

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WILMINGTON, N.C.



Capital Campaign



Letter From the Senior Pastor

For more than two centuries, First Baptist has been rooted in Christ and built up through the faithfulness of generations. Those before us prayed, taught, served, sacrificed, and gave so our congregation could become a place where people encounter God's love and discover they belong.

Now it is our turn.

The images in these pages offer more than a glimpse of a new building. They reveal the future we are being invited to create together: vibrant spaces where children and teenagers will grow in faith; welcoming places where friendships will form; classrooms where questions will be welcomed and lives transformed; and ministry spaces designed for spiritual formation, mission, hospitality, and service.

This is our moment to take the faith we have received and invest it in generations yet to come.

Rooted and Built is not ultimately about bricks and mortar. It is about making room for life—ministries not yet imagined, families not yet connected, and people not yet born who will one day find their home here.

We have dreamed faithfully.
We have discerned prayerfully.
Now is the time to risk generously.

Together, we can build upon the roots that have sustained us and create a place where God's love will flourish for generations to come.

Rev. Barrett Owen

All renderings are illustrative only and intended to provide a general sense of the final product.



Community is formed in the moments before and after worship, in chance conversations and shared connections. A 2,700+ sqft centralized, welcoming entry and gathering space will cultivate just that, strengthening hospitality, deepening relationships, and offering a clear, warm welcome to all.



A WELCOMING GATHERING SPACE

Kids Ministry

Preschoolers will discover that they are known, loved, and wonderfully made by God. Elementary children will build on those foundations as they deepen their faith, discover their gifts, put faith into practice, and find their place in God's story. Every space will nurture faith through stories, prayer, questions, friendship, and caring adults to lay foundations for a lifetime of faith.



Youth Ministry

Our youth will find a new home in the Sidbury House—a place that will be truly theirs. Here they will find their people, ask hard questions, laugh, lead, and make memories as they grow from being welcomed to belonging, from being participants to serving as leaders, and from receiving faith to discovering how they will live it for themselves.





AMAZING KIDS & YOUTH SPACES

Spiritual Formation

The renovations and additions to our adult Sunday school spaces will have a tremendous impact on our spiritual formation ministry. We will have:

MORE CLASSROOMS

and larger spaces to accommodate our growing number of adults

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

to meet our growing need for digital and video resources

ADULT CLASSES RELOCATED

in clusters based on similar life stages, with space to gather before and after Sunday School, share conversation over a cup of coffee, and build community

“ Rooted and Built will provide the space to go deeper relationally in adult spiritual formation and to more easily welcome and include new people as we walk this faith journey together. ”

Rev. Jayne Davis
Minister of Spiritual Formation





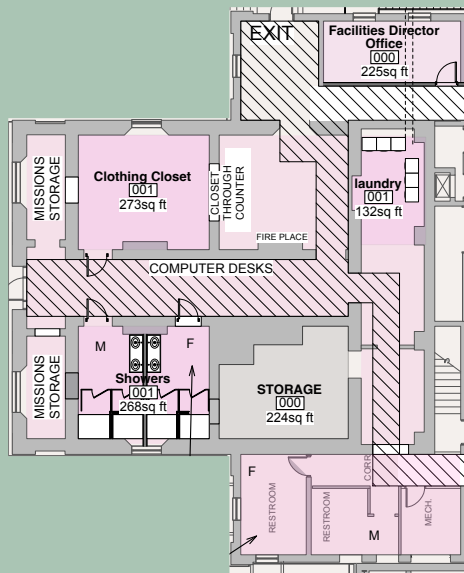
ENGAGING ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION SPACES

Updated Fellowship Hall

Imagine a room alive throughout the week—with church gatherings, community conversations, educational programs, non-profit events, celebrations, and opportunities for service. This Fellowship Hall will not simply host events; it will strengthen relationships, nurture belonging, and become a launch point for ministry throughout Wilmington.

