



March 1, 2024

To Our Parkway Family,

In reflecting on the Legacy Project (*information enclosed*), I was reminded by the Holy Spirit how important vision is for a church, individuals, and families. I am thankful that the generation before me invested in vision; now it's our turn to run after the one. Psalm 154:4 (MSG) states, "Generation after generation stands in awe of your work; each one tells the stories of your mighty acts." **A new story is about to be written.** In the end, the stories will have names of people directly impacted by a church's willingness to not settle on the stories of yesterday when the time comes for a new chapter to be written.

We know that without vision, people perish. Proverbs 29:18 (ESV) declares that without prophetic vision, the people are discouraged. Vision encourages the Church. If you study the word encourage, one definition can mean "to put the courage back in." The Church, in my opinion, has been on defense for far too long. Vision, by its nature, fulfills the promise that God gave Peter (Matthew 16:18) that the enemy could not defeat the advancing Church. Vision creates a clear marker that requires a person to decide what kind of Church they want to become. In the end, **the church you fund is the Church you become.** To be clear, this includes our finances but is not limited to our finances alone. Our time, talents, gifting, and resources say a lot about where our affection is centered.

In this season, I believe that God's desire for our Church is that our affection would return to Him and towards His Church. **The Legacy Offering that will occur on Easter Sunday, March 31st**, is a direct, tangible way to say that we are all-in on what God is doing in and through His Church. This moment isn't necessarily about a dollar amount but a posture about our future.

I am asking you to begin to pray and ask the Lord to prepare your heart for this season upon us, to prayerfully consider supporting the Legacy offering above and beyond your regular giving.

There are three ways you can currently begin to get involved.

**1. PRAY:** The first is to pray. We have set Sunday Nights at 5 pm to come together as a church family and pray for the future. Nothing of significance will happen outside of prayer.

**2. JOIN:** Secondly, if you have a background in construction or design, can help with labor, or just want to volunteer, please sign up to be a part of our Legacy Team.

**3. GIVE:** Finally, I ask that you give on March 31st to establish our Legacy Fund.

I believe we can raise enough money for Phases 1 and 2 of our projects together. Regardless of the outcome, a statement will be made to the world on Easter Sunday. The tomb is still empty, the cross has been conquered, and we as a church community are very much alive and anticipating God doing for someone else what he has already done for us! The 99 for the one. Love God, Love People, All-in together.

In closing, A.W. Tozer spoke in a sermon entitled "The Dangers of Shallow Faith" the following: "I would estimate that no denomination has ever survived its 100th anniversary without the drastic overhaul from the inside out." These words are a warning as we approach our 100th anniversary in 2027. We need a fresh touch from the Holy Spirit. No building makeover, man-made idea, or trendy church trick will advance this Church. This Church will only grow if we are fueled by the power of the Holy Spirit and go on the offense again. The goal of this Legacy project is to tell this valley and more importantly, us that the Holy Spirit is still fueling His Church to reach the lost at any cost.

I'm on your team,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Jason Smotherman  
LEAD PASTOR, PARKWAY CHRISTIAN CENTER