



LEAN IN . STEP UP . BREAK OUT

WHO WE ARE

AS GOD’S CO-WORKERS, WE URGE YOU NOT TO RECEIVE GOD’S

GRACE IN VAIN. FOR HE SAYS, “IN THE TIME OF MY FAVOR I HEARD

YOU, AND IN THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.” I TELL YOU,

NOW IS THE TIME OF GOD’S FAVOR, NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION.

{2 CORINTHIANS 6: 1-2}



We are Culturally Relevant.

To impact a culture, you have to connect with it. God is a huge fan of cultural relevance. Do you realize that this is even how Jesus did it, he was culturally relevant? Jesus became one of us before forever changing the world. God came down and walked with us, talked with us, lived with us, spoke our language, laughed with us, cried with us, went through it with us, so we could get it! See, when the message is this important, you have to do all you can to be sure people get it. You have to find a way to make it applicable, pertinent, practical, and most importantly, relevant.

We are Biblically Sound.

The point of the Bible is to help us know God, to know his desires for us, and to trust him for everything we need. The Bible is powerful because it shows you who God really is, and what he wants for you (not from you, but for you). And because it’s the truth, it’s inherently powerful. Always. To ignore Scripture, to avoid it, that’s pushing the self-destruct button on our lives, our families, our society.

We are Outwardly Focused.

See “Every minute of every day as an opportunity to live as God’s representatives in the world.” Not only do our neighbors need our service, but we need it. We were made for it. When you see a need around you, chances are that God means for you to do something about it. When you ponder your social and financial resources, skills, and abilities, you’ll find that you’ve been given more to meet needs than you ever thought possible. Rather than swooping in to try to fix people or situations, we serve best when we take time to find common ground with those we are being called to serve, walking in their shoes, just the way Jesus did for us. People’s lives may be more broken than we thought. But in these moments, God calls us to “press into the mess” rather than pull away.



Many are asking, “What’s next for STJ?”

*It’s time to talk about it. But in order to do that,
we’re asking you to do three things.*

Lean In

Everyone who is a part of St. John is going to be asked to LEAN IN to a spiritual process in which we hear from our leaders and converse with God himself on the role he wants us to play in this initiative.

Step Up

The challenges facing our world are daunting. There is unprecedented brokenness, violence, and hopelessness. On top of that, the American Church is in steep decline—no longer a player in doing God’s work in our hurting world. We will be asking you to STEP UP and be a part of the solution by making a financial and personal commitment to supporting what is RIGHT in the world.

Break Out

The reason for leaning in and stepping up is so that together we can BREAK OUT of the limitations, the paradigms, and the small thinking that we too often live in and become a part of a significant movement of God in our broken world.

**“The first step
towards getting
somewhere is to
decide you’re not
going to stay
where you are.”**

John Pierpont Morgan



THE 3 OVERARCHING GOALS OF NEXT

PURSUE PEOPLE LIKE NEVER BEFORE

Stretch ourselves to do even more of the life-changing work we're already doing.

MOBILIZE THE NEXT GENERATION OF WORLD CHANGERS

Raise the next generation of world changers. We believe they will one day dwarf our contributions in bringing Jesus' wholeness to our broken world.

TAKE OUR CAMPUS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

We've been entrusted with an incredible campus where life-changing work happens, and it needs to communicate to our community and guests our identity as a thriving, welcoming, and relevant place.

What will it cost to achieve NEXT?

We will commit to reaching \$11 million in overall giving from December 10, 2016 through December 31, 2018.





PURSUE PEOPLE LIKE NEVER BEFORE

ST. JOHN WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST
A CHURCH OPEN ONLY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS.

AS A CHURCH, WE WILL:

Form strategic partnerships with local businesses, non-profits, schools, and government entities, inviting them to engage with us and create change in our local community.

Continue to financially **partner** with people in need within our local community to help them become self-sufficient while also showing them Christ's love through our Christ in Action ministry.