Missions Space

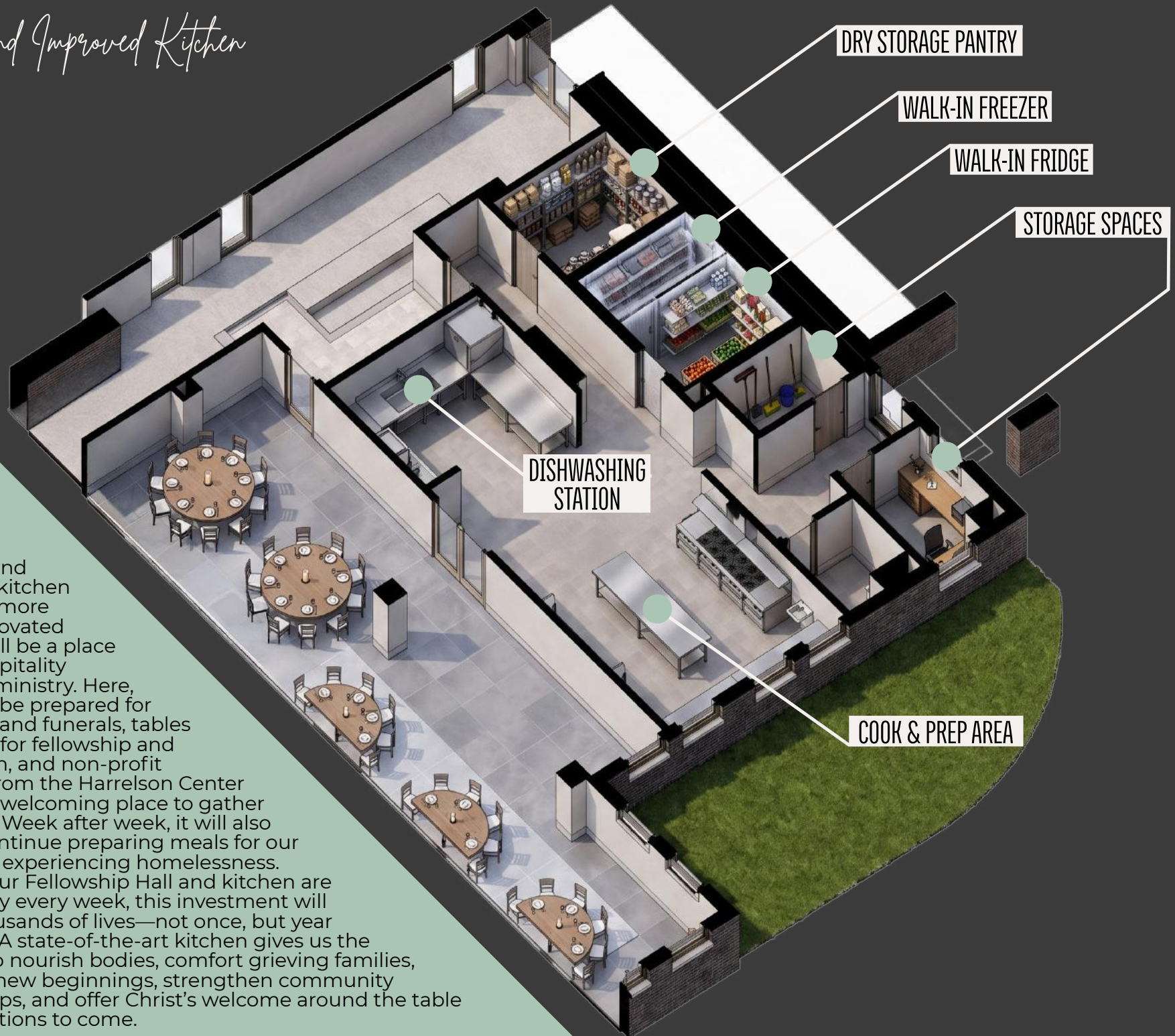
In the lower level of the WLI Building, we will create permanent, well-designed space for community ministries, including a clothing closet with adequate storage and a pass-through window, showers, laundry access, and ample storage. In addition to the monumental improvement of not having to set up and break down these ministries every week, the design and flow of the space have been thoughtfully planned out with the ease of use for both guests and volunteers in mind.





