime or longer-term giving commitment that governs their larger-item purchases like homes, cars, investments, and the like. (1 Timothy 6:6-19)

Currently, where I am in my journey is:
- Initial
- Consistent
- Intentional
- Sacrificial
- Lifetime

I believe God is calling me to grow my generosity by:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____



God Surprises

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Isaiah 40:4a

KEY PASSAGE - Isaiah 44:24-28

Thus says YHWH, your Redeemer,
who formed you in the womb:
I am the God who created all things,
I alone stretched out the heavens,
I alone fashioned the earth;
I foil the signs of false prophets
and make fools of fortune-tellers;
it is I who overturns wise counsel,
and makes their wisdom seem foolish.
I confirm the word of my prophets,
I fulfill the predictions of my messengers—
I say of Jerusalem, "It will be inhabited";
of the towns of Judah, "They will be rebuilt",
and of their ruins, "I will restore them."
I say to deep waters, "Be dry!"
I will dry up all your rivers.
I say to Cyrus, "You will be my shepherd,
and you will carry out my plans,
so that Jerusalem may be rebuilt,
and the foundation of the Temple restored."

Life with God will include surprise.

Centuries after the exodus, we catch up with God's people who have experienced God's steadfast love across centuries. They made it to the Promised Land; they came to know and worship God at the temple they see as God's house. They thrived—and sometimes failed—under a succession of rulers.

But now Jerusalem has fallen and the temple destroyed. God's people have been captured and removed to Babylon, where they've spent decades among these foreigners who don't know their God. God's people see no path that could possibly bring them home. But still they've heard God calling to them, making promises, asking them to hope. And into this story comes the astonishing name Cyrus.

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Imagine yourself uprooted from your home, removed to a place with different languages, gods, and customs. Now imagine your generation growing old and dying in that place, so it's up to the next generations to hold on to the faith you passed along to them. What would enable your—and their—faith in God, and faith practices like prayer and worship, to withstand such trauma and the passing of so much time?

2. If you were God, knowing the hardships of your beloved people in exile, what would it look like to try to Make Way between you and them during that time?

3. How have you experienced surprise in your relationship with God? Can you recall a time you couldn't see any possible solution, and then God made a way where there was none? What unlikely characters were part of that surprise?

4. In what ways has surprise been a strength here at Collegiate/Wesley—either as you've offered or experienced our ministries? If it's not, should it be? How might God be inviting us to create room for the unexpected as we join God's work of Making Way?

DURING THE WEEK

READ about some other times we see God Making Way toward or on behalf of God's people, in surprising ways:

Genesis 21.14-21	Hagar in the wilderness
Numbers 22.21-39	Balaam's donkey
2 Samuel 11-12	David & Bathsheba, and "You are the man!"
1 Kings 17.8-16	Elijah and the widow of Zarephath
Esther 4-8	Esther

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: When unexpected relief appears in these stories or in your life, do you see God in that deliverance? When you've played a role in aiding someone else who didn't expect it, do you see God in your decision to do so? What would happen if we named clearly that we see God Making Way in these times?

SURPRISE someone (in a good way). Do something kind, or generous, or helpful. Ask yourself: Did I choose this action all on my own? or was God in that? Notice how it feels. Acknowledge that in carrying out that surprise, you've participated in Making Way, in at least a small way. You joined God's work of Making Way between God and us, and among us humans.

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Surprises: Look for the unexpected.

Scripture Connection
Isaiah 44:24–28
(Not in the Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible)

God's people couldn't imagine how they would ever return home or rebuild what had been lost. Then God surprised them by working through Cyrus, an unexpected person, to make a way forward. God doesn't always work in the ways we expect.

Talk Together
What is one of the biggest surprises you've experienced?

Has someone ever helped you when you didn't expect it?

Can God work through people we don't expect?

What might we notice if we paid closer attention to unexpected moments?

Making Way Activity: Take a First Step
- Bake something.
- Leave an encouraging note.
- Help with a chore.
- Pay someone a compliment.
- Pick up litter.

Youth challenge: Think about a place in your life where you feel God may be inviting you to take a first step. Write down one specific action you could take this week.

The Significance of Making a **Commitment**



During worship on November 15, our Collegiate/Wesley community will have the opportunity to celebrate God's grace and generosity as we make our giving commitments.

You will receive your physical cards before Commitment Sunday. There will be TWO commitment cards - one for the 2027 Annual Giving campaign, and one for your over-and-above giving to the Making Way capital campaign.

