



Frequently Asked Questions

Have Questions?

Take a few minutes to read through these FAQs about The Next Chapter.

If you have a question that isn't answered here, please reach out to [**building@fbcva.org**](mailto:building@fbcva.org).

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PROJECT VISION

What exactly is The Next Chapter?

The Next Chapter: Building on God's Faithfulness is FBC's effort to prayerfully develop and implement a long-term **campus master plan** that better supports the mission God has given us.

It is about more than a building project or giving initiative. It is an opportunity to consider how we can faithfully steward the facilities and resources God has entrusted to us so they better support personal spiritual growth, discipleship, fellowship, safety, hospitality, and ministry for generations to come.

Why are we doing a building campaign, and why now?

Our mission has not changed: to prepare and deploy dependent disciples of Jesus Christ. But as God continues to bring people to FBC and open new opportunities for ministry, parts of our campus increasingly create barriers to that mission, including children's safety and security, fragmented ministry spaces, difficult navigation, limited gathering space, capacity pressures, and aging facilities.

Rather than continuing to address these needs one project at a time, we believe now is the time to prayerfully develop a comprehensive campus master plan. This allows us to consider the campus as a whole, prioritize the areas that most directly support ministry, and make thoughtful decisions rather than reacting to individual needs as they arise.

This is not about building for the sake of building or making FBC a larger church. It is about ensuring the campus God has entrusted to us continues to serve the ministry He has given us today while preparing us for the opportunities He may provide in the years ahead.

Why renovate our existing campus instead of relocating or building an entirely new facility?

Our evaluation indicates that we already have much of the space needed for ministry. The greater challenge is that the campus has developed over many years through a series of additions and modifications and is not now configured in a way that best supports the ministry opportunities God has provided today.

The current campus master-planning process is therefore focused primarily on using the campus God has already provided more effectively, reconfiguring spaces, improving safety and navigation, addressing ministry needs, and creating better environments for fellowship, discipleship, and service.

Why did FBC choose Visioneering for this project?

We selected Visioneering because of their experience designing and building specifically for church ministry. Their process begins with understanding how a church actually functions rather than simply beginning with architectural ideas.

As part of their work with FBC, they have studied our campus, ministry needs, and attendance patterns, including attendance by age group, to help determine how our existing space can be configured more effectively and how much space may reasonably be needed for natural future growth. Their role is to help us translate our ministry priorities into thoughtful facility solutions while also providing the design and pricing information necessary for the Elders to make informed decisions.

Who decides what gets done first?

The Elders are ultimately responsible for these decisions as they shepherd and provide oversight for the church.

The purpose of developing a comprehensive campus master plan is to give FBC a cohesive, long-term framework rather than making individual facility decisions in isolation. As the process moves forward, the Elders will consider ministry priorities, available resources, the needs of the church, and the information developed through the planning process.

Not every element of the master plan will necessarily be completed at the same time, or at all. Our desire is to remain flexible, move forward one step at a time, and follow the Lord's leading rather than assume every element must be completed in the near term.

What decisions have already been made, and what decisions are still being made?

As of August 2026, the Elders have identified the ministry priorities and campus challenges that need to be addressed. We are now working with Visioneering to translate those priorities into schematic designs and increasingly reliable cost information.

Many important decisions have not yet been made. Final scope, cost, financing, construction staging, timing, and which portions of the overall master plan will ultimately move forward will depend on the information gathered during this process, the response of the congregation, and the Elders' prayerful discernment.

A master plan gives us a long-term direction. It does not mean every element of that plan has already been approved or will necessarily be built.

Why are we going for such a bold goal?

We believe it is important to address these ministry needs thoughtfully and comprehensively rather than one project at a time.

A campus master plan allows us to look at the campus as a whole, prioritize the areas that most directly support ministry, and avoid investing significant resources in short-term solutions that may not serve FBC well in the future. The goal may be significant, but it is rooted in a desire to steward wisely what God has already entrusted to us and to prepare our campus to serve the ministry needs of today while remaining useful for generations to come. Ultimately, our confidence is not in the size of the project, the master plan, or what we can accomplish. Our confidence is in God and His faithfulness as we prayerfully seek His direction together.