FUNCTIONAL MISSION SPACE

New and Improved Kitchen



This new and improved kitchen will be far more than a renovated room; it will be a place where hospitality becomes ministry. Here, meals will be prepared for weddings and funerals, tables will be set for fellowship and celebration, and non-profit partners from the Harrelson Center can find a welcoming place to gather and serve. Week after week, it will also help us continue preparing meals for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Because our Fellowship Hall and kitchen are used nearly every week, this investment will touch thousands of lives—not once, but year after year. A state-of-the-art kitchen gives us the capacity to nourish bodies, comfort grieving families, celebrate new beginnings, strengthen community partnerships, and offer Christ's welcome around the table for generations to come.



A NEW & IMPROVED KITCHEN

Worship Arts

Our Worship Arts Ministry will flourish in the new build with:

SPACIOUS CHORAL ROOM

with 16 ft ceilings to provide appropriate acoustics for rehearsals

DEDICATED WORKROOM

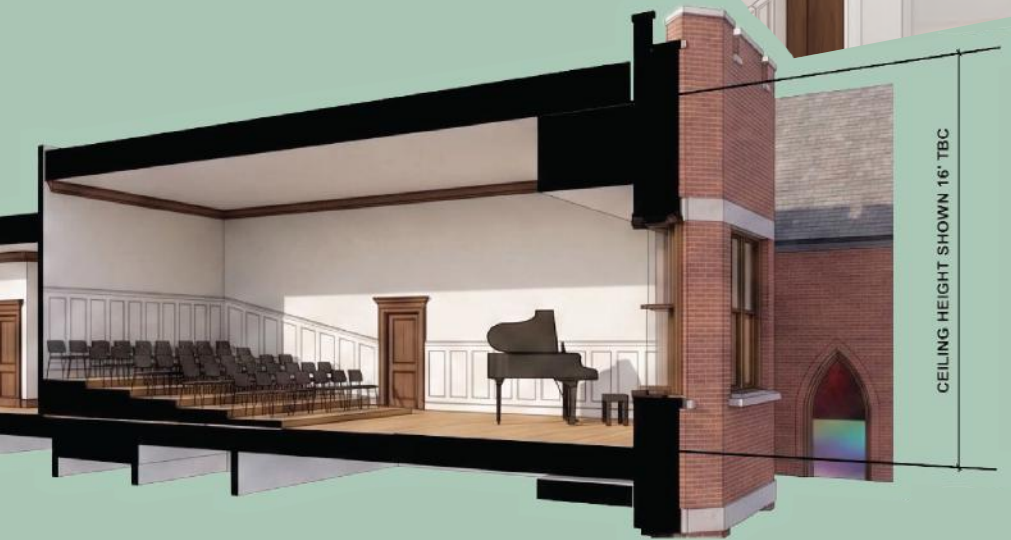
for keeping up with weekly needs

STORAGE SPACES

for choral library, instruments, and decor

“ The new choral room will be the best designed space for choral singing in the history of FBC, providing room for instruments and over 60 singers with a beautiful view of the courtyard on Market Street. ”

Rev. Dr. Tracie Jernigan
Minister of Worship Arts





A PREMIER WORSHIP ARTS SUITE

A History Rooted in Christ and Built with Future Generations in Mind



1808

Reps from the Baptist Church of Wilmington present at meeting of Cape Fear Baptist Assoc.

