



The**CAUSE**

HIS CORNER • HIS VISION

Connect | Act | Unite | Seek | Encourage

A Note From Pastor Chris



Pastor Chris & Nikki Stephens

A cause is a reason or motive for human action. Ours is the CAUSE of Christ. From the beginning of His ministry until now, Jesus has called his followers to be CAUSE oriented. At Skycrest, we've chosen CAUSE to articulate the guiding principles of our mission.

Connect. We connect with others so others can connect with Christ.

Act. We act on His behalf, serving in our sphere of influence to demonstrate the love of Christ.

Unite. Together we sacrifice for the expansion of His kingdom.

Seek. We seek first His kingdom by prioritizing God in every part of our lives.

Encourage. We intentionally identify ways to lift others through the hope we have in Christ.

Inspired by the CAUSE, Skycrest has launched ministries such as Project Family to meet local needs and has released resources and mobilized teams for the spread of the gospel globally in such faraway places as China, India and South Africa. While we celebrate the ways God has used us in the past, our vision for the future is even greater!

In order to meet the expanding call of His CAUSE, we must make some strategic investments right here on His corner. Twenty-five years ago, a group of like-minded, CAUSE-driven people made the sacrifices necessary to build the facilities in which we gather to worship and train to serve God.

Since its opening, God has led thousands of people to this corner to be reached, inspired, educated and enlightened in His love. While these facilities are structurally sound, they have aged significantly and are in need of being updated if we want to continue to reach and train the next generation to embrace His vision.

That's what The CAUSE campaign is all about! The vision of The CAUSE is to create an attractive, functional, hospitable environment that glorifies God and helps families find hope in Christ for generations to come.

- A renovated worship space will reinvigorate our mission enabling us to communicate the gospel through the creative arts.
- An easily identifiable entryway will add warmth to our building and provide welcoming direction for our guests.
- A new foyer will create an inviting gathering space for fellowship and encouragement.
- A renovated student center will engage students, accommodate growth, and break down barriers that inhibit the next generation from following Christ.
- A designated children's space will enable us to create a secure place where children can be actively engaged in an age-appropriate learning environment.
- Multipurpose meeting rooms will allow us to increase community through Bible study and fellowship.
- New exterior signage will elevate our presence in our community.

Over the next few weeks, you will be learning a great deal about the next steps of our journey together as we rework His corner to reinvigorate our mission. Understand, this is about so much more than a new coat of paint: this is about creating environments that reflect the new work that God is doing among us.

“Jesus has called his followers to be CAUSE oriented.”

The next step in the process of fully realizing God's grand vision for Skycrest is to seize this opportunity before us.

The future has never been brighter for God's church, Skycrest, and we are the group of people that He has called to His Corner for His Vision.



“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and He will do this. He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your CAUSE like the noonday sun.” Psalm 37:5-6

Campaign Purpose

How important is a fabulous first impression? As it relates to the mission of introducing people to Christ, it's crucial.

Statistics show that people determine within the first five minutes of a church visit whether they will ever return. There is no doubt that some significant portion of their impression is shaped by the condition and quality of the facilities.

In 1987, Skycrest opened the doors of a new church building on this corner. At the time, it was a state-of-the-art facility that equipped the church to go to the next level of effectiveness in every phase of ministry.

While the facility is still structurally sound, there are two broad issues that must be addressed to ensure that Skycrest is adequately equipped to make a great first impression and to continue meeting the demands of our mission.



1. We must update the obviously aged portions of our facility.

2. We must repurpose some areas of our space that are no longer useful as originally designed.



When people drive onto our campus, there is no visible structure telling them where to go.

A new entryway will immediately put our guests at ease, indicating where they can go to receive the guidance and

information necessary for an enjoyable experience. After passing through the entryway, guests will observe two new doors that lead into our foyer.

Stepping inside, our guests will be greeted in a completely renovated foyer.

The staircase that breaks up the space will be removed and they will enter an inviting coffeehouse environment that portrays the sense of community that is one of the hallmarks of the Skycrest family.

A centrally located, highly visible welcome center will serve as a hub of information to put our guests at ease.

Once inside the worship center, guests will experience a new modernized and updated environment for more effective use by our church and our Skycrest Christian School ministry.

The stage and baptistry will be remodeled; the pews will be replaced by chairs providing flexibility in set up; and new sound and lighting equipment will expand the creative possibilities of each worship experience.

The balcony will be closed in, creating two multipurpose meeting spaces for use by the church and school.

The meeting rooms will enable us to establish a dedicated KidZone space providing a secure place where children can be actively engaged in an age-appropriate learning environment.



Finally, middle and high school students will discover a newly renovated and engaging student center that will accommodate growth, and break down barriers that inhibit the next generation from following Christ.

The **CAUSE** is our way of accepting our responsibility to create compelling, hospitable environments that put people at ease so they can hear the hope we have in Christ.

The **CAUSE** Campaign will make it possible for us to complete a number of important projects on our campus, including:

- Creating a new and inviting main entrance so that visitors know immediately where to go upon entering the campus.
- Opening up our main foyer to make it an effective fellowship space where relationships can be started and built upon each week.
- Updating the worship center to improve its functionality and enable us to more effectively use this central feature of our campus in reaching our community.
- Expanding and redesigning the Merge student center to create a new and exciting venue to accommodate our growing middle and high school student groups.

