

BUILDING FOR GENERATIONS

ST. NEKTARIOS MINISTRY CENTER

Frequently Asked Questions

YOU
BELONG
HERE



At every stage of our growth during the past 25 years, God has bestowed His blessings and gifts upon our young parish, and we remain humbly grateful. We are also grateful to you, our vibrant and active community of Orthodox Christians who call this parish home, and to which you dedicate your time, talent, and treasure. YOU belong here.

What is the *Building for Generations* campaign?

The *Building for Generations* capital campaign will raise funds over a three-year period to build the Ministry Center and to renovate the Spiritual Life Center.

The master plan for our St. Nektarios community has always included the Ministry Center to allow us to fulfill our mission and vision statements: to better serve God and each other.

More specifically, why do we need the Ministry Center?

To foster community with a multipurpose room and gymnasium which will serve all ages—both athletically and as a banquet facility able to accommodate 500 people. New flex space will support large and small ministries, including a dedicated library for counseling and education. An improved kitchen will connect the Ministry Center and the Spiritual Life Center to serve all facilities.

To grow our faith with additional space for youth and adult education to address our overwhelming need for more classes and programming. The Narrow Path Bookstore will finally have a permanent location. Leading technology will enhance our learning

environments and allow us to integrate advanced campus-wide safety features.

To support each other with more programming for large and small groups. We can respond to the needs of all parishioners, at every stage of their continuing walk with God. Additional space will allow for simultaneous ministry programming and informal gatherings in a “social corner” designed for fellowship.

To serve beyond ourselves as we share our resources with the greater Charlotte community who are hungry or need shelter and assistance. We will be able to easily continue our partnerships with local public service groups and outreach programs. Larger scale service projects and fundraisers will support local, national, and international charities.

How big will the Ministry Center be? What will it cost?

The Ministry Center is currently projected at 28,617 square feet, will encompass three levels, and will cost approximately \$8.8 million. Included in the Ministry Center plans are: a multi-purpose space to serve as both a gymnasium and 500-person banquet facility; flex space for six additional “smart” classrooms and for expanded ministry programming; dedicated space for Narrow Path Bookstore; 280-foot walking track with exercise area; covered walkways to Sanctuary and Spiritual Life Center; ministry support space, and more.

Is it a good time to take on more debt?

The Parish Council has remained committed over the life of St. Nektarios Church to be responsible and transparent stewards of the community’s dollars. Each stage of our parish’s development, from the

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

purchase of the property at Kuykendall Road, to the building of the Spiritual Life Center, to the construction of our magnificent Sanctuary, has been managed in a fiscally responsible manner and accountable to the community.

The Parish Council commissioned a community-wide survey in 2020 for feedback on building the Ministry Center and taking on debt at this time. The community response was indeed favorable, and the Clergy and Parish Council voted to move forward.

Can we build a smaller and less expensive Ministry Center?

The architectural renderings for the Ministry Center have been modified several times over the past ten years to accommodate changes in the use, economic conditions, and building costs. The current plans for the Ministry Center have been updated since 2016 to improve form and function and to allow better integration within the campus.

It is extremely important to note that this Ministry Center is designed for use by all of our community members at all ages and stages of parish life: seniors, families, singles, young and mature adults, children, teens, newlyweds, college-bound students and more as we fulfill our church's mission and vision statements.

What about updating the Spiritual Life Center?

There is community agreement that the 20-year-old Spiritual Life Center bears heavy usage from all ministries and is ready for updating. Included in the *Building for Generations*

capital campaign are funds to renovate our beloved Center.

\$1.1 million has been earmarked for improvements to include integrating the kitchen with the new Ministry Center; an improved reception area and enhanced office support; updates to eight classrooms; installing a new fire sprinkler system; upgrading building facilities to meet current code requirements; and improving lighting, flooring and HVAC systems.

What is the balance on the Sanctuary mortgage?

To build our Sanctuary to the glory of God, our faithful pledged \$8.3 million. The remaining debt of about \$476,000 will be retired with pledge payments in early 2022 or sooner. Once again, we give glory to God, and thanks to you, our good and faithful stewards.

What about expected increases in costs and impact on operations? Do we have reserves budgeted?

That is an excellent question. There are many uncertainties that can occur while undertaking a project of this scope. For example, none of us could have predicted the pandemic and its effect. Our Parish Council and Clergy have budgeted \$1 million in reserve for post-construction interest, building contingencies, and operations.

How do I get involved in this exciting project?

Prayerfully consider a gift to the *Building for Generations* capital campaign. Consider how the gifts God has bestowed upon us may be put to His glory— today and for the generations of Orthodox Christians to come who will call St. Nektarios home. With God's blessings, we will begin construction and renovations in 2022.

God has called us in worship, service, witness and fellowship, and we seek to answer His call every day in our walk toward communion with His Spirit.

Who may I call if I have questions today?

Please contact a member of the Executive Team, Peter B. Pappas, Maria Mortis, Theodora Sextstone or Doug Sistare, for more information or call the church office.



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