



# BEYOND

OUR ABILITY    OUR IMAGINATION    OUR TIME





## OUR ABILITY

**This church has invested in space for contemporary worship, student worship, and kids worship — now it's time to invest in the sanctuary.**

*The Macedonians gave beyond their ability*

*2 Corinthians 8:1-3*



## OUR IMAGINATION

**God's power exceeds expectations, preparing blessings beyond what we can comprehend.**

*God is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us"*

*Ephesians 3:20*



## OUR TIME

**The time is now. The responsibility is ours. The glory is God's. The future is bright.**

*"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done"*

*Psalm 78:1*



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You are invited to use the QR code or visit [www.FBCHSV/BEYOND](http://www.FBCHSV/BEYOND) to see more photographs, videos, and updates.



Friends,

I recently came across a fascinating BBC article about the rising interest in classical music among young adults. One line stood out to me: ***“Under 35-year-olds are more likely to listen to orchestral music than their parents.”***



What does this mean for us? It doesn't mean contemporary worship is fading away— it does mean traditional worship remains vital. Our responsibility is to provide the best possible worship spaces for Sunday mornings, our community, and future generations.

The BEYOND project includes several upgrades, including the Life Center. However, the heart of the initiative is the sanctuary and choir rehearsal space. Over the past 15 years, we've built dedicated worship areas for First Fellowship, Students, and Kids. We've also renovated the Family Room, which serves as the worship space for AVIVA. Now, it's time to prioritize the sanctuary.

While I don't know individual giving records, I do know the heart of this church. Time and again, people have given generously—for the ministries they personally use and for the greater good of our community. Those who contributed to the Life Center and Student Center campaigns did so even if they didn't attend First Fellowship or have students. Many who supported the GENERATIONS Campaign didn't have young children, yet they gave because we are an **“us”** church, not an **“us and them”** church.

With that same spirit, I believe we are all called to do our best for **BEYOND**.

Your pastor,

Travis Collins





## BEYOND Our Ability Stewardship: Our Ability

By: Rick Shelton

Have you ever faced a situation that seemed beyond your ability? Today, we will examine King David, who did what was impossible because he knew that with God, all things are possible (Matthew 19:26).

Most of us know the story of David in the Bible. He began his life as a simple shepherd boy tending his father's sheep and by God's grace he rose to become the king over Israel. His life had many twists and turns, some of which were caused by his sin while others were the result of the sins of other people. Despite his errors, he always loved and served the Lord. In the Bible he is called "a man after God's own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22).

What did that look like in his life? He loved spending time with the Lord (Psalm 122:1). He loved and fought long and hard for God's people and land. He was also a good steward of the abundant resources God had provided. He wanted to build a great temple to honor and worship God.

Moses received instructions from God about the construction of the Tabernacle, which are recorded in Exodus chapters 25–27 and 35–40. The Tabernacle was a large, tent-like structure that contained, among other things, the Ark of the Covenant, which contained the Ten Commandments that Moses had received from God's hand. It was where the priests received offerings and atoned for the sins of the nation of Israel through regular sacrifices. It was portable and followed the Israelites on their journey to Israel, back to the Sinai, and, eventually, through the conquest of Canaan. After that, it moved to several locations around Israel before eventually being located in Jerusalem in the time of David. We don't know exactly how long this was, but it was probably about 400 years. David lamented in 2 Samuel 7:1-2:

*Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent."*

While building a great Temple for God was the desire of David's heart, the Lord gave this honor to his son Solomon. Nevertheless, even though he would never see it, David was faithful to store up the resources needed to build a magnificent temple for God.



