



**Ancient City**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**Capital Stewardship Campaign  
Newsletter 1 • March 25, 2019**

*Ever Ancient, Ever New* is the perfect theme for the Capital Stewardship Campaign for Ancient City Baptist Church.

**Dear Friends,**

The namesake of our wonderful city, Saint Augustine of Hippo, came to faith in Jesus later in his life. In his *Confessions*, he wrote of God (referring to him as “O beauty”):

“Late have I loved you, O beauty,  
*ever ancient, ever new,*  
late have I loved you!  
You were within me, but I was  
outside, and it was there  
that I searched for you.”

When I came upon this quote, I sensed that *Ever Ancient, Ever New* would be the perfect theme for the Capital Stewardship Campaign for Ancient City Baptist Church in St. Augustine, FL! It embodies so much of what we believe and who we are.

Our God, as Augustine says, is *Ever Ancient, Ever New*. The gospel itself is *Ever Ancient, Ever New*. And our church is *Ever Ancient, Ever New*. We are rooted in God and in the gospel. We are the oldest Southern Baptist Church in the city, and we have helped establish newer churches over the years. We have a historic building in a historic city.

And while our buildings are “ancient” by modern standards,

we have ever sought to keep them up to date to minister to new people in new times. The building of our Sanctuary in 1895 was a



the worship of our God week to week.

In our recent Vision Process, we noted other areas of our facilities and grounds that need upgrade and repair so that they will remain usable spaces for welcome, worship, study, fellowship, and ongoing discipleship efforts.

Our church is over 130 years old—*ancient!*—but our task is not complete. It is *ever new* to every generation. We are called to *make disciples*, and we do that through *head, heart, hands, and feet*. That is, disciples learn, love, serve, and share. Others have passed the baton of faith on to us; we must pass the baton on to others. I am asking you to

join with me and others as we all give sacrificially to our *Ever Ancient, Ever New* Campaign as God inspires and provides. We are not

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looking for equal gifts; God has given each of us different gifts and blessings. Instead, we are seeking for each person to give sacrificially over the next three years. Let’s all be faithful as we seek to be *Ever Ancient, Ever New!*

mighty testament to God’s providence as the impressive structure was built debt free in two years! Just over a century later, many of those here today participated in another God-inspired project, the renovation of the Sanctuary. Sacrificial gifts by the people of God brought about the renovation that so enhances

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Your pastor,

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For many months now, first the Vision Team and then the Leadership Team has been aware that our wonderful old building is in much need of updating. After much prayer and planning, we are asking you to join us in praying for success in raising the funds that are needed to 1) address some problems in our “Ancient” building and 2) add some “New” features that will make our building more attractive and accessible. Some issues like the elevator, the sound system & lighting, and grass parking lot have been or are being worked on currently. Others needed the help of architects and engineers and that took time. The designs are now in the hands of the contractors for bids. (Thank you, Tom Parrish and Bob Blake, for staying on top of this.)

The following are some of the items, in addition to those mentioned above, that require a campaign to raise funds above and beyond the tithe that you normally give:

- Fellowship Hall – a fresh new look: ceilings, lighting, flooring, sound system
- Welcome Center – new look in our main entry: walls, ceiling, floor, updated bathrooms
- Choir Room – new floor: the current subfloor is unsafe; mold & mildew issues
- Covered access for limited mobility in the small parking lot near the dumpster – total redo
- Replace/refresh old landscaping
- New signage so first-time guests know where to go and the times for our services

In short, we are trying to make the old building, whose flaws we have been overlooking, more updated

and comfortable for us and more welcoming to guests and potential new members.

We are excited to introduce our wonderful **Steering Team** for the *Ever Ancient, Ever New* Capital Campaign. (See below.)

**Please join all of us for a church wide banquet on April 14, Palm Sunday evening, at 6:00 pm.**

There will be NO charge for this exciting time of fellowship.

**The purpose of this banquet is to inform everyone about the details of the campaign**, to see renderings of the plans, to answer any questions you might have and to enjoy a church gathering. **It is NOT to ask for your giving plans**; we will ask you to pray over your commitment and return your card confidentially on Commitment Sunday or mail it in to the office.

*Hugh & Ann Peters*  
Campaign Chairpersons

### Pray, Pray, Pray!

On Sunday, March 17, Ancient City Baptist Church began a time of spiritual preparation and prayer for God to guide our church and show each of us our sacrificial part in *Ever Ancient, Ever New*. Prayer reminders were distributed. In this campaign, we only ask that each person or family simply pray... and then obey! We believe that as we trust in the Lord, he will direct our paths and supply all our needs.

Also please pray for our Steering Team as they provide leadership during this process!

### Steering Team

Hugh & Ann Peters..... Steering Team Leaders  
David & Marsha Sneller.....Spiritual Emphasis Team  
Ron & Leigh Howes .....Promotion Team  
Win Thornton..... Advance Commitment Team  
Jim & Corene Beery.....Commitment Team  
Rhonda Parker..... Special Events/Banquet  
Pat Hampton .....Campaign Secretary  
Jeff & Jennifer Jones ..... Follow Up Team  
Dr. Clarence Hackett ..... Consultant  
Fred O. Pitts.....Pastor

## Ever Ancient, Ever New Schedule

<b>Sunday, March 31</b>	Testimony by Pastor Fred O. Pitts; Dr. Clarence Hackett, Consultant, Preaching
<b>Sunday, April 7</b>	Testimony by Hugh & Ann Peters during morning worship
<b>Sunday, April 14</b>	Testimony by David & Marsha Sneller during morning worship <b><i>Ever Ancient, Ever New Banquet 6 p.m. – More information to come!</i></b>
<b>Sunday, April 21</b>	<b>Celebration Sunday</b> (Easter): Commitment Cards Returned
<b>Sunday, May 5</b>	<b>First Fruits Offering Sunday:</b> <i>Ever Ancient, Ever New</i> offerings begin