Why invest in facilities instead of putting those resources directly into missions, church planting, or other ministries?

We do not see these as competing priorities. Our facilities are not the mission; they are tools that help us carry out the mission.

The Elders are not seeking to make FBC as large as possible. We remain committed to church planting, missions, and deploying disciples beyond our own campus. At the same time, God has entrusted us with a campus that serves thousands of hours of ministry each year, and we have a responsibility to steward it well.

Many of the issues we are addressing, including children's safety, Student Ministry and Fellowship Kids capacity, fellowship space, navigation, ministry workspace, and aging facilities, directly affect our ability to minister effectively to the people God has already brought here.

Investing wisely in the campus and investing in ministry beyond the campus are both expressions of faithfully stewarding what God has entrusted to FBC.

How will we make sure ministry remains the priority and the building does not become the focus?

That commitment has shaped the process from the beginning. We have intentionally started with ministry priorities rather than architectural plans. The question we continue asking is not simply, “What would make our building better?” but rather, “How can our campus better support the mission God has given FBC?”

The same is true of the stewardship process. Our goal is not to pressure people into funding a project, but to disciple one another toward a biblical understanding that our time, talents, and treasures all belong to the Lord and are entrusted to us to steward faithfully.

A successful Next Chapter will not simply result in improved facilities. It should help FBC prepare and deploy dependent disciples of Jesus Christ more effectively.

How can I be praying for The Next Chapter?

Prayer is foundational to this entire process. A dedicated prayer team has already been formed to regularly seek the Lord's direction, and we invite the whole congregation to pray with us.

Please pray for:

- wisdom for the Elders;
- unity within our church family;
- clarity as plans and costs are developed;
- faithful stewardship of the resources God provides;
- discernment about what He would have us do; and
- a continued focus on the mission God has given FBC.

Most importantly, pray that every decision would reflect our desire to glorify God and faithfully carry out the mission He has entrusted to us.

If you would like to learn more about [Ways to Pray](#) click the link.

How will we know whether The Next Chapter has been successful?

Success will not simply be measured by whether construction is completed or a financial goal is reached.

We will know these improvements are serving their purpose if families can navigate the campus more easily, children can gather in a safer and more unified environment, Student Ministry and Fellowship Kids have appropriate spaces to disciple young people, people have better places to build relationships, ministry teams have the workspace they need, and our campus functions more effectively as a tool for ministry.

Ultimately, success means that our facilities are helping rather than hindering FBC's mission to prepare and deploy dependent disciples of Jesus Christ.

PROJECT SCOPE

What are the top remodeling priorities that need to be addressed?

The priorities are being driven by ministry needs rather than simply by the condition of our buildings.

The primary areas of focus are:

- **Children's Ministry:** creating a more unified, secure, and effective environment for Fellowship Kids.
- **Student Ministry:** providing appropriate environments for students to build relationships and grow as disciples.
- **A flexible multipurpose chapel:** creating space that can serve a variety of ministry and gathering needs.
- **Fellowship and gathering space:** providing better environments for people to build relationships, encourage one another, and grow together.
- **Office and ministry workspace:** providing ministry leaders, staff, and volunteers with appropriate spaces to collaborate and serve effectively.
- **Campus arrival and parking:** creating a more welcoming, intuitive, and safe experience for guests and our church family.

Together, these improvements are intended to remove current barriers and create a campus that better supports the mission God has given FBC.

What areas of the building will be remodeled? What areas will remain the same?

The most significant renovations currently being considered are in areas serving Fellowship Kids, Student Ministry, fellowship and gathering, the multipurpose chapel, and office and ministry workspace. Exterior improvements are also being considered to create a more welcoming and easily navigable arrival experience.

The Main Auditorium and much of the second floor are expected to remain largely as they are today. Those areas will continue to receive normal updates to finishes, such as carpet and décor, over time as needed, but significant remodeling is not currently anticipated as part of The Next Chapter.

Will this project make our building bigger or increase our attendance capacity?

The Elders are not pursuing The Next Chapter with the goal of making FBC a larger church. We have a heart to continue investing in church planting, missions, and deploying disciples beyond our own campus rather than simply expanding our own attendance capacity.

