



planting hope

2023-2024 Capital Campaign



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DOUG

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

As you know, Abiding Hope has never backed down from a challenge to expand God's mission of love and life for the world. Well, the Holy Spirit has set before us some high impact opportunities right now!

After seeing a significant rise in preschoolers dealing with neurodiverse challenges, the Spirit provided us a vision for creating a Nature-Based Learning Center that will meet the needs of families facing such challenges. We will be able to provide a multi-sensory approach to learning that will reach children who are typically overlooked and underserved in traditional classrooms. This will be an integrated curriculum that also serves neurotypical children so that all of the students can be immersed into an inclusive, accepting, and loving learning environment. We have entered into a "lease with intent to purchase" agreement with Genesis Presbyterian Church to acquire their property at 5707 S. Simms Street.

In addition to acquiring and launching the Nature School, we will make significant upgrades to our Worship Center that will improve acoustics and utilize new sound equipment, provide needed repair to the baptismal font, and address issues with the current flooring. With worship being our primary means for connecting and interacting with our community, these improvements are critical to our ongoing missional development. Other facility improvements such as a new kitchen, addressing exterior needs, and upgrading our security system are also outlined within this booklet.

However, that isn't everything. I believe that God is calling us to keep our debt at a manageable level and even possibly either reduce it significantly or eliminate it completely in the next few years. The \$23,000 we spend each month on our mortgage payment (which will increase as interest rates increase) could transform life for our partners in Haiti or here in the Denver metro area. It would also free us to increase our staff to generate even more missional presence in our community.

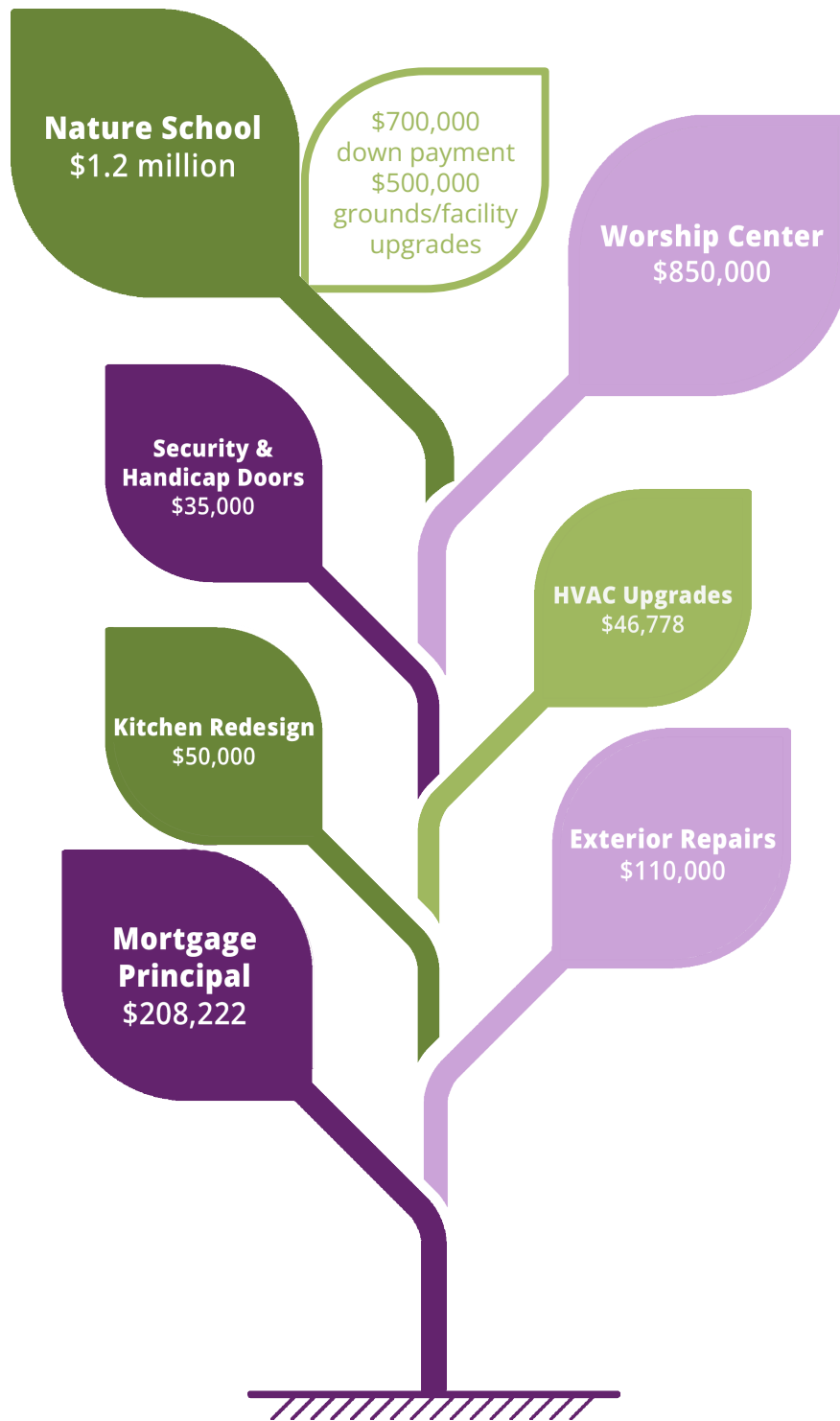
I believe that the first 35 years of Abiding Hope's existence is just the beginning. I am confident that as we discern and say YES to the Holy Spirit's guidance we will continue to be amazed at what God accomplishes through us. Please join me in helping this campaign to reach more people and to strengthen our ministry for more impact.

