



A Campaign Case Statement

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OUR IDENTITY

What is our foundation?

We are a church of Bible-believing Christ followers who share a common faith with Christians throughout the ages. We believe in one God, the power of the work of his Son to save through His death and resurrection, the power of the Holy Spirit to enable us to follow the ways of Jesus, and the authority of Scripture as the infallible word of God.

OUR MISSION

Why are we here?

The mission of Spring Run is to be an authentic, worshiping community proclaiming and embodying the gospel of Jesus Christ.

OUR VISION

What do we hope to accomplish?

Our vision is to make growing followers of Jesus who influence others with the gospel for the good of individuals, families, our community, and the world. We do this as we *Go* out to serve others and share our faith, as we *Gather* in for hospitable worship, and as we *Grow* together in authentic faith.

OUR CORE PRIORITIES

How do we pursue our mission and vision?

We plan to make followers of Jesus who influence others with the gospel by:

- Regularly praying for unchurched people
- Authentically engaging unchurched people where we live and work
- Intentionally bringing unchurched people into friendship
- Diligently connecting newcomers into membership and ministry
- Faithfully discipling members in a gospel-centered lifestyle

We invest in individuals and families by equipping:

- Children and youth to understand the gospel and embrace Scripture
- Singles to leverage missional mobility and make wise marital decisions
- Marrieds to showcase the gospel in their relationship and roles
- Parents to shepherd the hearts of their children

We engage with our community and the world by:

- Supporting or initiating ministries and projects that serve people locally and globally in word and deed, with justice and mercy
- Multiplying the Church by partnering with other like-minded churches in a church planting movement that extends through Chesterfield County, the City of Richmond, and the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Sending people on short-term mission efforts and through some committing to life-time missionary service. While we proclaim the gospel and plant churches locally we will extend it globally

A BRIEF HISTORY

Where have we come in 20 years?

Twenty years ago, in 2005, Pastor Conrad responded to God's call to plant a new church in the growing Hull Street area. A core group was gathered and community groups began meeting in homes until the first worship services were held at Spring Run Elementary School in 2006. Growth occurred quickly and by the fall of 2007, more than 125 people were attending, and Pastor Fletcher was hired as Assistant Pastor to help shepherd the growing congregation.

In 2010, with attendance nearing 250 on Sundays, Spring Run's leaders decided to pursue a permanent church home, launching the *Boldly* capital campaign, and raising funds to purchase the Woodlake property in 2011-2012. What followed was a true community effort in painting, preparing, furnishing, and moving, and the Spring Run congregation moved into the building in 2013.

Over the past decade, Spring Run has experienced consistent growth and ministry, a testament to the Lord's blessings and the dedication of our team. We've been fortunate to have skilled and devoted staff members, as well as a steady stream of faithful volunteer leaders who have diligently stewarded God's gifts. Here are some notable milestones:

- In 2014, we welcomed our first Youth Director, who has since been ordained and now serves as a Senior Pastor in Florida.
- We expanded our team in 2014 with the addition of a part-time Finance Administrator.
- Jim Conrad joined us as Pastor-at-Large in 2014, raising all of his support until his retirement in 2019.
- In 2019, we created the role of Children's Ministry Director, further enhancing our staff structure. Additionally, Martha Nice joined us as Office Administrator. And Jake Ruefer accepted the position of Youth Director.
- 2022 saw the appointment of Lauren Moore as Children's Ministry Director and Doris Paul as Finance Administrator.
- In 2023, we made more additions to our team, including Marty Cates as Church Planter for Amelia, Jeremy Hancock as Spring Run's new Worship Director, and Joy Roberts in the newly created role of Director of Operations. These hires have brought our staff count to 3 full-time and 5 part-time positions.

Today, Spring Run enjoys a vibrant congregation of around 315 on Sundays, and is poised for a sustained generational impact on its community.



KINGDOM IMPACT

What has God done through Spring Run?

God's blessing of ministry efforts over 20 years has yielded a humbling array of Gospel-focused impact on our congregation, community, and the world.

Growing God's Family

- In 2024 we welcomed **32 new members** including **7 professions of faith** by new believers and **11 people reaffirming their faith** after having drifted away from church for many years. We baptized 4 people upon the profession of faith and 2 infants.
- We had 420 new people involved across all our ministry programs. At year end, we had **654 People** actively involved in our church.
- We saw 10% growth in Sunday AM attendance.

Pursuing Diligent Ministry

- We invest in adults through **300+** in small groups, 12 active Community Groups, 11 Bible Studies, and small groups that support the community.
- We invest in Children's ministry through intentional programming for all ages, VBS, nursery care for various ages, our Cooper's Buddies program (launched to reach children with special needs), and other family activities.
- We invest in upper elementary students through 345, engaging 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders as they transition from childhood to adolescence. This biweekly ministry helps students discover who they are in Christ, build relationships, and see how the Gospel makes a practical difference in their lives. Since its launch in 2023, 345 has grown rapidly, now reaching **over 170 kids**, averaging 45 students per gathering.
- We invest in Youth ministry through an active youth leadership team who
 plans and serves, an active Youth Group gathering of 40 kids, and our new
 1825 ministry (for ages 18-25). Over 100 students were engaged in youth
 ministry at Spring Run in 2024!

