

An Invitation to Prayer for Norwalk Christian Church's 2018 Capital Campaign

Week One (April 22 – April 28) The Sanctuary

For generations, Christians have constructed prayers built on A.C.T.S. – Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. Throughout these weeks during which we are imagining the possibilities of, and raising funds toward, the renovation and improvement of our church facility to insure room for all, we will be undergirding our vision with prayer. Find a time this week (or several moments) to walk through this prayer guide. This week our focus is on the Sanctuary.

Let us pray:

Adoration

- In your mind, walk around the Sanctuary and note the various symbols of God's grace and presence. Think about a way that this presence has touched your life.
- Recall a time when you have felt God's grace in this room in words spoken, in music shared, in quiet moments honored; in communion received, baptisms witnessed, offerings shared, marriages begun, the lives of deceased celebrated.
- Prayerfully celebrate the goodness of God.

Confession

- The sanctuary is one particular place that evokes in disciples a realization of the gap between who we are and who God claims us to be. As you pray, how are you mindful of that gap?
- Our church worship space is, indeed, a sanctuary, but so is any place where we encounter God's presence. As you pray, be aware that you are—right now—in a sanctuary. What confessions do you bring into this sanctuary today day? What things do you confess that you have done or left undone?
- Prayerfully receive the forgiveness of God.

Thanksgiving

- During the course of our weekly worship, offering plates are passed. Yes, the dollars and cents dropped in meet an important need, but consider that these tangible offerings are also tokens of more general gratitude.
- Make a list of the gifts from God freshest in your heart this day for which you are thankful.
- What are some ways you will say "thank you" to God?

Supplication

- Supplications are "asks" blessings sought, intercessions solicited, needs expressed. With our intention of creating space for all through greater flexibility and visibility, pray for the new and diverse ways that God might use this sanctuary to inspire holy wonder, awe and praise.
- Pray for the ways that worship in this transformed sacred space might change your own life for the good.
- Pray for those who, through the years to come, will find their way into this sanctuary and encounter for themselves an experience with the holy.