1858

Purchased the corner lot on Market St. & 5th Ave

1870

Dedication of the completed sanctuary

1808 - 1870



1910

Basement was dug by church members to expand Sunday School Space

1922

New Sunday School annex construction completed

1910 - 1922



1964

Purchased 8 acres on Independence Blvd & the Sidbury House

1976

Activity Center on Independence Blvd completed

1964 - 1976



1996

Purchased the WLI building to later connect to the Education Building

1996



2005

Purchased the building and created the Jo Ann Carter Harrelson Center

2005



2025

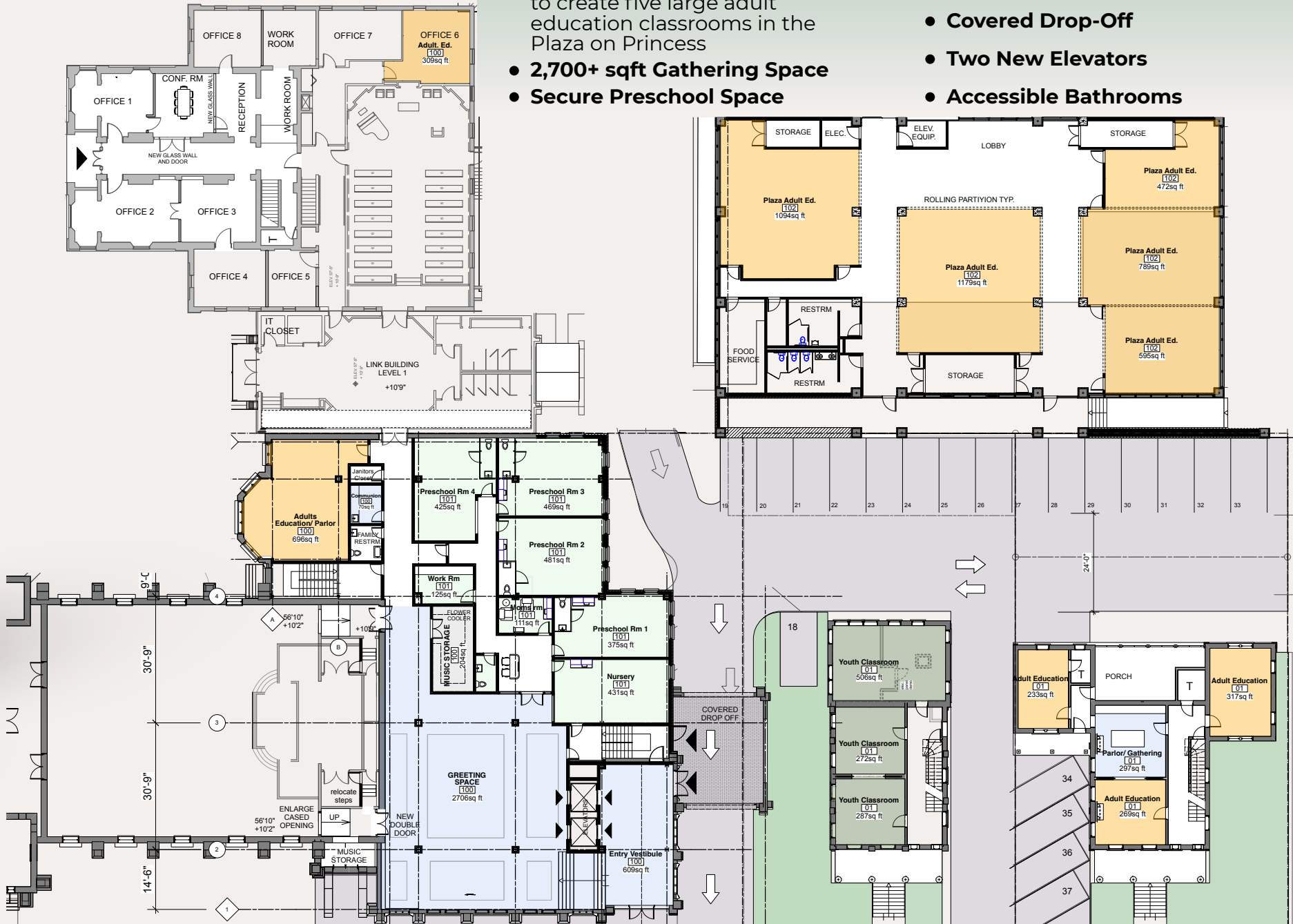
Purchased the house on the corner of N. 5th Ave

