

TRANSFORM

our life...our church...our community



Our Vision

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord (Jeremiah 29:11)

Called by God, compelled by the love of Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit...

We end relational poverty by inviting everyone to know and experience the love of Jesus and by building authentic relationships with one another.

The heart of Paoli Presbyterian Church is to know Christ and to make Christ known. We believe that God is calling us to TRANSFORM our lives, our church, and our community in a way that ends the emptiness of relational poverty.

Our church has a faithful history of service and mission. Today we are called to consider the needs of future generations who will build on God's amazing vision for our church. Below are the strategies defined by our Session that answer God's call for us to do His transforming work.

- **Profess faith in Jesus Christ**
- **Join a Biblically-based, relationally-oriented group**
- **Serve Jesus and others through giving of time, talents, and money**
- **Invest in the faith lives of others**

Realizing our vision and bringing these strategies to life depends on...our people.

It requires sharply focused activities to apply the gifts that God has blessed us with and encourages us to share through...our programs.

And it demands a place of comfort and inspiration where we deepen our relationships with God and each other...our church.



Our Challenge

Nearly 60 years ago, the leaders of Paoli Presbyterian Church recognized the need for a bigger and better facility where its congregation and future members could join in fellowship and hear God's word.

This sturdy and familiar red-brick structure on South Valley Road has served us well and is a source of great affection and memories for members - past and present - for whom it's been a loving, spiritual home.

As with any home, there comes a time when lifestyles change, space needs are different, and wear and tear requires attention. It is time for Paoli to reimagine our future needs for worship, Sunday school, youth activities, child care and other programs that serve our community of faith.

That's why after much evaluation and prayer, we believe God has called us to act now to begin the improvements needed to transform Paoli Presbyterian Church:

What's needed and why now?

After decades of use, our facilities are still functional but limited in their capabilities and scope. We also must recognize that most churches - including ours - are competing for the attention of people against the secular tug of work, school, technology, and leisure. That means we must find new and more compelling ways to share God's word and bring people to know Jesus Christ.

To accomplish that, we are launching a congregational campaign to fund a variety of building upgrades and new spaces that allow us to enhance the current physical facilities. A campaign that helps us create a place where people feel welcomed, where they engage in ways that fit their interests, and where we transform people's hearts and lives through God-filled experiences.



Our Plan

New structures and spaces offer new opportunities to strengthen the faith of our current members and bring others to know the gospel. We have assessed the needs of the church and are proposing the following transformational changes that match our strategic plan and vision of Ending Relational Poverty. Phase 1 of this project, with construction beginning as early as June 2021, has a budget of \$3M. These spaces are where our church's future begins.

- A revitalized worship space for all services

Our sanctuary has needed a facelift for some time. The planned improvements will create an environment for dynamic and inspiring worship for all generations. It also offers flexibility for varied services and seating configurations.

- A new gathering space for expanded hospitality and personal connections

To end relational poverty, we must have facilities that help connect us to others in a relaxed and engaging setting. An enlarged space outside the sanctuary will help bring people together to enjoy fellowship and build relationships that reflect the love of Jesus.

- An infrastructure that allows us extended use of our facilities and utilities

We have not done any significant work on the basic needs of our building for many years. There are numerous core improvements that, left undone in the future, will render the structure unsafe and below building code standards.

A strong foundation is vital to any building, so infrastructure improvements such as upgrading HVAC systems, sprinklers, and installing an elevator are crucial enhancements to care for our members, reach our community, and fulfill our mission.



Our Response

Writing the next chapter for Paoli Presbyterian Church begins with each of us. Throughout scripture God asks us to examine our lives to determine our priorities and to honor His kingdom with our choices.

Meeting the challenge that God has placed before us will require a response and commitment that extends beyond regular giving. How much should you give? No one can tell any individual or family what God wants them to do. The Essence of stewardship is expressed by David in II Samuel 24:24, where he says:

"I will not offer to God that which cost me nothing."

In other words, to be successful, this campaign requires sacrifice and unique levels of giving from each and every one of us.

Now is the time to demonstrate your commitment to the vision of Paoli Presbyterian Church through your generosity. This next step has been decades in the making. It is our turn to create a new home for worship following the example of those who saw a vision 60 years ago to build this church in Paoli.

We invite you to join others who are coming together on this spiritual journey. Let us go boldly forward to do the Lord's work with a faith that demonstrates anything is possible when we trust God with our treasures and our lives.



The same Jesus who turned water into wine can transform our homes, our lives, our families, and our future. He is still in the miracle-working business, and His business is the business of transformation.



New Gathering Space:

A place where people come together to enjoy fellowship and build relationships.



Additional Positive Impacts Include:

- Elevator and connecting tunnel on the lower level making all levels of the church accessible.
- Refreshed finishes in Streeter Lounge, Churchill Hall, and the upstairs kitchen.





**Revitalized
Worship Area:**
Improvements
to the Sanctuary
will create a
flexible and
dynamic space
for worship.



Steps Toward Making a Commitment

Only by God's grace and mercy will we be able to answer the direct call that God is placing upon our hearts here at Paoli Presbyterian Church. You can make a difference through:

- 1. Prayer** - The only way we will accomplish God's purpose and plans for our church and your life is through prayer. Please pray that God will reveal to you how you can respond to His invitation to transform the future of Paoli Presbyterian Church.
- 2. Sacrifice** - It is not equal giving that counts, but equal sacrifice. Each sacrificial commitment should be given in faith with an attitude of generosity.
- 3. Commitment** - Our commitment is not based upon the world's economy but on God's transcendent kingdom. Will we trust God's unlimited faithfulness in accomplishing this task?

Each of us will be asked to make a three-year commitment to the Transform campaign. You can make your commitment by filling out the enclosed Commitment Card or by going online to www.paolipres.org/transform. We invite you to consider the opportunity to give to the future vision of Paoli Presbyterian Church.

