



## Capital Campaign Community of Faith: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Mortgage Elimination Offering

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ  
“Faith Raising with an Attitude of Gratitude”

# Capital Campaign Newsletter- May 2026

### Co-Chair Message



The Capital Campaign Community of Faith is pleased to share that we were bequeathed a donation from Dr. Robert Baird and Mrs. Georgiana Baird for mortgage elimination in the amount of \$135,529.04.

We began the Capital Campaign Community of Faith on March 4, 2019 with a total loan of \$1.8 Million Dollars. At the end of 2025, our loan balance was \$1,242,813.90.

Our current 2026 loan balance, after receipt of all donations, stands at \$1,028,593.91. It is our goal to reduce the loan below \$1,000,000 in the 2026 Capital Campaign year.

And in so doing, we will hold steadfast to our mission: “Faith-raising with an Attitude of Gratitude; Honoring the Gifts of each Generation.” We kindly ask that you give whatever you can to reduce the mortgage loan on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, which is designated as Mortgage Elimination Sunday; or on either Sunday that is convenient for you. Every bit helps. God Bless you all. Thank you. – Batina Wills Washington

### New Co-Chair Introduction



James Gittens has been a dedicated member of the Peoples Church family since 2011, when his daughter first joined Girl Scouts.

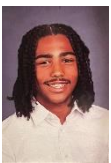
Over the years, James has worn many hats in service to our congregation, from mentoring our youth as an Assistant and Den Leader to

serving on the Board of Trustees, the Men’s Fellowship, and the Scholarship Committee.

For James, service is a family affair. He and his wife, Precious, have raised three wonderful children—Sanaa, Farah, and Ihsan—within the heart of this church. He takes immense pride in seeing his daughters serve in the Girl Scouts and celebrating his son’s recent achievement as an Eagle Scout right here at Peoples Church.

As Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign, James is driven by a deep desire to see our mortgage fully alleviated. He views this not just as a financial goal, but an opportunity to eliminate a burden from our spiritual home, ensuring that our resources can flow freely into the ministries and community work that define who we are. – James Gittens

### YOUTH LEADER AMBASSADORS



Ricky Washington is a Junior high school student at DC International Public Charter School, an International Baccalaureate School where he studies Mandarin and has earned his Seal of Bi-literacy.

Participation at Peoples Church:

- Christened in 2009
- Confirmed Member of Peoples since 2021
- Regular Youth Reader
- Youth Participant in MLK Day of Advocacy
- Sunday School Participant 2009- current



Farah Gittens is a 10th grader at Winston Churchill High School and grew up in the heart of the Peoples Church community. Her journey in Girl Scouts has been defined as a passion for helping others. From selling cookies and packing

meals for our community, Farah has consistently turned her values into action. These experiences helped her earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award, an honor that reflects her commitment to community service. Farah is a member of the Rhythmic Choir; and shares her talent as a Liturgical Dancer during Worship Service Performances.

*“We are reaching down to Raise, Reaching out to Save and Reaching up to Praise at Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ” -Dr. Thomas Pinder*



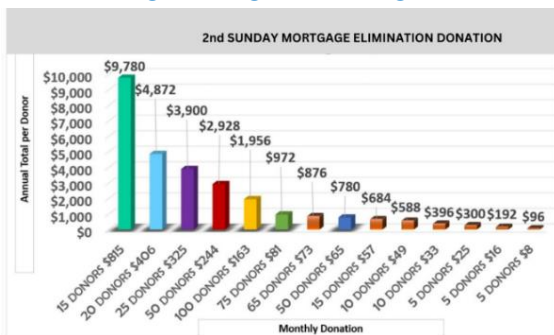
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMUNITY OF FAITH  
FAITH-RAISING WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE  
2ND SUNDAY MORTGAGE ELIMINATION OFFERING

HONORING THE GIFTS OF EACH GENERATION

Children Changers	Teen Tithers
Alpha Achievers	Millennial Movers
Gen X Givers	Baby Boomers Bridgers

Golden Gifters

## 2ND SUNDAY MORTGAGE ELIMINATION DONATION PLEDGE



Please consider selecting one of the Monthly Donation Categories in the **2nd Sunday Mortgage Elimination Donation Graph** above to create your recurring financial gifts either online or by postal mail.

**Remember, these financial gifts are above and beyond your usual tithing and offering donations for our Beloved Church.**

Of course, if you are unable to commit to the recommended donation amounts on the graph, all donations to the Capital Campaign Community of Faith are greatly needed and appreciated.

Select Peoples Church or REALM for Online Donations

Select Menu Option: Mortgage Elimination

[Complete the 2nd Sunday Mortgage Elimination Donation Form](#)

[DONATE at Peoplechurchucc.org](#)

[DONATE on REALM](#)

Jeff Banks, Co-Chairperson

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMUNITY OF FAITH FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q. Who is the lender for the loan?**

**A. United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund**

**Q. What was the original amount of the loan?**

**A. Peoples Church was granted a loan of \$1.8M in September 2018. The loan closed on December 8, 2018. The mortgage is structured as a 30-year variable rate mortgage.**

**Q. What is the current loan balance?**

**A. \$1,028,593.91**

**Q. What is the interest rate on the loan?**

**A. The interest rate is 4.75% for 10 years and is then subject to reset.**

**Q. When was repayment of the loan initiated?**

**A. The Capital Campaign Community of Faith was commissioned and began in March 2019.**

**Q. How much has been paid on the principal to date?**

**A. \$771,406.10**

**Q. What is the \$1.8M loan paying for in total?**

**A. The loan for the new HVAC was \$1.395M: plus engineer fees; paying off the existing Cornerstone loan of \$277,965.89 with the balance being applied to infrastructure upgrades such as a new roofing, sump pumps and mold abatement.**

**Q. What is the current monthly mortgage payment?**

**A. \$7,778.10. This reflects the lower payment effective 1/1/2024. It is allocated to principal and interest each month.**

**Q. What is the difference if donating to Mortgage Elimination or to the Capital Campaign?**

**A. Donations to both categories will be applied to the Cornerstone loan principal.**

**Q. What is the building fund and what do the donations support?**

**A. Donations to the Building Fund are held separately and are used for Building Improvements and repairs as needed.**

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