In many ways, we already have much of the square footage needed for ministry. The greater challenge is that portions of our campus are not configured in a way that best supports how we do ministry today. The primary goal is therefore to use the campus God has already provided more effectively, improving flow, functionality, safety, fellowship, and the usefulness of existing spaces.

Some additional space may be needed for adequate office and ministry workspace, and we want to plan wisely for reasonable natural growth as God continues to bring people to FBC. However, significant expansion of the overall campus or worship capacity is not the primary goal.

What are we going to do with the Main Auditorium?

The Main Auditorium is expected to remain largely as it is today. FBC completed a significant remodel of the space about three years ago, including sound engineering improvements designed to better support congregational singing.

Separate from The Next Chapter, we will continue to make equipment updates as systems reach the end of their useful life. The team is currently evaluating potential replacements for the amplifiers and speakers, which are now more than 25 years old.

At this time, no major renovation of the Main Auditorium is anticipated as part of The Next Chapter.

Are we going to do anything about the parking?

Yes. At times, our available parking is very limited, which can make it more difficult to welcome guests and accommodate our church family well. The campus master plan includes improvements intended to increase the number of parking spaces and improve how the parking lot functions. It also includes reconfiguring portions of the lot to create more natural pedestrian pathways, helping separate people walking through the lot from moving vehicles.

Our goal is to provide a parking experience that is more welcoming, easier to navigate, and safer, especially for families walking with children.

What are we doing about capacity issues in Student Ministry and Fellowship Kids?

We have engaged Visioneering, a design-build firm that specializes in serving church ministries, to help us carefully evaluate our current and future ministry space needs.

As part of their preliminary work, Visioneering completed a detailed review of our attendance patterns by age group and considered reasonable natural growth projections. That information is helping determine both the amount of space needed and how those spaces should be configured to support effective ministry in Student Ministry and Fellowship Kids.

Our goal is not to grow FBC for growth's sake. Rather, we want to design wisely for the ministry needs we have today while preparing to faithfully serve the people God may bring to us in the years ahead.

MINISTRY IMPACT

How will construction affect existing FBC ministries?

Yes. FBC's bylaws require a vote of the members for a building project that may incur indebtedness, so we do anticipate a congregational vote before moving forward with a project that requires such approval.

Before that vote, the Elders intend to provide the congregation with the proposed scope, anticipated costs, financing considerations, and other key details so members can be well informed as they prayerfully consider the decision.

What will happen to Fellowship 3 during construction?

The exact plan for Fellowship 3 during construction has not yet been finalized and will still need to be reviewed by the Elders.

One possibility the Fellowship 3 ministry team has offered is to temporarily rejoin the other worship services during construction. That could free up space and provide greater flexibility for other ministries as different areas of the campus are renovated.

If that approach is approved, the current expectation would be for Fellowship 3 to relaunch in the new multipurpose chapel once construction is complete.

Will VBS continue during renovations?

That decision has not yet been made. Once we have a more precise construction and staging timeline, the Fellowship Kids and VBS planning teams will work together to evaluate the best approach for that season. Depending on the timing and available space, VBS may continue on campus in a modified format. The construction schedule may also create an opportunity to consider other approaches, including ministry opportunities in the community.

There is still significant planning and collaboration ahead, and we will communicate details as those decisions become clearer.

What will the worship experience be like during construction?

We anticipate that weekend worship will remain largely unchanged during construction. The Main Auditorium is not expected to undergo significant renovation as part of The Next Chapter.

At different points in the project, certain areas of the campus may be temporarily fenced or walled off for safety. That could affect how people enter or move through parts of the building, but our goal will be to minimize disruption to the worship experience as much as possible.

Are we going to change our weekend worship service times?

At this time, we do not anticipate any changes to our Saturday evening or Sunday morning worship service times as a result of The Next Chapter.

TIMELINE

What is the expected construction timeline?

Based on current guidance, the construction and renovation work is estimated to take approximately **12 to 14 months once construction begins**.

The actual start date, and therefore the completion date, has not yet been determined. That timing will depend in large part on the response of the congregation, the resources available, the final scope, and the Elders' decisions as the process moves forward.

Will there be a congregational vote to approve the building project?