2025

Main Level Highlights

- **Retractable Wall Partitions** to create five large adult education classrooms in the Plaza on Princess
- **2,700+ sqft Gathering Space**
- **Secure Preschool Space**

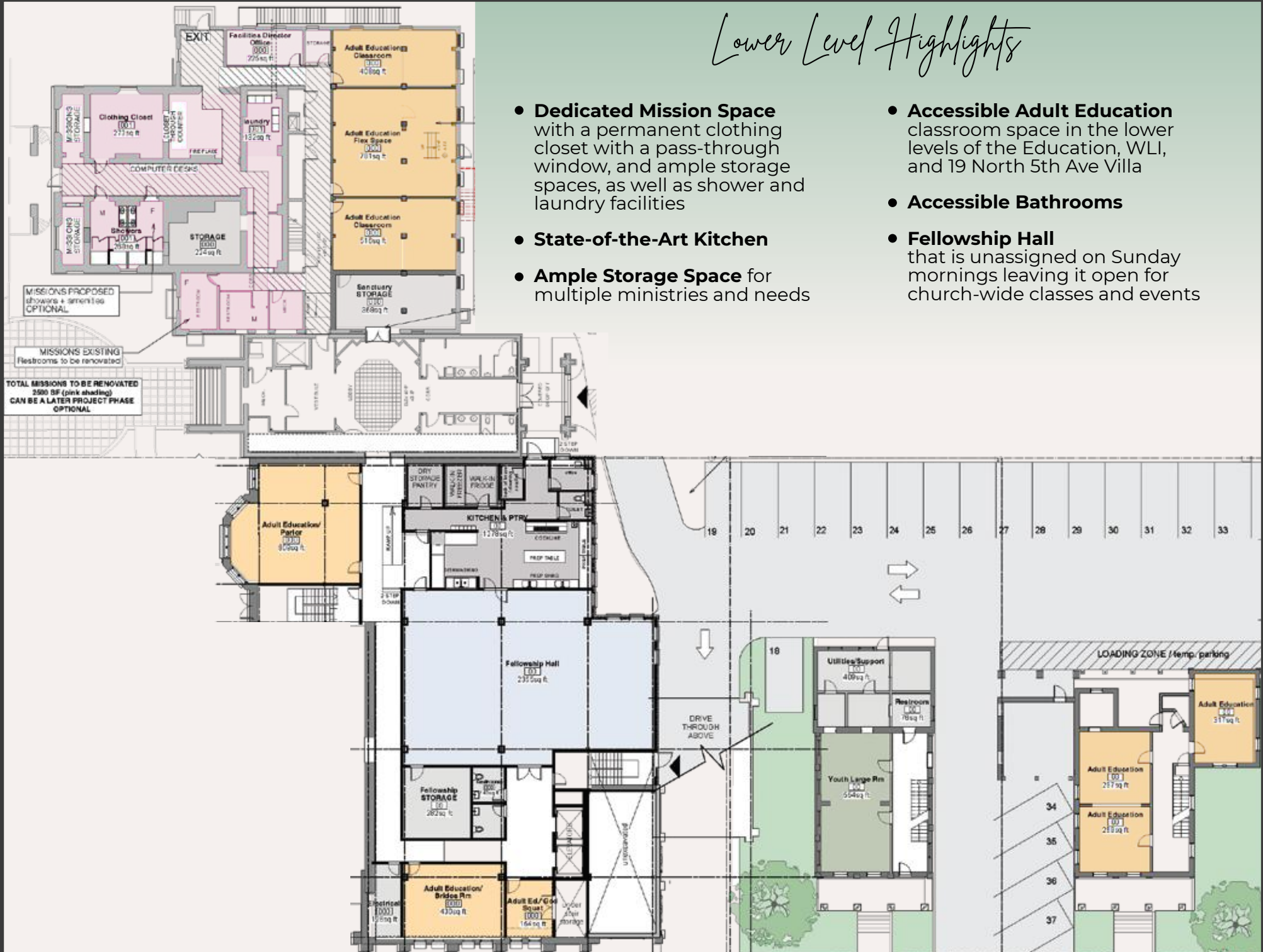
- **Formal Multi-use Parlor**
- **Covered Drop-Off**
- **Two New Elevators**
- **Accessible Bathrooms**