Support and **facilitate** LIFEgroups—life-changing places where men encourage men, women build up women, and couples support couples to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

Reach into our community to be even more inviting by using our Live Stream to create “house churches” where people open up their homes for a New Testament church experience with friends and neighbors who may never otherwise step foot in a church.

Connect to life-changing experiences through short-term mission trips and local service opportunities, positively impacting the lives of people outside and inside of our church.

Engage people through inspiring and life-changing worship services and culturally relevant teaching so that even those who have been away from or have never been to church want to grow deeper on their LIFEjourney.



MOBILIZE THE NEXT GENERATION OF WORLD CHANGERS

WE WANT TO RAISE THE NEXT GENERATION OF **WORLD CHANGERS**;
WE BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL ONE DAY DWARF OUR CONTRIBUTIONS
IN BRINGING JESUS' WHOLENESS TO OUR BROKEN WORLD.

AS A CHURCH, WE WILL:

Develop intentional relationships in small group settings with adult leaders and mentors. The Next Generation Ministries will help kids and students grow in wholeness that Jesus alone brings.

Continue **growing** the entire family in their love for Jesus and **encourage** them to continue their conversation of faith together. We believe dedicated and focused "Family Forward" and LIFEtalks are events that will build stronger families who love Jesus.

Bring students in our community, from 6th–12th grade, together in a life of faith, action, and community. Our students will participate in worship services, small groups, mission trips, service projects, and events designed to address the spiritual, emotional, and social needs unique to teenagers.

We will **use** over-the top experiences like Vacation Bible School and age-appropriate gatherings like Friday Frenzie and Lunch Break, where our Next Generation will continue to grow in their amazing friendship with Jesus.

Increase the awareness of St. John School in our community, allowing us to reach more children with an education exceeding that of the local public and private schools while instilling strong Christian values and equipping them to be empowered to impact the world for Christ.



TAKE OUR CAMPUS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

BY CREATING INVITING AND UPDATED SPACES, WE WILL BETTER
COMMUNICATE WHO WE ARE THROUGH OUR VERY GROUNDS AND
ARCHITECTURE. WE WILL ALSO FOSTER A GREATER DESIRE TO LINGER
AND SHARE LIFE WITH ONE ANOTHER.



AS A CHURCH, WE WILL:

Beautify our exterior campus by designing inviting green spaces with outdoor areas for gathering and by providing clear visual cues directing our guests to the main entry areas for the Sanctuary, The Commons, and our Children's Ministry area.

Renovate The Commons to foster a greater sense of community. Stopping to share a cup of coffee, spending time in prayer with one another, and simply sharing life together are essential values to our DNA at St. John. New guests will experience community at St. John as soon as they step into our buildings.

Create an engaging and welcoming entrance to Children's Ministry from The Commons, distinguishing it as the key entry point to Children's Ministry and establishing a sense of excitement for our youngest as they begin their LIFEjourney.

Protect our most vulnerable by limiting access to our Children's Ministry spaces to only parents and children and creating a single drop-off and pick-up for Nursery-aged children. Enhanced security will allow parents to worship with a sense of peace and to grow in their LIFEjourney.

Update the interior of our Sanctuary so the environment compliments the worship experience by improving the sound system and modernizing our space while maintaining an air of the sacred.





OUR CAMPUS PLAN

Explore what the future could hold
for our campus through *NEXT*.





Artist's renderings may not be fully representative of final plans.