You'll turn in BOTH cards during worship on Commitment Sunday, November 15.



Why turn in your commitment cards?

A goal for **Making Way** is 100% participation from every individual or family in our church. All of us, turning in two cards, prayerfully and joyfully.

Commitment cards provide crucial financial information to our church leaders to help make wise decisions as we move forward with both our annual 2027 operating budget and our three-year Making Way capital campaign projects. Your commitment is an indication of your intention to give as you are able.

A commitment card also gives you an opportunity for self-reflection and spiritual growth. We'll each consider the gifts God has given us, both individually and collectively as a faith community. We invite you to reflect on your own generosity journey and your faithfulness in giving back to God.

Submitting your commitment cards demonstrates trust in God for the future and lets you participate with your resources in the joy of advancing God's work in our midst. Commitment can be life-giving and family-strengthening as we grow in relationship with God's abundance that has been entrusted to us.

We encourage you to have discussions—with God, with yourself, with your family members—about the purpose and mission for you to be good stewards of the gifts God has given you, as God is Making Way for us now and for future generations.

Tools provided in this journal are here to help you think about ways to grow in your giving journey, not just in the amount of your gift from one year to the next. We invite you all to do this, not because of what we want *from* you, but what we want *for* you.

God Arrives

Then the glory of YHWH will be revealed. Isaiah 40:5a

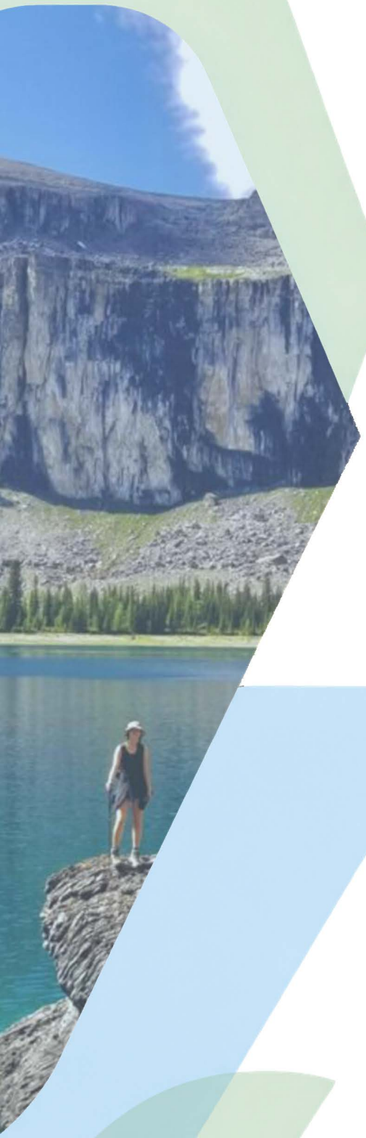
KEY PASSAGE - Mark 1:1–8, 14-15

Here begins the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: as it was written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I send my messenger before you to prepare your way,
a herald's voice in the desert, crying,
'Make ready the way of our God.
Clear a straight path.'"

And so John the Baptizer appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins….

After John's arrest, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming the Good News of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Change your hearts and minds, and believe this Good News!"



God collapses the distance between us, in Jesus.

In all that came before, we can see that God was working diligently and persistently at Making Way between God and humanity. But that work was never complete, despite all the beginnings, persistence, surprises, and more, across all those generations. That work was incomplete, not fully comprehensible, because that distance is so vast. And so, at just the right time, God came to us in human flesh. In Jesus, God put aside God's glory so as to live our lives and die our deaths, all for the sake of Making Way, for good.

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Try putting yourself into the position of knowing about God only what you could know before Jesus. How does that understanding change with Jesus' coming, and all that we know of God as a result?

2. If you were God who had across millennia been working at—and not fully arriving at—Making Way, what alternatives might you have considered? How hard would this decision to "arrive" in human flesh be?

3. Reflect on how God arrived in your own life. Was there a distinct time before, and a time you experienced God coming into your life? Even if it was gradual, has God arrived more fully over time?

4. What is our role at Collegiate/Wesley in this shared work of God arriving for others? How have you seen it happen? What gets in the way?

DURING THE WEEK

READ how the Bible names this nearly unfathomable reality of God coming to us through Jesus Christ, and how the early church began to make sense of what had happened:

John 1.1-18	The Word became flesh
Philippians 2.5-11	Christ's humility
Colossians 1.15-20	The image of the invisible God
Hebrews 1.1-4	God has spoken by the Son
1 John 1.1-4	What we have looked at and touched

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: What do you make of these Bible words that try to put the fullness of God and of Jesus Christ into common words people can understand? Are there parts of these descriptions you don't believe, or can't grasp? What is missing from these descriptions? How would you put into words your understanding of God, and how God has been Making Way to humanity all through time, including through Jesus Christ?