With abiding hope,

Pastor Doug

P.S. We will need to secure \$700,000 in received gifts by the end of June, in order to complete the purchase of the Nature School.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECTS



Total \$2.5 million base goal

Challenge Goal: \$4.15 million

The challenge goal would eliminate debt from the Nature School. With an additional \$1.65 million against the principal, it would leave just over \$2 million in debt at the end of this campaign and essentially mean we paid cash for this new project!

THE NEED FOR A NATURE SCHOOL



Written by Erin Fisher, Director of Schools: Over the years, we have seen an increase in ADD, ADHD, speech delay, sensory processing disorder, and autism. We have had to transition children out of our school and into public schools where they can receive services. This is heartbreaking because the transitions are tough not only on the children, but the families, as they are learning to navigate whatever diagnosis their child has received. One in five children has a developmental disability and 1 in 59 has a diagnosis of autism. Although there is not enough research showing an exact cause, some of the speculation is that children are not getting enough time outdoors to explore, with the focus on development having become more technology and academic-based. There are many developmental opportunities, socially and emotionally, in development that are being missed which is causing a change in the way neurons are connecting in the brain. Additionally, the rates of childhood obesity, Type 2 diabetes, anxiety, depression and suicide have reached near epidemic status. All the research points to our need to get back to basics and, as the church and a pillar in our community, we are compelled to act. Another opportunity is to use a holistic approach to provide early intervention services to children as well as therapeutic intervention services to families, in the hopes that we can help their families be more whole and well. Families and children in this area struggle with anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues that unfortunately in some instances lead to suicide. These incidences are higher in children with special needs than in the general population.

The solution to this problem is to open a community faith-based nature preschool with an inclusive therapeutic approach. The preschool will provide services for neurotypical and neurodiverse children aged 6 weeks to 6 years old. Therapies such as occupational, speech, physical and mental health services will be offered and conducted onsite during the child's school day. Through conversations with parents over the years, they report that it is extremely helpful for their child to get therapy at school. If they wait until after school, often the child is too exhausted to focus one more minute. The goals are to help neurodiverse children learn to integrate and transition into a neurotypical school with greater ease as they progress in their education. Another goal is to help neurotypical children empathize with people who function differently than they do. A third goal is to connect families in a natural environment to support one another as parents of young children and to maintain relationships by building community networks to fall back on as their children get older.

We will remain non-profit and, because of the services we will be providing, the tuition will be higher than at the main campus. Tuition will average \$1000 per month and with 100 children enrolled, gross income at this site would be approximately \$1,000,000 per year. Typically, in this industry a successful non-profit childcare center will gross \$670,000. The average net profit margin for childcare centers is climbing and as of 2014 was at 10%. Abiding Hope Preschool's net profit margin was 21% in 2019 and 14.5% in 2020. It was lower in 2020 due to the pandemic; being closed for 2.5 months and opening back up at 50% capacity for 2 months before expanding back to full capacity. In 2021 and 2022 the preschool net profit margin was 24%. When the Nature School is fully operational, we project the total monthly revenue will be approximately \$90,000 and the annual revenue will be approximately \$1,000,000. Expenses are expected to be around \$80,000 per month which will result in a monthly net income of \$10,000. The annual net profit margin will be, conservatively 12%.