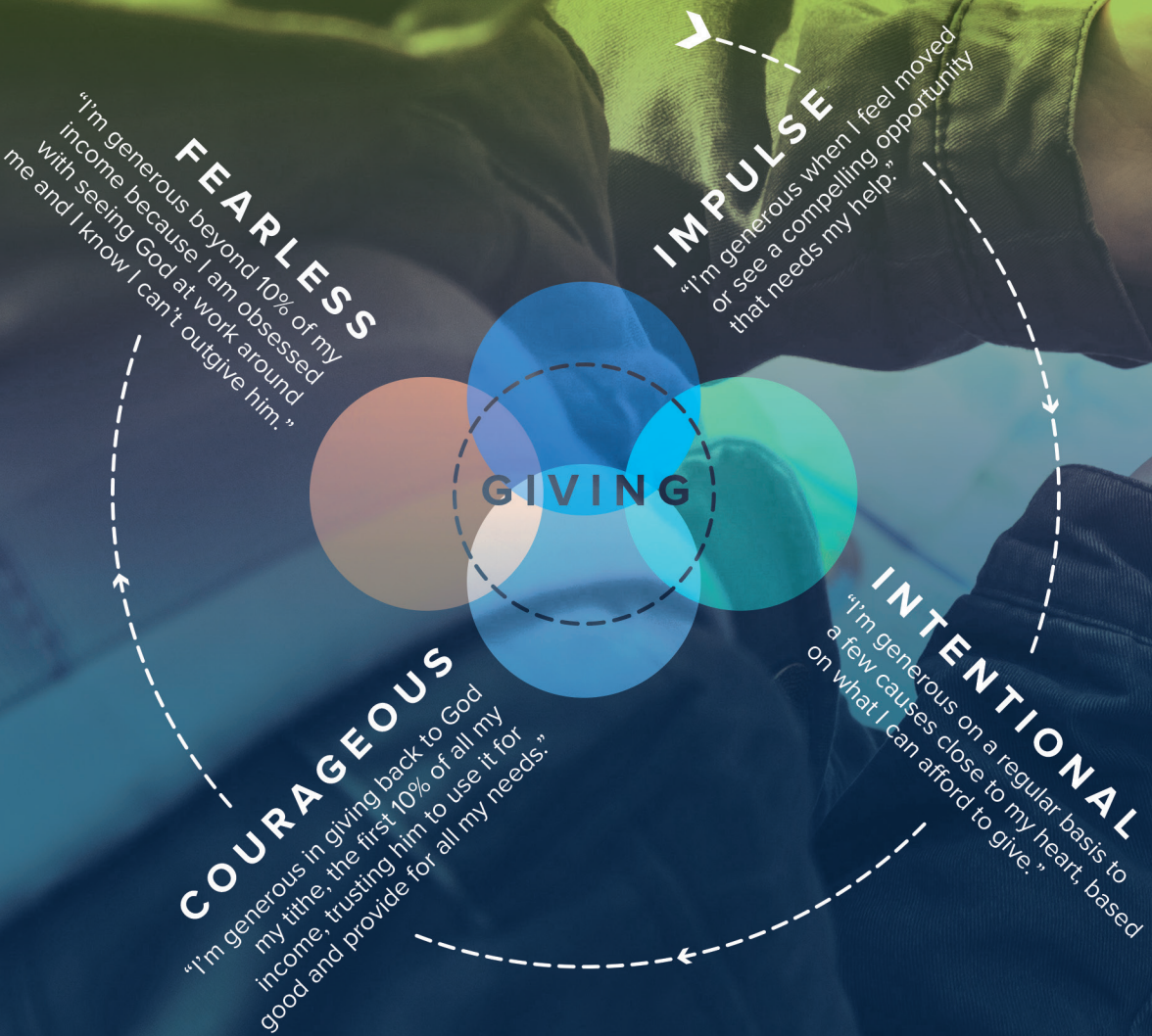
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THE GENEROSITY JOURNEY



GIFTS NEEDED	2 YEAR GIFT	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	1,000,000	500,000	41,667	1,000,000
1	500,000	250,000	20,833	500,000
1	250,000	125,000	10,417	250,000
2	100,000	50,000	4,167	200,000
7	75,000	37,500	3,125	525,000
10	50,000	25,000	2,083	500,000
15	35,000	17,500	1,458	525,000
30	25,000	12,500	1,042	750,000
60	20,000	10,000	833	1,200,000
90	15,000	7,500	625	1,350,000
99	10,000	5,000	417	990,000
100	7,500	3,750	313	750,000
150	4,800	2,400	200	720,000
250	3,600	1,800	150	900,000
350	2,400	1,200	100	840,000

TOTAL NEXT GIVING | \$11,000,000

F A Q S

Funding Our Vision

HOW DOES *NEXT* DIFFER FROM PREVIOUS CAMPAIGNS?