<u>Investing in Missions Locally</u>

- Since 2004, as part of the Metro Richmond Church Planting Network, Spring Run has helped start at least **10 churches** including 3 (Chester, Farmville and Amelia) in the last 4 years.
- We have invested steadily in RUF (Reformed University Fellowship) ministry at various universities in Virginia.
- We support local ministries such as Younglife in Chesterfield and Amelia counties, STEP (developing strategies to defeat poverty in Richmond), and REAL (Recovering from Everyday Addictive Lifestyles).
- We financially support Frank Matthews, a missionary in Virginia who is developing Hispanic church planters to reach Hispanic communities.

<u>Investing in Missions Globally</u>

- We have sent short-term missions teams annually since 2009 to rural Appalachia, Ukraine, Uganda, Hindus in London, Dominican Republic, Belize, Bahamas, Malawi, and others. We support global missionaries in Ukraine, Malawi, India, South Africa, Spain, and England who are planting churches, training pastors, and bringing people to Christ.
- Members of Spring Run have provided clean water boreholes for two rural villages in Malawi, in partnership with a church planting pastor who brings the living water of Jesus.

CHALLENGES TO GROWTH

What are the hindrances in our future?

As Spring Run pursues its growing ministry for Christ's Kingdom, there are real challenges facing us.

Being an Evangelizing People

There is a need to re-emphasize evangelism, and reaching the lost for Christ. This includes planting churches in new locations, but just as importantly, it includes reaching new people right where we are. As Midlothian experiences rapid growth, the opportunity to engage with and welcome newcomers into our community becomes even more vital. A vital church will be one that welcomes those who are skeptical and curious, and that requires both going out to where they are and gathering them in.

Facilities Stretched Thin

Put simply, we must address the very real challenge of facility constraints, and the limits that it puts on our worship, fellowship, and ministries.

- We are quickly reaching maximum capacity for Sunday services. Especially if we wish to maintain one service, additional space and seating is an urgent need.
- Many of our congregation members (two-thirds), and our Elders, prefer to remain in one service. Even if we held two worship services it does not address the facility constraints for fellowship and ministry. It would also require double the volunteers and increased hours for part-time staff.
- Existing ministries are growing, and we lack the space to accommodate this growth demand. This includes our children, youth, and adults.
- Makeshift arrangements for our various ministries, especially our youth and children's ministries, are taxing both on our staff and on our volunteers.

OUR RESPONSE

How do we plan to address this challenge?

Project Overview

In order to address our very real challenges of ministry space, and to effectively grow our ministry of the Gospel, we plan to pursue a church facilities initiative that includes three primary components:

1. Gathering Place

We will construct a 3,000 square foot gathering place on the front side of the church that will serve as a multi-use area for fellowship and education. It will be used in every facet of our church life, not only exponentially improving a place to gather and connect on Sunday mornings, but providing new and flexible space for education and activities for our children, all the way up to adults. In addition, this space provides greater functionality for events like weddings and funerals.

2. Sanctuary Seating Expansion

We will increase the capacity of our sanctuary to approximately 520 chairs by opening the sides of the balcony. In addition to the additional seating capacity, this will also greatly improve the open feel of the space, and sight lines to the stage.

3. Various Renovation Projects

We will complete several key projects that will improve the function, maintenance, and efficiency of our church space, including:

- Moving the audio/visual booth downstairs for visibility and functionality;
- Expanding and updating the kitchen, while creating a new office by dividing an existing one;
- Implementing updates to the upstairs and downstairs bathrooms;
- Upgradings sanctuary lighting with more efficient and effective LED bulbs and controls; and
- Replacing the outdated fire alarm system.

The cost of this project as outlined is projected to be \$2.5 million.





Project Rationale & Outcomes

There are seven key reasons we believe this project, in this particular size and scope, is the most productive path forward at this time.