ARRIVE somewhere you've heard about but never been. Notice what's just the way you expected, and what seems different now that you're there. Maybe let something arrive on your plate that you've never tried. Taste it. How does your actual up-close experience change what you know? Do you suppose God's life in Christ changed God's knowing, too?

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Arrives: Make Room

Scripture Connection
Mark 1:1–8, 14–15
(Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible Page 58-59)

The story of Jesus begins with a call to "Make ready the way." Then Jesus arrives among us. God comes close.

God doesn't remain distant. God comes near.

Talk Together
What makes you feel welcome?

When have you felt like you really belonged somewhere?

What can make someone feel left out?

How can we make more room for others?

Making Way Activity: Make Room at the Table
This week, intentionally make room for someone.
- Invite someone to eat with your family.
- Sit beside someone who is alone.
- Invite someone into your game, conversation, or activity.
- Welcome someone new at church.
- Ask someone to tell you their story.
- If someone invites you, accept the invitation. Make room for yourself too.

The goal isn't to do something impressive.
The goal is simply to say: "There is room for you here."

Youth challenge: Look around your school, team, work-place, or youth group. Who might be on the edges? What is one genuine way you could help that person feel included?



God Reaches

And all humankind will see it. from Isaiah 40:5

KEY PASSAGE - Acts 16:6-15 (excerpts below)

They next traveled through Phrygia and Galatian territory, because they had been prevented by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they reached the frontier of Mysia, they thought to cross through it into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to cross, so they went through Mysia and came down to Troas.

Then one night Paul had a vision. A Macedonian stood before him and said, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After this vision, we immediately made efforts to get across to Macedonia, convinced that God had called us to bring them the Good News….

On the Sabbath we went along the river outside the gates, thinking we might find a place of prayer. We sat down and preached to the women who had come to the gathering. One of them was named Lydia, a devout woman from the town of Thyatira who was in the purple-dye trade. As she listened to us, Christ opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. After she and her household were baptized, she extended us an invitation: "If you are convinced that I am a believer in Christ, please come and stay with us." We accepted.

God is still reaching, wherever the way is not yet clear.

The Book of Acts recounts how those changed by Jesus Christ became a community—the first church—and began the work of sharing what they knew in ever-wider circles, far beyond Jerusalem. This work isn't all in the hands of these early missionaries; the scriptures repeatedly name God's voice or presence guiding them along the way. God's work of Making Way is persistent, endless, and passionate, as God enlists the words and bodies of believers who wholeheartedly join this holy pursuit.

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Imagine being God, overseeing and experiencing these ever-expanding numbers and geography of people who are hearing and receiving the Good News of Jesus. Way is Being Made! Can you remember a time when something you had long attempted gained traction? How might God's delight be like, or unlike, ours?

2. Of course God can see the opposition, and knows the future. What plans do you see God putting in place for God's ongoing work of Making Way, which will continue across the coming millennia?

3. Think of a time someone reached for you, for your well-being, whether or not it had to do with your life of faith. What feelings does that memory evoke? Can you recall a time you gave someone else that good gift?

4. How might God be calling us at Collegiate/Wesley to reach for those around us? Beyond completing the projects we will fund through our Making Way campaign, what else is needed for us to reach widely, connect meaningfully, and Make Way for relationship with one another and with God?

DURING THE WEEK

READ some Bible reminders that God unfailingly reaches for people we might not have chosen —or even noticed:

Acts 8.26-40	Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch
Acts 9.1-30	Saul of Tarsus
Acts 10.1-11.18	Peter and Cornelius
Ephesians 2.11-22	Christ is our peace
Romans 8.35-39	Nothing can separate us

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: Where are the boundaries of your comfort zone? How might you prepare yourself to join God's work of Making Way even into those places? Are there people or groups you wouldn't really want to reach, on God's behalf? Be honest with yourself about your feelings: fear? contempt? How do you feel about a God who might still be Making Way in their direction?

REACH out this week to someone who might think you've forgotten or given up on them, or someone who's on the edges of your comfort zone. (Don't put yourself in danger!) Notice how it feels—physically, emotionally, spiritually—to do this kind of work that God has always done. **EXTRA CREDIT**: Write a note thanking someone who once reached out to you.