1 Chronicles 28 and 29 tells us of King David's faithfulness in storing up those resources. David could have stored up gold and silver for himself, as so many do. He could have been one of the wealthiest people who ever lived. Instead, he stored up huge resources to build a temple for the God he loved. 1 Chronicles 29:2 says:

*...I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting,*

Exactly how much was that? We don't know how much of everything was stored, but we do know about the gold and silver: 225,000 pounds of gold and 525,000 pounds of silver! Recall that this was true even though God was not going to give him the thing he most wanted to do – to build a great house for God. Clearly, this man after God's own heart loved God in the same way that God loved him – generously and unselfishly. David had assembled all the leaders of Israel in Jerusalem to announce his plan to build a great temple for God (1 Chronicles 28:1):

*David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, the commanders of thousands, the commanders of hundreds, the stewards of all the property and livestock of the king and his sons, together with the palace officials, the mighty men and all the seasoned warriors.*

After announcing what he had stored up for God, David said to them (1 Chronicles 29:5):

*"...for all the work to be done by craftsmen, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating himself today to the LORD?"*

The response of the assembly was overwhelming: 375,156 pounds of gold, 750,000 pounds of silver, 1,350,000 pounds of bronze, 7,500,000 pounds of iron, along with an untold number of precious stones. This resulted in the following response from the people of Israel (1 Chronicles 29:9):

*Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly.*



Why were they so joyful? Their joy came from being aligned with God's plan and intention. We are not the owners of anything – all belongs to God (Deuteronomy 10:14- 17). Genesis 1:26–28 says:

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

God has given us stewardship over this earth, but God is the owner. When we are good stewards of what God has given us, we are aligned with God's plan and purpose. When we are fully aligned with God's purpose, we will be joyful. Listen to King David's prayer (1 Chronicles 29:10-18):

*Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you. O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you.*



David and the assembly ended that day this way in verse 22:

*And they ate and drank before the Lord on that day with great gladness.*

Being faithful stewards of what God has given us aligns us not only with God's purpose but also with each other in serving God together. We are a community, the family of God, loving and serving the Lord together.

You can read about the construction of the temple in 2 Chronicles 2-4. Imagine what it would have been like for those Israelites who gave generously or their descendants when they walked into the temple and saw all that their family had given to the glory of God. Even the walls were lined with silver and the doors were pure gold! At church we can look around and see how we are now blessed by what we and so many others have given in the past. By giving of our time, talents, and resources, we are joyfully aligned with God's purpose, and the product will live on beyond us. God through us can "do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us," (Ephesians 3:20).

**Questions for Conversation and Discussion:**

*Jesus said: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). What will it mean for you if you invest in God's kingdom?*

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*Why do you think being aligned with God's purpose by being a good steward will give you joy?*

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*Why is it important that we join with each other in our stewardship of God's blessings? What is likely to happen to us?*

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*How has the stewardship of the time, talents, and resources of others been a blessing in your life?*

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**Rick Shelton** has taught the Bible in church for nearly 50 years. He and his wife Judy are both teachers in The Bridge class at FBC. They will be married for 50 years this Summer. They have three daughters, three sons-in-law, and four beautiful grandchildren. Two of them, Esme and Elise Hreha, have been involved at FBC all their lives, starting with daycare. Rick is a Professor at the UAB Heersink School of Medicine where he is a teacher and researcher.



# WORDS FROM OUR BEYOND TEAM

## Dow Canup, BEYOND Co-Chair

When I was asked to take a leadership role for BEYOND, I hesitated—was I the right choice? BEYOND focuses on renovating the sanctuary and music areas, and as I worship in First Fellowship, I assumed someone else would be better suited.

As I prayed, God reminded me of the impact past capital campaigns have had on our church and my family. Too often, we think of these efforts in terms of money rather than transformed lives.

- My kids worship in a space designed for them because of past campaigns.
- My wife, Holly, Minister of Median Adults collaborates better with peers thanks to updated office spaces.
- Our student ministry thrives. Would it, if youth still met on the third floor?
- Our grandchildren learn about God in a new children's wing made possible by your generosity.

Holly and I joined FBC in 1996, the last time the sanctuary was renovated. While other areas have been updated, the sanctuary remains unchanged.

***As I prayed, God reminded me of the impact past capital campaigns have had on our church and my family.***

This sacred space is the heart of our church—where we dedicate children, celebrate marriages, and say final goodbyes. Guests often experience our sanctuary space first; does our sanctuary reflect the vibrancy of our faith?

As we align our hearts with our abilities and actions, let's ensure our sanctuary reflects the spirit and faith of our people and our devotion to God.