Yes. FBC's bylaws require a vote of the members for a building project that may incur indebtedness, so we do anticipate a congregational vote before moving forward with a project that requires such approval.

Before that vote, the Elders intend to provide the congregation with the proposed scope, anticipated costs, financing considerations, and other key details so members can be well informed as they prayerfully consider the decision.

When will we be able to see architectural drawings?

We are currently working with Visioneering and the design team to move from conceptual ideas to more developed design plans.

We anticipate being able to share those plans with the congregation by the **November 1, 2026 Fellowship Family Meeting**, and possibly even before then, depending on the progress of the design process.

How can I stay informed and provide feedback during the process?

We want this process to be marked by open and ongoing communication. Updates will be shared through the Next Chapter webpage, Fellowship Family Meetings, and other church communications as plans continue to develop.

We also welcome questions. As you engage with the plans and information being shared, we encourage you to ask questions and help us identify areas where additional clarity would be helpful.

Our desire is not simply to inform the congregation at the end of the process, but to bring the church family along as the process develops, listening carefully, communicating openly, and seeking God's direction together.

How long will the building fundraising phase last?

Based on the guidance of those helping us through this process, it would be reasonable to expect giving toward The Next Chapter to extend over approximately four years.

That timeline would also bring us near FBC's 50th anniversary, providing a meaningful opportunity to reflect on God's faithfulness in the past while investing in the ministry He has entrusted to us for the future.

FINANCES

How much will the project cost?

We do not yet have a final project cost. One of the primary purposes of the current planning process is to develop a much more accurate understanding of what the various components of the campus master plan may cost.

As the plans are refined and pricing becomes more reliable, we will communicate that information clearly with the congregation before final decisions are made.

How do we know the cost is not too much and not too little?

Determining the appropriate scope and cost of The Next Chapter is an important part of the discernment process entrusted to the Elders. We want to be neither unnecessarily ambitious nor overly cautious, but to faithfully steward the resources God has entrusted to FBC as He leads us. That is also why prayer has been foundational to this process. A dedicated prayer team has been formed to regularly seek the Lord's wisdom and direction, and we invite the entire congregation to join us in praying for clarity, unity, and discernment.

If you would like to learn more about [Ways to Pray](#) click the link.

Will we have to incur debt in order to expand our facilities?

That decision has not yet been made.

The Elders will evaluate the final scope, anticipated giving, available resources, and financing options before determining what level of debt, if any, is appropriate.

A project of this nature may require some short-term construction financing so that work can proceed smoothly while gifts are received over time. However, the amount of debt FBC may ultimately carry, and for how long, will depend on the final scope, resources available, and the Elders' ongoing discernment and stewardship of the church's resources.

Our desire is to move forward in a way that is financially responsible and allows FBC to continue carrying out its ministry faithfully.

If I want to give to The Next Chapter, do I need to designate my gift?

Yes. We encourage gifts toward The Next Chapter to be over and above regular giving, which continues to support the ongoing ministries and operations of FBC.

Gifts for this initiative should be designated to the Building & Capital Improvements Fund. When giving online, select that fund from the drop-down menu. For checks, write "Building" on the memo line. For gifts of stock, the designation can be indicated on the form provided to our Giving Team.

We are already grateful for the generosity of many in our church family who have begun giving toward this initiative. As always, we encourage each person and family to prayerfully consider how the Lord would have them participate.

What happens if giving is less than anticipated?

The resources ultimately available for The Next Chapter will be an important factor in determining what moves forward.

That is one reason we are developing a comprehensive campus master plan rather than assuming every proposed improvement must happen at once. Once the congregation has had an opportunity to prayerfully consider its participation, the Elders will have a clearer understanding of the resources available and can determine what should be completed, what may need to wait, and what may ultimately not be necessary.

Our commitment is to follow the Lord's leading and faithfully steward the resources He provides rather than allowing a predetermined construction plan to dictate what we must do.

What happens if giving exceeds what is needed?

Gifts toward The Next Chapter are being directed to FBC's Building & Capital Improvements Fund.

If giving were ultimately to exceed the amount needed for the approved project, the use of those funds would need to remain consistent with the purpose for which they were given and with FBC's policies governing designated gifts. Specific decisions would be communicated clearly at that time.