

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is Westminster's operating budget?**

\$1,870,205

## **Where does our current funding come from?**

Annual pledges, investment income, gifts, and bequests.

## **Do we have invested funds?**

Yes, \$9,920,609, from which we draw under 5% annually.

## **Why are we doing this project now?**

Our church is enjoying growth. New families are joining. Our children's choirs are full. We are at a positive inflection point in our church's history.

## **What will we be able to do tomorrow that we can't do today?**

This project will remove barriers that limit our current ministries, providing space designed to meet the needs of our growing programs. Our building will be fully accessible and welcoming to all people in our community.

## **Why are some important features of the project, such as bathrooms and the elevator, in Phase 2 and not Phase 1?**

We worked with the guidance of LWC to plan construction phases in a way that would lessen the impact on church programming. By completing the objectives in this order, we ensure that the nursery and other necessary accommodations for classes can still function during construction.

## **What are our long-term plans for Westminster?**

We will be able to fulfill our historic leadership role as a vibrant church in the heart of Dayton, supporting current members, attracting new ones, and engaging with the community in our ministries of spiritual growth and care.

### **Where will the money come from to start the projects before pledges are fulfilled?**

Once pledges are in, we can borrow from our invested funds. The construction process begins with more design work to generate the documents necessary for the general contractor to know what to do.

### **Will our historic church look different outside?**

The new elevator shaft will blend in with the current architecture and will be hardly noticeable. LWC architects are experts at historical preservation.

### **Will the Sanctuary look different?**

The beautiful ceiling will be illuminated, something most of us have never really seen. Lighting in the pews will make it easier to read the hymnbook and bulletin.

### **What about the trees on the Wilkinson side?**

The oak trees will be replaced with new trees specifically chosen with root systems that are less likely to damage the building's foundation and plumbing. We will always have trees as part of the landscaping.

### **How will the restrooms be improved?**

All the new restrooms will be ADA compliant. There will be more stalls available. New family restrooms will be roomy.

### **Will the front entrance still be the main entrance?**

The front steps and entry to the Narthex will remain unchanged and will be used by many people. The stairs leading to Heritage Hall will remain as they are.

### **How will the new elevator be different?**

It will be larger and able to fully accommodate modern mobility devices and safety considerations.

### **Will the chapel still be able to be used for worship?**

Yes, the chapel can still be used for small services or prayer gatherings. It will also be able to serve as a space for mission and education.