**BEYOND Our Imagination**  
**The Intersection of Ordinary Faithfulness**  
**& Extraordinary Results**  
**Acts 4:32-37**

**By: Rickey Letson**

**Introduction**

Amos Root was an Ohio businessman and beekeeper in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Among other pursuits, Root wrote a periodical for beekeepers called *Gleanings in Bee Culture*. Root's writings on beekeeping would likely be lost to the scrap heap of history except for one rather remarkable article he wrote in 1905. In the January 1905 edition of *Gleanings*, Root became the first American journalist to report on the flights of Orville and Wilbur Wright.

What I love about Root's story is the fact that his knowledge of bees and the everyday reality of their abilities to fly led him to develop the imagination needed to believe that other forms of flight on a grander level might also be possible. In essence, since Amos Root understood the basics of ordinary bees, he believed similar principles could also be the foundational elements of more extraordinary achievements.

I think about Amos Root when I think about the early Christian community in our text from Acts 4. Like the Wright Brothers, through the power of the Holy Spirit, early believers leveraged foundational elements of everyday life to craft one of the most world-changing movements civilization has ever witnessed. These first followers of Christ committed themselves to ordinary principles that became the building blocks for extraordinary achievements through the power of God at work within them.

**Wrestling with the Text: Act 4:32-37**

Early Christian communities looked very different from the church of today. In their initial forms, the first churches were very small when compared with many congregations of today. They didn't have formal orders of worship or choirs and orchestras but rather were characterized by a warm, informal fellowship. They also didn't own magnificent buildings but met primarily in homes instead.



Our text for today from Acts 4 describes an early expression of Christian community in formation among the first believers in Jerusalem. What is described in these few verses feels very representative of the other early communities we read about in the subsequent pages of Luke's story. Through the pages of Acts, we discover the inspiring story of these early groups of followers and the power which was found not so much in their size, significant land holdings or community clout, but rather in their core focus on basic priorities and ways of being which became fertile ground for the Spirit to work among them.

Even in their simplistic early forms, these pioneer communities of faith had discovered the critical ingredients that would become the bedrock of all future congregations. In verses 32 through 35 of chapter four, three of these critical ingredients are named. First, these early believers had unity in a common purpose. The text says they were "one in heart and mind." They had a clear, shared focus. Second, they seemed to have a commitment to care for one another. Both verses 34 and 35 are clear that those who had needs among them were supported. Third, there was a deep desire to be generous. Verses 32, 34 and the example of Barnabas in verses 36 and 37, speak to this characteristic of generosity.

These were all rather common traits. In and of themselves, having a common purpose, caring for one another's needs, and being generous feel like very basic elements of ordinary life. But, when early believers who were committed to worshipping and following Jesus together also lived into these three life characteristics and others like them, these common traits were used by God as the ingredients for a worldwide movement that went beyond anyone's imagination.

### **Applying The Text**

The same remains true today. It is our commitment to these basic disciplines, which have carried the church over the centuries, that will continue to keep the church strong and vibrant well into the future. In essence, the ability of the future church to accomplish the work of God in ways that exceed our imagination will be the result of an ongoing commitment to basic, ordinary behaviors.

Among the three behaviors our text mentions, the one I want to zero in on is the attitude of generosity that was at the heart of the early church and



that must continue to be at the core of the church today. Luke, in both the gospel that bears his name and Acts which is the continuation of the gospel, offers numerous parables and stories where money is a focus. From Luke's perspective, how one uses one's money says as much as anything about one's priorities and the overall state of their spirituality. How we use our money speaks to our trust, our willingness or unwillingness to share and to our basic recognition that all that we have ultimately is on loan to us from God.

Generosity is a spiritual discipline. Just as we should constantly be growing in our commitment to other spiritual disciplines such as prayer, reading scripture, worship, and serving others, we should also be doing what we can to grow in our commitment to be generous.

Quite frankly, this is a struggle for most believers in 2025. Even though a tithe, or 10% of our income, is the Biblical target for generosity, the average church goer today gives somewhere between 2% and 3% of their income to their congregation. This is a challenging statistic when we think about the wealth that is at the disposal of the average American. This statistic says a lot about our priorities and understanding of where our resources come from in the first place. This statistic on contemporary generosity is also challenging when we recognize that the ability of the present and future church to do remarkable, life altering work is built on the basic principle of people being willing to share their financial resources.