- Repurposing the balcony area to dramatically expand our classroom and Connection Group space and thereby allow our children's area to have fully dedicated space that can be used more effectively by the KidZone ministry.
- Refurbishing and updating the bathrooms serving the worship center.

New Main Entrance	\$ 18,000
New Foyer	\$ 37,000
Worship Center Renovation	\$175,000
Student Center Renovation	\$ 71,000
Multipurpose Meeting Rooms & Storage	\$ 84,000
Bathroom Renovation	\$ 30,000
Project Costs*	\$ 80,000
Total Cost all Projects	\$495,000

* Includes Architectural, Construction Consulting, and Campaign

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, a person is shown in silhouette from the back, with their right hand raised in a gesture of praise or prayer. The background is a dimly lit church sanctuary with several people seated at pews. A large sign at the front of the church reads "WELCOME to MOPS" in glowing, illuminated letters. The overall atmosphere is one of worship and community.

WELCOME to MOPS

“We must embrace the **CAUSE** if we want to continue to reach and train the next generation to embrace His vision.”

From Our Campaign Director



T.C. & Rebecca Staton

“LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.” Habakkuk 3:2

At Skycrest, we share in a rich heritage filled with our God’s great deeds. His fame in Clearwater has been enhanced by our church’s life-changing ministry. Our school has been a cornerstone of God’s plan to influence generations of our city’s residents.

“At Skycrest, we share in a rich heritage filled with our God’s great deeds.”

While we are thankful for our history, it’s now our time to invest in the future. God has demonstrated in so many ways that He has great plans for us.

I believe He is ushering in a time of fresh work where His deeds through Skycrest will impact our entire community and leave us in awe of Him.

As you well know, this isn’t a work He is going to do alone. He’s opening the door of opportunity for each one of us to partner with him for His CAUSE.

I urge you to join Rebecca and me in being open to what He’s asking each of us to do in response to His call.

Please join us as we offer ourselves to God as He seeks to renew His amazing works through us, the body of Christ here at Skycrest.

Save The Date

November 20th
Commitment Sunday & First Fruits Offering

December 4th
Celebration Sunday



Questions & Answers



How will this campaign impact our Student Ministry?

By providing a larger, attractive, cutting-edge student center, we remove the barrier of an outdated facility and give students a place they'll want to invite their friends to and grow in their relationships with God and others. The removal of some walls will allow us to accommodate up to 50 more students in our growing Merge student ministry!

Are we doing anything for the Children's Ministry?

Yes, we will gain some much-needed dedicated space for our children. As we seek to teach today's young learners some of their most important lessons, our children's area must offer safe, age-appropriate, high-quality space. A stimulating, fun place for kids will help them learn about Jesus and cause their parents to feel confident they are safe and in a quality learning environment.

When will we start building and when will it be complete?

We hope to break ground in the spring of 2012. However, when we start construction depends on when the funds come in since we plan to complete each of the renovations without borrowing

any money. Before we begin, we will make sure that adequate cash has been received and that an adequate cash flow can be counted on to complete each phase of the project debt free.

Will Skycrest need to borrow to complete these renovations?

No. We will accomplish everything in this campaign without adding any debt, so there will be no borrowing.

Why are we removing the stairway in the main lobby?

The stairway was originally built to provide access to balcony seating which was never installed due to fire marshal restrictions. The stairway has limited practical use, yet it consumes a great deal of lobby floor space. The renovated lobby will be a wonderful new space for fellowship that will be used every Sunday and for events that are too small for the Worship Center.

Why are we exchanging our pews for chairs in the Worship Center?

Changing the style of seating will allow us to seat more people in the worship center and allow us to rearrange the seating for different events. Our vision is to see our facility enable greater

use of the arts by both our church and our Christian school ministry, allowing us to invite the community into our home more often.

How do I determine what I should give?

We encourage families to talk together and pray about what the Lord would have them give. Only God can tell you how much to give, but we encourage all Skycrest members to seek the Lord and be willing to step out in faith and obedience. If we all do our part and follow the Lord's guidance, we believe we will experience a great victory together.

When do I start giving? For how long?

The **CAUSE** is a two-year campaign starting on November 20th. We encourage people to think about what they can give over a two-year period of time. Most of us can give more if we plan it out and give over time.

What if I cannot fulfill the commitment that I make?

The commitment card you turn in is not a contract. It is a statement of your prayerful intent to give sacrificially as the Lord provides. We know circumstances can change. Your commitment

will be very helpful to us as we project what our church is likely to give over the next two years thus allowing us to plan carefully and complete the construction without incurring debt.

Can I give it all at once or annually?

You can give however you like. If you prefer not to spread your commitment over two years, then you can give it all at once.

What is the First Fruits Offering?

November 20th is our Commitment Sunday when we will ask the entire Skycrest family to indicate their commitments to **The CAUSE**. We will also ask for you to give as much of your commitment as you can that very day as a First Fruits Offering. We are praying for a large offering that day so that we can begin the first renovation project immediately!



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