Neurodiversity: people that experience and interact with the world in different ways; there is no one "right" way of thinking, learning, and behaving, and differences are not viewed as deficits.

Neurotypical: not displaying or characterized by autistic or other neurologically atypical patterns of thought or behavior.



From the first time I heard about the vision of expanding the Abiding Hope Preschool to a Nature-Based Learning Center, I have felt a tremendous sense of hope. I am so excited and grateful for the opportunity that a school like this will provide young learners in our community.

I am a mom to two girls. My youngest was diagnosed at an early age with developmental and cognitive delays. As a young child, she experienced and sensed the world very differently than someone who is neurotypical. As a student in preschool, her teachers struggled knowing how to help her learn. As a parent, I was at a complete loss, fearing that she may never succeed in a classroom setting.

When my daughter entered kindergarten, her teacher, Johnny Arnold, immediately recognized her as a neurodiverse learner. Johnny made accommodations to her curriculum and gave her an opportunity for experiential learning. This means that instead of sitting at a desk learning her colors, numbers and letter sounds, he taught her by inviting her to explore the world through sight, touch and sound. Malia grew in confidence and started taking in information. Progress was very slow, but I could see that connections were being made. Unfortunately, throughout her elementary years, other teachers did not have the same understanding of neurodiverse learners and she struggled.

I was so disappointed that there wasn't an option, even in a special education setting, for her to have the opportunity for experiential learning that she experienced in Kindergarten. There are between 15-20% of children who are neurodiverse who cannot access learning because they learn differently.

The Nature Based Program at Abiding Hope Preschool will allow young learners an opportunity to have access to learn in their unique way, in a way that helps them to experience success in learning.

Please consider giving a gift of hope to young learners like my daughter.



Kim Sandman

MLST & Abiding Hope member



PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS



Nature School \$1.2 million

This project houses a preschool to serve neurodiverse and neurotypical children in a combination of natural and innovative classrooms. The property is also an opportunity for expanded youth, family, and church activities. During the pandemic, properties sold too quickly and too high of price. Genesis Presbyterian Church was for sale and had an offer for \$2.5 million to a business. Instead, they sold it to us with the understanding that the small group from that congregation will continue to worship in the space. We have a lease with intent to purchase for \$2.25 million. The current lease is being applied to the sale price. If we buy early, we buy it for \$2.15 million. We need \$700,000 for a down payment to qualify for the mortgage. We also need \$500,000 for upgrades to the property over the next two years.

Worship Center Upgrades \$850K

This project includes substantial upgrades to the acoustics, sound system, functionality, and aesthetics in the worship center. A professional evaluation of the acoustics was recently performed with specific recommendations to improve the sound quality and overall worship experience. This project includes new flooring, improved acoustical treatments across the back, and an improved location for the musicians; including having the vocalists and musicians face more toward the center of the worship center, along with acoustical reflectors and absorbers specifically designed to improve the overall sound quality and congregational singing along with an acoustic drum set. This project also includes a new sound system, including new speakers, amplifiers, sound board, monitors for the musicians, and microphones. Finally, this project includes an update/replacement for the baptismal font and upgrades to the accent lighting.

Security Upgrades & Handicap Doors \$35,000

Security upgrades include updates to existing security alarms, rekeying/pass card for all doors, adding cameras to the interior and exterior, and adding handicap opening doors to the front entrance of the worship center.



**HVAC
Upgrades
\$46,778**

HVAC upgrades include replacing the Trane system in the DTC building so that all levels are temperature controlled and replacing the outdated control panel.

**Kitchen
Redesign
\$50,000**

The kitchen redesign includes replacing the stove/oven, replacing the sanitizing station, increasing the square footage of the space by expanding into the gym closet, and adding an island with additional storage.

