



What is that Tree on Main street?

Have you seen our beautiful tree, have you been wondering why there is a tree on Main street? The tree is for the “Forward to Freedom” campaign. There are currently butterflies growing on this tree. The butterflies represent people that are involved and are helping with the campaign. Please consider being a part of the campaign and add your butterfly to the tree. If you have been involved, please stop by the welcome desk and add your name to a butterfly.

After our early commitment dinner on the 22nd, you will see the blossoms on the tree begin to bloom. Each blossom will represent \$10,000 in pledges. We hope you will help our tree to bloom this spring!



*“The friendly,
loving, and
caring people
at First Farragut
have become my
extended family.”*

-Anonymous

Tithes and Offerings – A Spiritual Discipline VS. Capital Gifts – A Special Gift

The Hebrew concept of stewardship begins and ends with God.

The scriptures present a clear understanding of the concept of stewardship, possessions and giving. Songs of worship even contain references and reminders to this important principle. “The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” Psalm 24:1. This year, we have great things in store as we discover together new horizons in stewardship, and its impact on our daily lives.

Let us examine the difference between our capital campaign gifts and tithes and offerings.

Exodus 36 tells us about the people bringing their offerings, (not their tithes), to build the sanctuary of God. There was such an outpouring Moses had to send word for the people to stop giving. More than enough provision had been made. That would be hard to imagine.

In II Chronicles, when King David assisted his son Solomon, in building the temple, all of the people, led by King David, gave gifts toward its construction. These gifts were above those it would take to run the daily business of the temple. There was never confusion or talk of splitting gifts, or the need to delay worship and ministry while the temple was being built. The King and the people looked upon the opportunity to bring their building gifts as a special honor from God.

Think of your capital campaign gifts like those given by people in the days of Moses and King David, freewill donations, above the tithe, to build God’s house.

Now, contrast capital campaign gifts with our tithes and offerings to ministry. The tithes and offerings the church emphasizes once a year enables daily ministry.

Perhaps the most familiar passages on the subject of the tithe and its importance as the daily provision come from Malachi 3:10. Here we are told to “bring our full tithe into the storehouse” (or church). . . . so there may be food in my house”, (so ministry can occur, uninterrupted) “and in so doing, put me to the test”, says the Lord; “see if I will not open the windows of Heaven for you, and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.”

Just as the house of God referred to in Malachi was the source of ministry, our church today is the center for all of the ministries we provide for others and ourselves; it is the purveyor of the Good News of Christ. Our tithes enable ministries, which reach out to people where they are hurting, feed the hungry, spread the gospel through Christian education, evangelism and worship, and put people in touch with God.

Please remember these two distinctive opportunities:

- ◆ **Capital Campaign** – A Special Gift . . . our gifts, above and beyond God’s tithe and our offerings, earmarked to take care special facility needs
- ◆ **Tithes and Offerings** – A Spiritual Discipline . . . our faithful return of what already belongs to God to make sure the church can fulfill its mission to tell others about Christ and nurture disciples

Please consider these differences with an open, responsive heart. We simply must not confuse the two. Both types of giving are needed, as inspired by scripture.

Key Campaign Dates

Friday, February 20th

7:00 PM—Gathering #5 Parker home
 CHILDCARE available at church

Sunday, February 22nd

5:30 PM—Advanced Commitment
 Dinner

Saturday March 7th

7:00 AM—7:00 PM— Prayer Vigil

Sunday March 8th

Great Day of Commitment and
 Celebration!

Please R.S.V.P. For a Reception!

Our thanks to Alvin and Marjorie Jenkins for serving as the coordinators of our Advance Phase Team, and to our hosts for welcoming us into their homes. We have had a great time at each of these events.

Thank you to those of you that have attended the home gatherings. We have learned a lot from these events and hope that you have too.

If you have not yet attended a home gathering. Please join us for the last one hosted by Patti and Regina. You can R.S.V.P. online or contact Jen Braun at braunj1@gmail.com 330.348.3697

Friday February 20th, 7:00-8:30 PM

Patti Parker and Regina Ferrell
 14935 Old Stage Rd, 37772

**CHILDCARE available at the church
 Please RSVP**

Leadership Team

Campaign Co-Chairpersons	John and Connie Griffith Mark and Molly Veness
Campaign Project Manager	Jennifer Braun
Task Force Coordinator	Jim O'Brien
Public Relations/Communications	Jennifer Braun
Arts and Graphics Team	Lynn Yarbrough
Education Team	Lynn Kirchner
Spiritual Emphasis Team	Renni Morris
Event Planning Team	Connie Griffith Teresa Belles
Attendance Building Team	John Morris and Jimmy Taylor
Delivery Team	Jimmy Taylor
Assembly Team	Patti Parker
Media Team	Tom Derr
Youth	Chuck Powell
Children	Brenni Matson Aiden Yarbrough Hannah Yarbrough
Follow-Up Team	John Morris and Jimmy Taylor
Advance Phase Team	Alvin and Marjorie Jenkins
Advance Home Gathering Hosts:	Tom and Laura Derr Joe and Brenda Bradford John and Renni Morris Alvin and Marjorie Jenkins Patti Parker and Regina Ferrell
Consultant	Jennifer Tyler
Pastor	Rev. Amy Probst

Many other persons are already assisting as well, including other laity, your church staff, and more. We thank God for the sharing of time and talents from these faithful and committed souls. Please uphold these persons, and the church, with your prayers, as we move forward with a Vision of Hope in Christ's name!



"My vision for FFUMC is for us to increase membership and reduce debt so we can have more resources to spread God's love to more people in our community and the world."

- Anonymous