Think about it. The amazing work happening at FBC Huntsville today is only possible because members of our church 40, 50, and 60 years ago were generous with their resources in order to fund present and future work at 600 Governors Drive. Now, we must live into the same kind of generosity to allow our simple gifts to be used by God now and in the future in ways beyond our ability to understand or imagine.

The BEYOND Campaign offers us a wonderful opportunity to exercise our generosity muscles. Like the early followers of Acts 4 in Jerusalem, our commitments to share what we have been blessed by God with at this moment will benefit our families and also people we will never know who will carry on this work in the future for Huntsville and North Alabama in ways beyond our comprehension. The question is, will we step up to the challenge of countless generations of Christ followers who have gone before us by being generous with what we have and by sharing those same resources in to ensure the present and future work of the church in our community?



**Questions for Conversation and Discussion:**

*Which of the three characteristics of the early believers in Acts 4 most speaks to you? Why?*

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*How would you define generosity? What did you learn about generosity from our passage today?*

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*Do you believe generosity should be understood as a spiritual discipline? Why or why not?*

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*If so, how does thinking about generosity as a spiritual discipline change how you approach sharing your resources?*

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*How do you feel about the statistic offered in the lesson regarding the percentage of income that the average church goer gives in 2025?*

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*Do you feel it is our responsibility to help fund not only the present but also the future mission and ministry work of our congregation? Why or why not?*

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*What is the biggest take away for you from this lesson?*

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**Rickey Letson** is the Vice President of Client Services for Missional Business Services. He works with churches and religious non-profits throughout the South as these organizations seek to be financially strong and healthy. Prior to working with the larger church, Rickey served local congregations for twenty-five years. Rickey and Ann Marie have been members of FBC since 2021. They are a part of The LINK Sunday morning Bible study, a Median Adult Small Group, and both enjoy serving on FBC committees. Their son Caleb is a senior at James Clemens High School and their daughter Callie lives in Auburn where she teaches elementary school.



# WORDS FROM OUR BEYOND TEAM

## Anne Stone, BEYOND Co-Chair

FBC, my church home for over half my life, has given me opportunities to be a good steward of my time, money, and skills. What I've learned I could do in God's service often takes me by surprise.

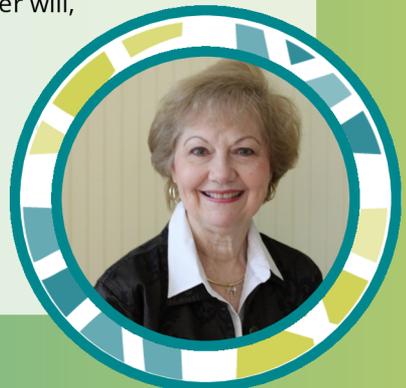
God's Word makes it plain He wants His people to be "givers." God has enough, and He knows how minds can turn to selfishness without a better plan to follow. When I'm watching local news and see people meeting, eating, and ministering to people in different ways in MY church, I am grateful we provide space for our community.

Our buildings ARE USED. It's an old building now. The roof needs repair, ceiling needs paint, carpet is worn, sound system is outdated, and the carillon needs attention. It's our time to be caregivers for what has been placed in our hands.

***It's our time to be caregivers for what has been placed in our hands.***

Aunt Agnes Gatlin, Bill, and the mosaic. Bill and I disagreed on spending money on our mosaic. I thought, "Let the next generation take that on." Then Aunt Agnes made her move. Her will left \$300,000 to the FBC Foundation to be USED as CAPITAL FUNDS to help maintain OUR BUILDING. Aunt Agnes lived and worked in Huntsville most of her life. In her will, she saw value in maintaining our church buildings. Aunt Agnes and her understanding of the future changed me.

We are caregivers who invest in future Kingdom work. We can't take it with us, but we can leave it here.