Previous campaigns have asked for a 3-year commitment of giving “over and above” what people were already giving in order to fund special projects. *NEXT* is a 2-year commitment which utilizes a “ONE FUND” approach that resources all ministry—not just the special projects—because everything we do in ministry matters. The *NEXT* goal of \$11 million is the projected budget for everything we are currently doing plus what we need to be doing over the next two years.

HOW DOES THE ONE FUND APPROACH TO *NEXT* CHANGE MY GIVING TO SUPPORT THE GENERAL BUDGET, MISSION APPEALS, CARE MINISTRIES, AND OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS?

During this two-year period, every contribution to God’s work at St. John Church is a contribution to our *NEXT* initiative. Every aspect of the ministry vision God is calling us towards will be funded through *NEXT*. There will not be separate funds. Every gift made will go into the same *NEXT* fund. Therefore, every weekend becomes an opportunity to celebrate and contribute toward what God is doing in and through St. John Church.

IS *NEXT* JUST A WAY TO RAISE MORE MONEY?

Money is an idol for many of us, and we’re working to actively combat that reality. Additionally, Jesus said, “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.” (*Luke 12:48b*) As our world continues to spin out of control, we have a real opportunity, to lean in, step up, and break out with our time, prayer, relationships, and giving. We’re working together to make an incredible impact in West County and beyond. *NEXT* is not simply about collecting extra resources; it’s about joining our resources together and becoming part of a significant movement of God in our families, our community and our world.

WHY IS 100% PARTICIPATION SO IMPORTANT?

We want everyone to participate in *NEXT* because we believe that everyone from children to grandparents can be blessed by learning to give generously, trusting God to provide for our needs and being part of something that is making a difference in the lives of others.

WHAT IF I’VE NEVER EVEN GIVEN TO ST. JOHN CHURCH BEFORE?

If you have never given financially to St. John Church, *NEXT* is for you! *NEXT* is an opportunity for you to make an intentional decision to begin your generosity journey. When you begin trusting God with your finances, you will begin finding more peace in this area of your life. God will bless you in unexpected ways, even in difficult circumstances.

WHAT IF I CAN’T AFFORD TO GIVE RIGHT NOW?

Even in times of scarcity, God wants our hearts. The widow who gave her last mite did not make a very big financial contribution, but Jesus said she gave the largest gift of all. *NEXT* is about all of us coming together, giving generously, and trusting God to do the rest.

WHAT IF I’M SEVERELY IN DEBT RIGHT NOW? AM I STILL SUPPOSED TO GIVE?

It’s important for generosity to be a part of our life at every point. If you are in the process of paying off debt, we commend you, and you should continue to do so. But, the Bible does not teach that we withhold giving until we are debt-free. When we honor God first with our giving, he promises to be involved with every other aspect of finances. If you are not actively paying off your debt, consider attending one of our Dave Ramsey financial classes. You can learn more at stjstl.net/fpu.

HOW DO I MAKE A COMMITMENT TO *NEXT*?

You may simply fill out the enclosed business reply envelope and drop it in the mail or you can complete a commitment card during our commitment services on November 21, 2016.



HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT *NEXT*?

All of our *NEXT* literature can be found at stjstl.net/next. You can also contact Jeff Cook at 636.779.2306 or jcook@stjstl.net

KEY DATES

October 16, 2016 • *NEXT* Kick-Off Weekend
November 21, 2016 • Commitment Weekend
December 11, 2016 • First Gifts
December 31, 2018 • *NEXT* Concludes



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT *NEXT*?

VIDEOS • FAQs • STORIES • PROGRESS UPDATES

[STJSTL.NET/NEXT](https://stjstl.net/next)