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Reaches: Reach Beyond Your Circle

Scripture Connection
Acts 16:6–15
(Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible Page 292-293)

Paul and his companions followed God's leading beyond what was familiar. They met Lydia, who welcomed them, and her household became part of the growing community of faith.

God keeps reaching beyond the places we expect.

Talk Together
Who is someone you'd like to know better?

What is one question you could ask to learn something new about them?

Why do you think people's stories matter to God?

Who is in your community?

Making Way Activity: Take a First Step
Choose someone you'd like to know better. Ask them a question, listen closely, and learn something you didn't know about them. You might ask: What are you interested in? Who has influenced you? What's something you've learned that matters to you?

Youth challenge: Choose someone you admire—a family member, teacher, coach, artist, athlete, historical figure, or someone else. Learn more about their story. What shaped them? What challenges have they faced? What do you admire about them? What is one thing you could learn from their life? Think about your circle and your community. Who's missing? Where would you like to extend and grow your circle of friends?

Gift Profile
Guide

What do we believe God is calling each of us to do as we are asked to participate in this campaign?

People familiar with fundraising, including in churches, use a chart called a "Gift Profile Guide" to illustrate the wide range of gifts that typically add up to the total in any campaign. The details always vary, but this chart illustrates one possible way we'll get to our $1.5 million goal. Each of the commitment amounts would be the total given within the campaign period (2027-2029).

As you pray about what God is asking you to give during this time, consider how giving plays a role in living a life of significance. As you get a sense of where you might find yourself on this chart, dare to imagine moving up a line, or even two. Might God be calling you to reach that amount? Let this guide be a tool to inspire and challenge you to commit more deeply to living generously.

Campaign Goal: $1.5 Million

# of Commitments	*Amount of Each Commitment*
1	$250,000
2	$100,000
2	$75,000
3	$50,000
4	$35,000
8	$25,000
10	$15,000
10	$10,000
15	$7,200
15	$3,600
Other Commitments	under $3,600

Keep this in mind: if you plant sparingly, you will reap sparingly, and if you plant bountifully, you will reap bountifully.... You will be made rich in every way for your generosity, for which we give thanks to God.

2 Corinthians 9: 6, 11

Commitment Calculator

This chart shows commitment levels based on the frequency of giving, including the three-year total.

If God has led you to make a financial commitment to this project, we know it is helpful to see how your giving could be every week, month, and year. We've provided the following calculator to help you see it, but no one should feel confined to this schedule.

Weekly	Monthly	Annually	3 Year Total
$1,603	$6,944	$83,333	$250,000
$641	$2,778	$33,333	$100,000
$481	$2,083	$25,000	$75,000
$321	$1,389	$16,667	$50,000
$224	$972	$11,667	$35,000
$160	$694	$8,333	$25,000
$96	$417	$5,000	$15,000
$64	$278	$3,333	$10,000
$46	$200	$2,400	$7,200
$23	$100	$1,200	$3,600
$10	$42	$500	$1,500
$5	$21	$250	$750

The challenge before us is a large one. The charts provided here demonstrate a number of ways we can work as a church family to stand up and achieve this significant goal. Please pray about your involvement in this campaign. Seek God's wisdom and look for how God is **Making Way** for you to engage in this important work.

God Dwells

The mouth of YHWH has spoken! Isaiah 40:5b

KEY PASSAGE - Revelation 21:1-22:7 (excerpts below)

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea existed no longer. I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride and groom on their wedding day.

And I heard a loud voice calling from the throne, "Look! God's Tabernacle is among humankind! God will live with them; they will be God's people, and God will be fully present among them. The Most High will wipe away every tear from their eyes. And death, mourning, crying and pain will be no more, for the old order has fallen."

I saw no Temple in the city, for God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the Temple. There was no sun or moon: God's glory was its light, and the Lamb was its lamp. The nations will walk by the city's light, and the rulers of the earth will bring their treasures. The city's gates will never be shut by day, and there will be no night there….

In the end, God is with us.

We come to the end of the Bible. Revelation records a faithful exile's vision of the ultimate defeat of evil. In the triumph of God's purposes, John of Patmos sees a new heaven and new earth where God will dwell with us. The Bible ends with the long-hoped-for completion of God's ageless work that has, indeed, made way for us all.

NOTES

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. In the end, we glimpse God dwelling with us, resting from the everlasting work of Making Way. Faithful people have looked toward this endpoint across all of Biblical history. Do you? What do you imagine it will take to get to this future? Is it real? Why or why not?