## Beyond Our Time Between the Already and the Not Yet

By: Gina Rittershaus

D-Day wasn't a one-day battle that decided the European front of WWII. D-"Day" began on June 6, 1944 and continued until August 30, 1944 – 2 months, 3 weeks, and 3 days. Commanding officers, strategists, and politicians declared that success with D-Day would end the war with Germany. Imagine you're a young soldier who gives all the effort and energy he has to help allied success. Once D-Day ends and the allies are declared victorious, he's told the war is decided. Yet, WWII doesn't end for 8 more months, until May 8, 1945, when VE Day is declared with Germany's surrender. Victory on D-Day means the war is already decided, but the war has not yet ended. How might that young soldier feel as he continues to sacrifice between the already and the not yet?

*In order that in the coming age he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by Grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:7-10*

*Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 1 John 3:2*

Gerhardus Vos (1862-1949), an early 20th-century theologian, searched for a way to model our role as Christians within the kingdom of God to his seminary students. He wanted to describe the concept of living in the present reality of God's kingdom while simultaneously looking forward to its full consummation in the future. This led to his formation of the "Already but Not Yet" paradigm. This paradigm asserts the kingdom of God has already begun through Jesus's work, death on the cross, and resurrection, but it is not yet fully realized through the second coming of Christ. In other words, we are "already" saved by grace through faith in Jesus and are a part of God's kingdom (Ephesians 2:7-10), but we "not yet" experience its complete fulfillment until Christ comes again (1 John 3:2).

Being a part of the "already and not yet" as Christians signifies a tension between the present and the future reality of our faith. We are already forgiven by God through Jesus's sacrifice on the cross, but we are not yet fully



free from the consequences of sin in the world. On a more individual level, we praise God for all he has done already in our lives, such as our salvation and answered prayers, and we humbly ask for things not yet accomplished, such as salvation of lost loved ones and mercy in times of need. As we live between these two states of being, the good news is that we are not left to deal with this tension alone. We have the gifts (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12:4-8) and fruits (Galatians 5:22-23) of the Holy Spirit. We have the Bible as our guide. We use discernment, sacrifice, and patience to make decisions about building the foundations of our faith on which future generations will stand. Just as soldiers were called to continue the fight between D-Day and VE-Day, we are called to put our time to good use within the tension between the already and the not yet.

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

*Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come. Psalm 71:18*

*We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done...so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Psalm 78:4-7*

Asaph had lived a long time between an already and a not yet when he wrote Psalms 73 - 78. Asaph was appointed by David to lead the procession as the Ark of the Covenant was brought back to Jerusalem. He achieved great prominence in David's army, rising from prophetic worshiper, to seer, to chief musician. He is considered by many scholars and historians to be the father of modern worship music. However, Asaph's great achievements did not prevent him from feeling weak, going through trials, and questioning his life choices. Living in the tension between all the wonderful things he'd seen accomplished through the power of God and the expectation of the coming Messiah led him



to write what is considered the darkest book of the Psalms. This third book of Psalms details doubt, temptation, and depression both personally and collectively among the Jews. But did this stop what he knew his work to be? No! Asaph built a school. He felt called to teach future generations all the good, bad, and ugly of Jewish history, and he built a school of poetry and music to accomplish it.

*And it came to pass....* Genesis 6:1 and Luke 2:1

While Gerhardus Vos's grand already or not yet paradigm points to our position in the kingdom of God, Asaph's psalms help us understand what we should do while we're here. There is a "time to every purpose under heaven." Sometimes this means joy and rest, and sometimes it means hard work and sacrifice. This time between the already and the not yet called soldiers in WWII to keep sacrificing. The tension between the already and the not yet called Asaph to duty and purpose to teach the next generation. We, too, are called to the same sacrifice, duty, and purpose. We praise God in buildings built by those who have already gone before us. We sing songs we didn't write. We gain insight and understanding into our faith journey from theologians from past generations. As "it comes to pass," we are called to be the already for those not yet born, in church, or saved. Sometimes this means discipleship, teaching, and mission work. Sometimes this means keeping our building in working order like members from FBC's last 216 years for the next 216 years and beyond.