NORTH FIFTH AVE

Lower Level Highlights

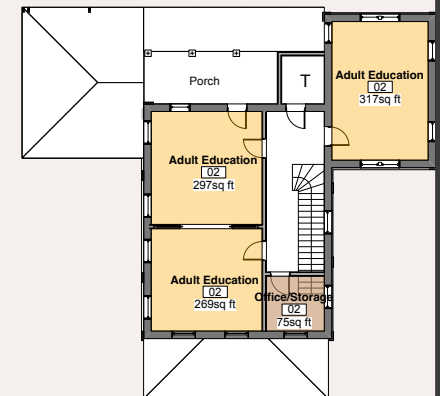
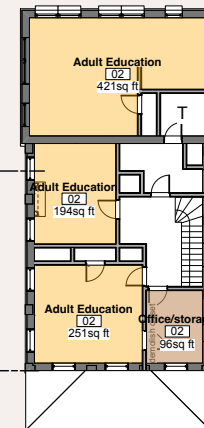
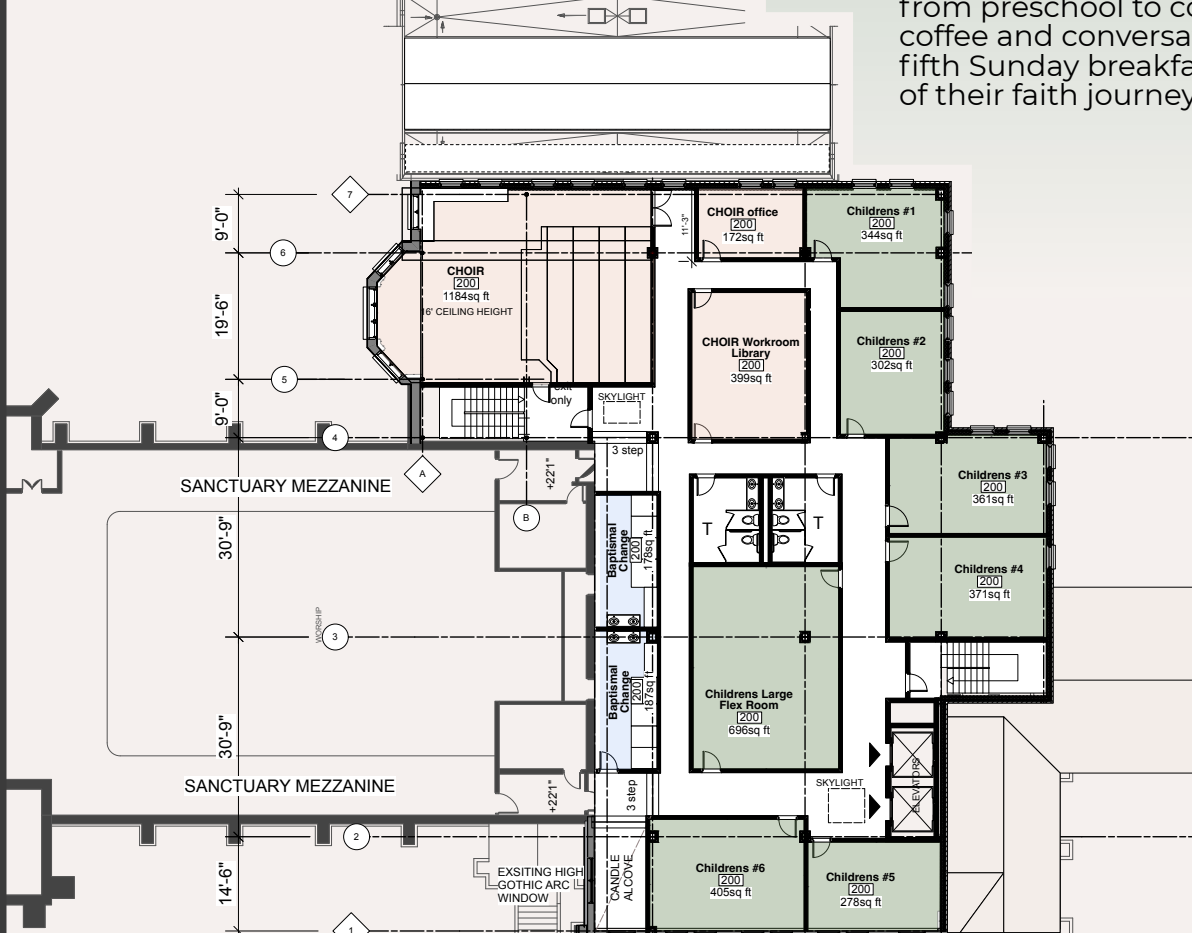
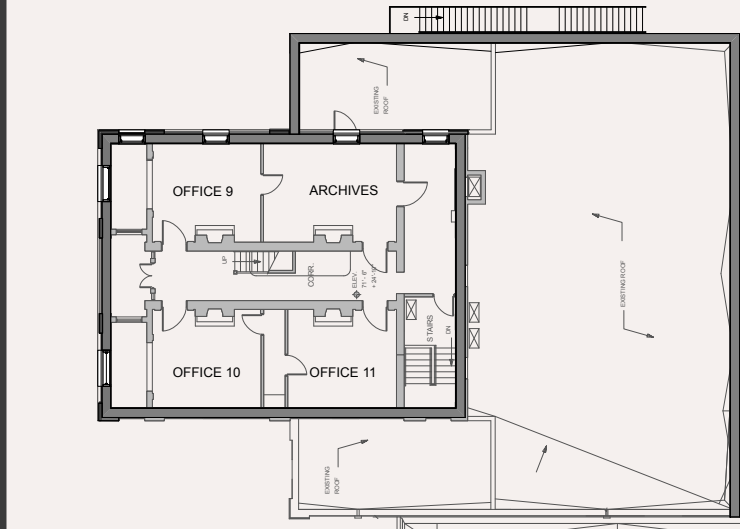
- **Dedicated Mission Space** with a permanent clothing closet with a pass-through window, and ample storage spaces, as well as shower and laundry facilities
- **State-of-the-Art Kitchen**
- **Ample Storage Space** for multiple ministries and needs
- **Accessible Adult Education** classroom space in the lower levels of the Education, WLI, and 19 North 5th Ave Villa
- **Accessible Bathrooms**
- **Fellowship Hall** that is unassigned on Sunday mornings leaving it open for church-wide classes and events



