



THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

LAYING A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR THE NEXT CENTURY



CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

Our Vision

Building on a Century of Faith

Almost 100 years ago, faithful Belmont members had the vision to build our magnificent sanctuary in the heart of Hillsboro Village. Since then, generations have come to Belmont for inspiration, spiritual growth, and to serve our community.

Today, we continue that legacy—rooted in Christ, grounded in mission, and alive with possibility. As we approach our Centennial, we look to the next hundred years with both gratitude and responsibility.

We are deeply committed to this location—between two thriving universities and in the vibrant heart of Nashville. Our presence here connects us to our neighborhood, to students and families, and to the city we love. We are seeing renewed engagement among college students, young adults, and families. Our ministries are growing in our neighborhood, our city, and throughout the world. With Discipleship Pathways, we are renewing our commitment to spiritual growth. We are a vital, inclusive community that enriches lives, invests in children and youth, affirms everyone, promotes social justice, and serves our city with compassion.

Yet our historic campus is showing its age. Our facilities should reflect the warmth of our welcome and support the energy of our ministries. We cannot imagine a future where we are not worshiping in our beloved sanctuary—but to witness at the corner of 21st and Acklen faithfully, we must think imaginatively and act boldly. Through the Centennial Campaign, we seek to secure Belmont's place as a center for worship, connection, and service for generations to come.





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Our Commitment

A Future Rooted in Welcome and Mission

We believe that our buildings should reflect the spirit of our community—beautiful, functional, and open to all. Through this campaign, we will create spaces that welcome everyone, preserve what is sacred, and prepare Belmont for future generations of ministry.

The Centennial Campaign will enable Belmont to:

- Remain a visible witness to God in the midst of a busy community.**

We will restore the beauty of the sanctuary and Thomasson Hall. We will ensure their exteriors are sound. We will upgrade outdated plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems. We will restore our stained-glass windows. We will improve lighting and sound so that all worshippers can participate fully. We will add modern restrooms and create gathering areas that will serve as a congregational hub.

- Devote more resources to staff, ministry, and programs.**

Paying off our debt from building the Community Center will free up \$225,000 each year for the Trust Fund and operating budget to devote to ministry and other uses.

- Create facilities that support growth into and throughout the next century.**

We will actively explore and commit to reimagining our campus and educational buildings to have lower maintenance costs, add more parking, and better support current and future ministries. Our facilities should welcome and support the community.

This campaign is more than a construction project—it is an expression of faith, hope, hospitality, and stewardship. It is an opportunity to repurpose mortgage and maintenance into ministry. As we renew our physical spaces, we are also renewing the ways we live out our mission together.





A thriving campus strengthens every part of our ministry:

- **For worship:**

A sanctuary and gathering space that beautifully reflects the vitality of our faith. When lighting, sound, and infrastructure are as they should be, our attention can rest fully on God and one another—not on broken lights or lack of heating and cooling.

- **For fellowship and mission:**

When spaces are welcoming and accessible, when our entryways and flow communicate, “you belong here,” more people can come, stay, engage, and serve.

- **For our neighborhood:**

Our campus is not just for our congregation; it also serves the wider community. Updated, inviting, accessible facilities enable Belmont to host more outreach efforts, community events, and ministries for college students, neighborhood groups, and older adults.

- **For stewardship and future generations:**

We honor the legacy of those who built and nurtured Belmont. And we invest now so that our children, grandchildren, and beyond benefit from a campus ready for ministry—not burdened by deferred maintenance, debt, and decay.

Together, these commitments embody Belmont’s discipleship pathway—Worship→Connect→Grow→Serve—offering spaces that nurture belonging, deepen faith, and inspire service.

When our spaces reflect welcome, people feel it. Families gather. Students linger. Neighbors stop by. The building becomes not only a place to worship but also a living expression of grace and community.





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Why Now?

A Time of Urgency and Opportunity

This is a pivotal moment for Belmont—one we cannot delay.

- **Aging systems demand attention.**

Our electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems are nearing the end of their life cycles. Continued patchwork fixes are no longer sustainable. Property expenses are increasing significantly faster than our ministry and staff budgets.

- **Ministry growth requires readiness.**

Our programs for children, youth, young adults, and adults are expanding, and our facilities must evolve to meet that growth.

- **A milestone worth honoring.**

As we approach 100 years of ministry, we have the privilege and responsibility to prepare our church for the next century of mission.

- **Wise stewardship for the future.**

Debt service and maintenance costs are diverting funds from mission and ministry. Faithful investment now ensures we pass on a thriving, not burdened, church to those who follow.

This campaign is not about buildings alone—it is about the ministry that those buildings make possible.





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Our Projects

Preserving the Past, Preparing the Future

Through the Centennial Campaign, we will:

Preserve and restore the Sanctuary and Thomasson Hall

- Enhance the beauty of our buildings by restoring stonework, pediments, and stained-glass windows.
- Upgrade antiquated plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems.
- Renovate Thomasson Hall to increase flexibility and improve space utilization.
- Improve sound, lighting, and AV systems to enhance worship both in person and online.
- Add modern, accessible restrooms.

Eliminate our \$1,400,000 mortgage

Explore options and partnerships to reimagine and redevelop the education and administrative buildings, as well as the Vanderbilt Imaging building, to align all our facilities with our long-term vision, including our need for additional parking.

Estimated cost: \$4,000,000 – \$5,000,000

Timeline: Work will begin in 2026 and continue through 2027.

We do not know exactly where this path will lead, but we believe now is the time to focus on preserving, renovating, and reimagining the spaces that house the heart of our faith community.





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An Invitation

Faith for the Future

We stand at a pivotal time in Belmont's story—not because of crisis, but because of promise.

Our ministries are growing. Our denomination is embracing inclusion. Our city is searching for belonging.

Now is the time to ensure Belmont remains a place where people worship deeply, connect authentically, grow spiritually, and serve joyfully.

Your gift matters.

Your presence matters.

Your story matters.

Together, we can honor our past, strengthen our present, and build welcome for generations to come.

We invite you to engage in our feasibility study in January and February and offer your impressions and feedback in response to this bold vision. We want everyone at Belmont UMC to be a part of the journey ahead. Pending the results of the study, the current plan is to seek four-year commitments (over and above annual giving) later this spring to fully fund the campaign vision.

Join us in laying a firm foundation for the next century, so that Belmont continues to be a beacon of faith and community in the heart of Nashville.