***Questions for Conversation and Discussion:***

*What are some things you praise God for that he has already accomplished in your life? What are some things you've not yet seen come to pass?*

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*What things are you already grateful for about FBC?*

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*What are some things you hope to see accomplished through our renovations?*

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*How would you describe your time in the tension between the already and the not yet?*

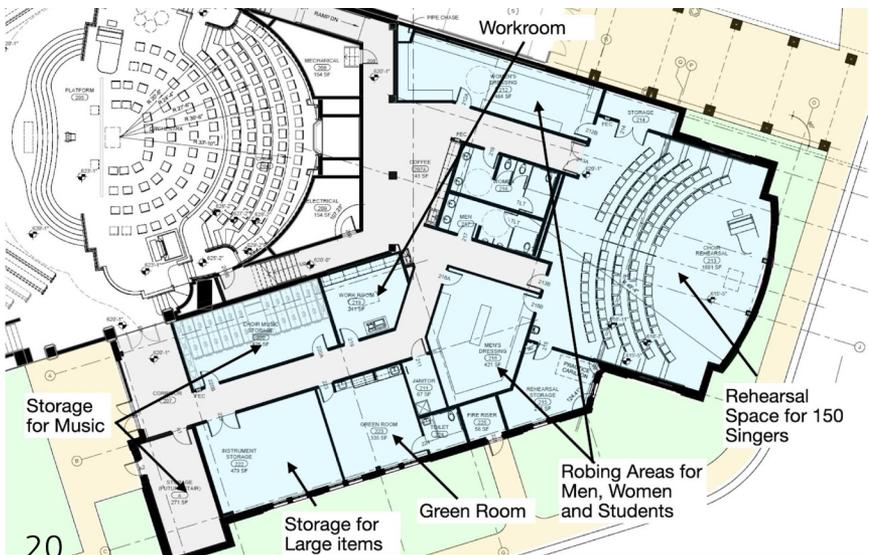
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**Gina Rittershaus** is a sociologist who specializes in marriage, family, and deviance. As a former military spouse, she's worshiped and served in churches across the US. She and her husband, Bill, made Huntsville their home in 2019 and joined FBC Huntsville in January 2020. At FBC, she serves on the Median Adult Ministry Team, coordinates Doing Life Small Groups, and is on the teaching team for Translations Sunday morning Bible Study class.



# BEYOND

OUR ABILITY   OUR IMAGINATION   OUR TIME



## OUR ABILITY

*Too often we think of these efforts in terms of money rather than transformed lives.*

~Dow Canup, BEYOND co-chair



## OUR IMAGINATION

*It doesn't mean contemporary worship is fading away — it does mean traditional worship remains vital. Our responsibility is to provide the best possible worship spaces for Sunday mornings, our community, and future generations.*

~Travis Collins, Pastor



## OUR TIME

*We are caregivers who invest in future Kingdom work. We can't take it with us, but we can leave it here.*

~Anne Stone, BEYOND co-chair



First Baptist  
HUNTSVILLE

# GOAL: \$11,500,000

What assets and resources can I use as a gift beyond my income?

How is this commitment demonstrating my expression of faith?

Am I willing to pray for God's guidance in how He might want to work through me as I support BEYOND?

What things can I afford yet am intentionally choosing to live without because I am committing to give sacrificially?

My gift is to God, does it have meaning and value to me?

Am I discovering a new joy in giving through BEYOND?

Being faithful stewards of what God has given us aligns us not only with God's purpose but also with each other in serving God together.

**BEYOND** relies on each of us giving gifts over and above our regular giving to the operating budget. The best path to increased giving is the spiritual path, where we prayerfully set our hearts on things above. Financial priorities take shape from spiritual priorities. A change happens when we decide to let our giving touch our living!

***The greater the gift's value and significance to the giver, the greater its worth before God.***

The temptation to give in such a way it makes little impact on how we live is always with us. The greater the gift's value and significance to the giver, the greater its worth before God.

# DATES TO REMEMBER

**MARCH 23    ADVANCED COMMITMENT  
NIGHT IN THE SANCTUARY**

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**APRIL 27    BEYOND LAUNCH**

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**MAY 11    COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

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**MAY 18    PLEDGE REVEAL &  
CELEBRATION**

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**JUNE 2025    CONSTRUCTION BEGINS**

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