NORTH FIFTH AVE

Upper Level Highlights

- A Premier Choir Suite
- Kids Classroom space
- Accessible Bathrooms
- Baptistry Changing Rooms
- The Youth House (Sibduy) will provide a dedicated space for our middle and high school students. With a large gathering space on the lower level and meeting spaces on the main level, the Youth House will be a welcoming place of belonging for our students. Three additional classrooms on the upper floor offer flex space for both our student and college ministries.
- 19 North 5th Ave will house our younger adult classes (20s-40s). This mix of young professionals, singles, couples and parents of children from preschool to college will have a dedicated space to gather for coffee and conversation before Sunday school, build relationships over fifth Sunday breakfast gatherings, and navigate this important season of their faith journey together.



Commitment Profile

October 11 is Commitment Sunday.

You will be invited to make a three-year pledge to Rooted and Built.

You may fulfill your pledge in the way that works best for you—annually, monthly, weekly, and/or through an upfront gift. You may make your gifts through the Loop giving platform, or by using the blue giving envelope included in your quarterly envelope packs or available in the pew backs.

GOAL: \$17,500,000

Please use the sample giving plan as a guide to choose a level for your three-year commitment. If the chart does not include a level that fits, you may choose your own.

If possible, please consider making an upfront launch gift—front-loading all or part of your commitment. We need a significant portion of our goal on hand to minimize costly interest charges.

SAMPLE CHURCH-WIDE GIVING PLAN

NO. OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
3	\$2,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
3	\$1,200,000	\$3,600,000	\$9,600,000
4	\$600,000	\$2,400,000	\$12,000,000
5	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	\$13,250,000
5	\$125,000	\$625,000	\$13,875,000
5	\$75,000	\$375,000	\$14,250,000

NO. OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	MONTHLY GIFT	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
7	\$54,000	\$1,500	\$378,000	\$14,628,000
10	\$45,000	\$1,250	\$450,000	\$15,078,000
12	\$36,000	\$1,000	\$432,000	\$15,510,000
15	\$27,000	\$750	\$405,000	\$15,915,000
17	\$18,000	\$500	\$306,000	\$16,221,000
19	\$10,800	\$300	\$205,200	\$16,426,200

NO. OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	MONTHLY GIFT	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
21	\$7,200	\$200	\$151,200	\$16,577,400
25	\$5,400	\$150	\$135,000	\$16,712,400
27	\$3,600	\$100	\$97,200	\$16,809,600
31	\$2,700	\$75	\$83,700	\$16,893,300
35	\$1,800	\$50	\$63,000	\$16,956,300
41	\$900	\$25	\$36,900	\$16,993,200
REMAINDER	UNPLEDGED	-	\$506,800	\$17,500,000

**This is a sample breakdown of how our congregation could reach our goal of \$17.5 million.*

Giving to Rooted and Built

WAYS TO GIVE



Online at
fbcwilmington.org/give



By mail



In the offering plate on
Sunday Mornings (using
the blue Rooted and
Built envelopes)

The preferred giving method is bank auto-draft which can be set up online. If you are writing a check, make sure to note, "Rooted and Built" in the memo line.

NOT EQUAL GIFTS, BUT EQUAL SACRIFICE

The concept of everyone contributing an equal amount has never existed at our church. Instead, we believe the sacrifice should be equal. This means every member has a role to play in this spiritual journey. Your financial involvement is a personal decision between you and God, offered as an act of worship, faith, and commitment.

Consider a Gift Beyond Cash:

A financial commitment to Rooted and Built does not have to come solely from cash or checking account funds. These options can sometimes provide significant tax benefits. Here are several possibilities to consider:



APPRECIATED ASSETS

Appreciated assets that have been held for more than one year—including publicly traded stocks, mutual funds, bonds, and certain real estate—may offer tax advantages when donated directly to the church.



QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS (QCDs)

If you are age 70½ or older, you may be eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly from your IRA to the church. A QCD can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and, when properly structured, is excluded from your taxable income. Current federal limits apply.



RETIREMENT ACCOUNT GIFTS

You may also be able to make charitable gifts using funds from a traditional IRA or other retirement accounts. Depending on your circumstances, a charitable gift may provide tax advantages.



CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) can provide a way to make a charitable gift while receiving income in return.



TRADITIONAL AND ROTH IRAS

Giving from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA may be possible, depending on your circumstances and the type of gift.

Please consult your financial advisor, tax professional, or attorney regarding your individual circumstances before making a non-cash or retirement-account gift. To learn more about transferring an asset, please contact John Daniels at 910-763-2471.

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord,
continue to walk in him, **ROOTED** and **BUILT** up in him and
established in the faith, just as you were taught,
abounding in thanksgiving.”

Colossians 2:6-7



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