2. How does the thought of living right alongside God energize you or unsettle you? Is this a happy vision as you contemplate such a future? Consider why or why not.

3. What does this vision require of us, in our time? While it's not up to us to bring it about, is it worth wondering how we prepare ourselves—and others, through our ministries—to partake of such a future?

DURING THE WEEK

READ some of the Scriptures that put into words the peace and presence that characterize God's ultimate purposes:

Isaiah 2.2-4	Swords into plowshares
Isaiah 65.17-25	The glorious new creation
Jeremiah 31.31-34	A new covenant
Matthew 1.22-23	Emmanuel, "God with us"
Matthew 28.16-20	Until the end of the age

ASK and perhaps discuss or journal about these questions: How has this season of Making Way connected you more fully to God and God's purposes? How have you been moved to enter into the work of Making Way—not just with the projects this campaign will fund, but in the ways you live, serve, and invest your time?

DWELL for a few minutes with your notes from these six weeks of worship and conversation. What do you notice? How has God been speaking to you along the way? Pause to give thanks for all of this, for the places this season has taken you, and for our next steps together here at Collegiate/Wesley.

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES - God Dwells: Imagine God's Future

Scripture Connection
Revelation 21–22
(Celebrate Wonder Children's Bible, p. 312)

The Bible ends with a vision of God's future: God dwelling among humanity. There is no more mourning, crying, or pain. God's light shines, the gates are open, and people from every nation have a place. This is the future God invites us to imagine, a world where God is fully present and everyone has a place.

Talk Together
What do you imagine God's future looking like?

What would a world without loneliness, hunger, violence, or exclusion look like?

What would be different at school? In your neighborhood? In your church? In your family? In the world?

What do you hope our church will be like in the future?

Making Way Activity:
You just spent time talking together, imagining what your church, school, neighborhood, or community could look like if God's vision became reality. Write or draw your vision. What would you see? Who would be there? What would be different? Where would you be in that vision?

Youth and Family Challenge:
Choose one part of God's future that you want to help make visible now: welcome, peace, belonging, hope, justice, or care. Talk together about one way you can live toward that vision with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Write your commitment somewhere your family will see it throughout the year. But don't let it just be a moment in time. Be intentional. Check back in with one another about your commitment.

Next Steps

CW Friends—

Thank you for reading all the way to this page!

We're persuaded that it's helpful to have most everything you need in this one booklet–but I hope you'll take it in pieces and refer back to the pages that contain what you need.

This booklet serves as a journal as we go through this season together. There's room on many pages for notes and reflection. **We hope you'll bring this booklet with you to worship**–or have it at hand if you're worshiping online. We'll refer to it from time to time so you'll find it's useful.

Beyond that, and a big thanks for joining in this time with us all, I'll close with a few key things we're asking of you:

1. **Attend Commitment Sunday** – November 15, 2026.
2. **Pray** for God's favor and blessing to accompany us through this time.
3. Absorb and **be an ambassador of accurate information** by engaging with the campaign materials, attending events, and asking questions.
4. Be in prayer and discussion about your **annual giving,** and what God might invite you to do.
5. Commit to discussing and praying about making a **3-year commitment** to the Making Way capital campaign, over and above your regular annual giving.

Oh–and please join me in thanking our capital campaign team, identified on the next page, who have done a tremendous amount of work to support this entire process. These are the people to ask, if you have questions that still need answered.

Making Way with you,

Lee

Pastor Lee





Daily Prayer

We encourage you to pray slowly through this passage in Ephesians each day. Let these words and God's extravagant love make their way into you:

And I pray that God, out of the riches of divine glory, will strengthen you inwardly with power through the working of the Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, so that you, being rooted and grounded in love, will be able to grasp fully the breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love and, with all God's holy ones, experience this love that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. —Ephesians 3.16-19

Notice how you find yourself making way for that love back to God and toward others – not just in your giving, but in your whole life.







Making Way Team

MANY people have devoted untold hours to lead and support this Making Way campaign. A huge thanks to all who have assisted, and especially these ongoing teams:

Hospitality: Jane Jacobson, Linda Carver, Darra Johnson
Spiritual Growth: Marci Bethurem, Lauren Loonsfoot, Kaylin Contag, Max Morris, Bev Shirbroun

And our **Making Way Executive Team–**any of whom you're welcome to contact for further information or clarification throughout this campaign:

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Making Way

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