**Exterior
Repairs
\$110,000**

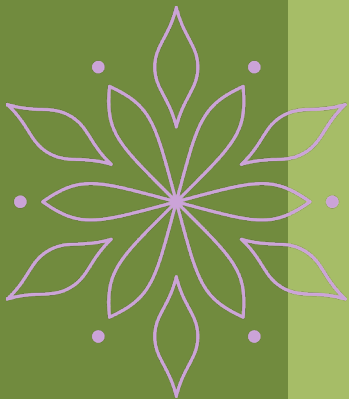
Exterior Repairs include replacing the gym's deteriorated emergency exit stairs; performing spot repairs and repainting the deteriorated fascia, soffits, and gutters; and patching, sealing and re-striping the deteriorated south parking lot.

**Mortgage Principle
\$208,222**

The mortgage principal includes paying down our mortgage against the high interest rate.

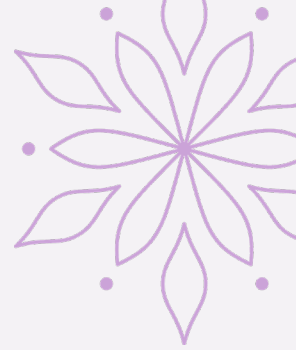
**Challenge
Goal Mortgage
Reduction
\$1.65 million**

The challenge goal for reduction in the mortgage will fully eliminate any new indebtedness from the purchase of the new Nature School leaving our outstanding debt at approximately \$2 million.



CALCULATING YOUR GIFT

How a gift over time can really make a difference



Amount Per Month	Amount Per Year	20-Month Amount
\$2,000	\$24,000	\$44,000
\$1,500	\$18,000	\$30,000
\$1,250	\$15,000	\$25,000
\$1,100	\$13,200	\$22,000
\$1,000	\$12,000	\$20,000
\$800	\$9,600	\$16,000
\$700	\$8,400	\$14,000
\$500	\$6,000	\$10,000
\$350	\$4,200	\$7,000
\$250	\$3,000	\$5,000
\$125	\$1,500	\$2,500
\$100	\$1,200	\$2,000
\$50	\$600	\$1,000
\$30.42	\$365	\$608
\$15.21	\$182	\$304
\$1 per day		\$608



BEST WAYS TO MAKE A GIFT

Most people think about writing a check to make a gift or using their credit card if they are on a website. However, there are three methods of giving that can be far better than writing a check.

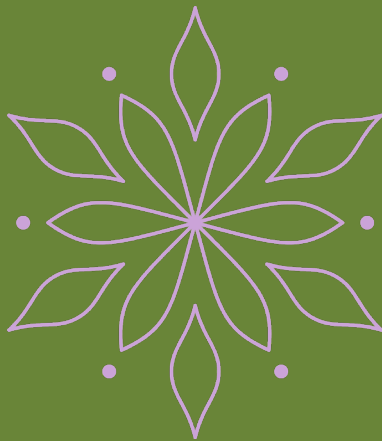
- 1.** If you are age 70.5 years old or older and have a traditional IRA, you are eligible to make a contribution directly from that account to a charity and have it count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This will result in no income tax due to you as you won't be taking it as a distribution to you. So, you avoid income taxes, get to make a gift to charity, and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution (this is a thing once you are 72). If you are 70.5 years old and have a traditional IRA this is almost always the best way to give. If you have a 401k or 403b, you can roll that over to an IRA and then use this gifting method.
- 2.** If you have appreciated stock, mutual fund, or another asset you can gift it to the church and avoid capital gains taxes and get credit for a charitable gift. This could save you 10% or 15% in taxes, depending on your tax bracket. The tax savings make this a great way for some people to make a gift.
- 3.** Making a regular gift every month from your checking account can allow many people to make a bigger gift than they ever thought possible. A gift of \$30.42 per month (\$1 per day) comes to a total gift of \$608 over a 20-month period of time. A gift of \$100 per month is \$2,000.

Everyone's situation is different. This campaign will be successful if everyone prayerfully determines the best way for them to make their best gift to the appeal. There is no one size fits all. Please pray about and discern how God is calling you to be involved.



HOW TO GIVE

After using the charts on this page, fill out an intent card and let us know how you will help grow Abiding Hope!