- 1. It will provide hospitable facilities that are welcoming, clean, safe, and useful for ministry to the congregation and community.
- 2. It will provide desperately needed fellowship space on Sunday mornings for people to spend time together, rather than feel rushed to the exits. This will also help immensely with our adult Sunday School program.
- 3. It will provide additional space on Sunday evenings for our Youth and Children's Ministries which are inviting friends in the community and developing student leaders.
 - a. These remain a key focus, and the need for additional space has become essential to accommodate our rapidly growing 345 and youth ministries. Our Sunday evening programming alone already serves well over 100 participants and continues to expand.
- 4. The Gathering Place will provide enough space for weekday programs like Bible Study, support groups, men's and women's gatherings, and other events like VBS, Gingerbread Bash, and Fall Festival. It will accommodate educational seating for up to 120, and meal seating for up to 100.
- 5. It will provide a realistic space for our Sunday morning service to grow to around 400 people united in passionate and participatory worship.
- 6. It will position us to flourish in this generation, but also in the next, by:
 - a. Providing space to minister to the congregation, from womb to tomb;
 - b. Helping us better reach our community where we are planted; and
 - c. Enabling us to continue planting churches, and support and send missionaries.
- 7. Should there be a need in the future to implement two services, the Gathering Place will provide a seamless transition to this model. Some have asked why not just have two services now and not open the balconies:
 - a. Two services would increase year over year financial cost for staffing, strain human resources, and double our volunteer needs.
 - b. Worship is vibrant now. Without sufficient people in both services, one or both could feel flat and be an inhibitor to growth.
 - c. When we surveyed the church, 66% stated they want one service.
 - d. Growing the congregation first allows us to better fund staffing, grow our member base, and consider two services, if needed.

Through prayerful planning, many personal discussions, and the recent planning study, there has been a clear desire to pursue a responsible project that addresses our most pressing needs first. By God's grace, we believe this path will enable Kingdom growth in the near and long-term future.

A PROACTIVE INITIATIVE

How are we going to accomplish these renovations and improvements?

In order to fund this initiative, Spring Run is moving forward with a special building campaign, entitled *Immeasurably More*, with a goal of securing \$2.5 million to complete the project.

These funds will be sought in the form of one-time commitments and multi-year pledges, and represent commitments over and above existing tithes and offerings.

The primary campaign will be carried out during the coming months and throughout 2025. During the current initial phase of the initiative, the Capital Campaign Committee, together with the lay leadership of the church, will be making personal commitments, and inviting others to join in inspirational giving.

Following this initial phase, a campaign launch will be held to announce the initiative more formally to the full congregation, after which all church members will be personally asked prayerfully to consider making campaign commitments during a church-wide phase.

Join Us

How might the Lord use you?

Paul teaches us much about partnership. From his letter to the Philippians:

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Paul understood that there was no support without partnership. He understood that any support was not a *donation* to a cause, but rather an *investment* in a mission, with the anticipation of a Kingdom return on that investment.

With this biblical concept of partnership in mind, we ask you to join us in this exciting church initiative in the following ways:

- 1. **Pray** for the life and work of Spring Run. Pray for our leaders, members, and those in our community, that they would engage with us and turn to Christ for hope and salvation.
- 2. Consider a **sacrificial investment** in the *Immeasurably More* campaign to help us achieve this goal, for the sake of the Gospel in our community and world
- 3. As opportunities arise, help us **advocate** to others the importance of this mission and the capital campaign.

A WORD FROM PASTOR ANDREW

It is with great joy and anticipation that I write to you as we embark on this exciting next chapter in the life of our church. When a few families began meeting in a home two decades ago, we dreamed of what God could do as we proclaimed His gospel to the lost and established a vibrant church for His Kingdom. What we didn't imagine at that time was having the opportunity to purchase our current building in Woodlake. God graciously provided for us and we moved into this church building in the summer of 2013! It was well suited for us at that time and has been a tremendous gift, serving as a place of worship and ministry for countless individuals and families. It has also served as a place of peace and hope which we have shared with our community for Wellspring counseling, homeschool groups, AA meetings, events, weddings, and funerals.

Today, we stand at a pivotal moment—one that invites us to step forward in faith once again to provide space for our growing congregation and to be a beacon of hope and a center for gospel ministry well into the future so that generations to come may also experience His love and grace. Through careful planning and congregational insight and feedback, we have crafted a plan that is bold yet attainable. The addition of a Gathering Place, expanded sanctuary seating, and key renovations will provide the space and flexibility needed to support already growing ministries and position us to better serve both current members and those yet to walk through our doors.

The expansion of our church facilities represents more than just bricks and mortar. It is an expression of our mission to be an authentic, worshiping community that proclaims and embodies the love of Christ and extends it to others. It demonstrates that we will equip our children, youth, and adults to understand the bible and embrace a gospel-centered lifestyle. It demonstrates that we are serious about making space to welcome new people into our church fellowship. I hope you see how this project is a tangible step reflecting the heart of our people toward carrying out our mission.

As I reflect on the journey that brought us here, I am reminded of Ephesians 3:20: "Now to Him who is able to do <u>immeasurably more</u> than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us." These words have been a recurring theme in our prayers and planning. They remind us that even as we dream of what this campaign might be, God loves to surprise us immeasurably more according to His power at work in us as we faithfully steward His resources and remain on His mission.

I am humbled by God's goodness, grateful for your generosity, and excited to walk this journey alongside you.

In Christ and for His Kingdom,

Pastor Andrew

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