GIFTS NEEDED

BASE GOAL

Number of Gifts	Value of Gift	Running Total
1	\$250,000	\$250,000
1	\$150,000	\$400,000
2	\$100,000	\$600,000
3	\$75,000	\$825,000
4	\$50,000	\$1,025,000
6	\$35,000	\$1,235,000
8	\$24,000	\$1,427,000
12	\$18,000	\$1,643,000
16	\$12,000	\$1,835,000
20	\$9,000	\$2,015,000
25	\$5,000	\$2,140,000
36	\$3,600	\$2,269,600
45	\$1,800	\$2,350,600
99	\$900	\$2,439,700
122	\$500	\$2,500,700
Total 400 Gifts		\$2,500,700

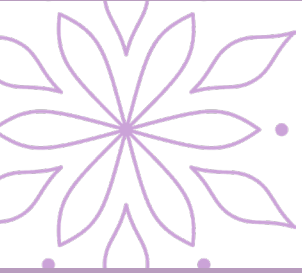
CHALLENGE GOAL

Number of Gifts	Value of Gift	Running Total
1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
1	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
2	\$250,000	\$2,000,000
2	\$125,000	\$2,250,000
4	\$75,000	\$2,550,000
6	\$50,000	\$2,850,000
8	\$30,000	\$3,090,000
12	\$18,000	\$3,306,000
16	\$12,000	\$3,408,000
18	\$9,000	\$3,660,000
26	\$5,000	\$3,790,000
36	\$3,600	\$3,919,600
45	\$1,800	\$4,000,600
99	\$900	\$4,089,700
124	\$500	\$4,151,700
Total 400 Gifts		\$4,151,700

Commonly Asked Questions

Q: What is Colorado Child Care Contribution (CCCC)?

A: Taxpayers that make a monetary contribution to promote childcare in Colorado may claim an income tax credit of 50% of the total contribution.



Q: Can I make my gift as a CCCC?

A: Yes, your gift can be contributed as a CCCC. You will need to designate your gift/donation as a CCCC gift and Abiding Hope will give you the appropriate tax documentation at year end. Just place CCCC in the memo line or choose that fund online.

Q: What am I being asked to do for the Planting Hope Campaign?

A: We are asking that you fill out an intent card with a financial commitment. That commitment can be fulfilled through a one-time payment, over an 20-month period, or on a timeframe in between.

Q: When do my gift payments for the appeal begin?

A: Unless you prefer a different timetable, the offering period begins May 2023. The intent card has a place for you to indicate how and when you will fulfill your commitment.

Q: How long does the appeal last?

A: The appeal will last for eighteen months: May 2023 through December 2024. However, if you feel you can make a larger gift by extending the time, you are welcome to do so. You may also make a one-time gift or contribute over less than eighteen months. The more quickly we can reduce our debt load, the more quickly we free up resources for further ministry.

Q: Is it possible to just make gifts to the appeal without making a specific commitment?

A: Yes, but written responses, while never legally binding, give us an indication of what we can expect and permit us to plan for the future. Please fill out an intent card indicating how you will respond even if you do not make a commitment. The response from the congregation will be a compelling story as we prepare for even more impactful ministry.

Q: Will I be asked to give a specific amount?

A: You will be asked to prayerfully consider an amount based on the gift chart to reach our goal. If every gift on the chart is fulfilled, we will exceed our goal.





Q: Do all gifts to the campaign need to be cash?

A: No. Gifts of property, appreciated stock, required minimum distributions from an IRA, mutual funds, cash value from insurance policies or policy loan proceeds, certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds, and annuities are just some of the ways we can give. For those who qualify, giving via a Required IRA Distribution may be the best way to contribute. All of these gifts may be subject to restrictions and limitations and each giver's circumstances are unique, so it is wise to consult your financial advisor or accountant.

Note: Contact Dana Hess at the church office to make non-cash gifts. Important! Do not sell the asset yourself or you will be unable to avoid capital gains tax. If you are trying to capture a capital loss, you may want to sell the asset yourself. Please consult your tax advisor on the best approach for your own circumstances.

Q: What is the advantage of giving appreciated stocks or property?

A: You can avoid capital gains taxes and possibly also receive a tax deduction in the amount of the appreciated value.

Q: How do I make a gift of appreciated stock?

A: Have your broker transfer shares from your account to the church. The church's broker will sell the stock and you will receive gift credit for the average market value on the day it is transferred. Contact Dana Hess at the church office for transfer information.

Q: The stock market has dropped in recent months, what will that mean for giving?

A: Certainly each situation is unique. People tend to keep giving levels strong to the church even in down economic times. It is also important to remember that the giving period lasts through December, 2024 and history would tell us that the market will have recovered by the end of the giving period.





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