

# Making Room for All

An Invitation to Prayer for Norwalk Christian Church  
Capital Campaign 2018

## **April 29 – Building a House Where All Are Welcome**

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. This week our focus is on the larger view. Let us pray:

### ***Adoration***

- Marvel for a moment at the amazing grace of God. “While we were yet sinners,” scripture teaches us, “Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). “...in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near” (Ephesians 2:13). God dismantled whatever barriers stood between us.
- Recall a time when this church embodied for you that holy hospitality and not only welcomed you, but worked to remove any barriers that stood in your way.
- Prayerfully celebrate the generosity of God.

### ***Confession***

- Consider the barriers that you have ignored – perhaps even preserved – that have prevented others full from the grace of full access to the community of faith. Perhaps they are physical barriers; perhaps barriers of social norm or custom; perhaps they are barriers of unfamiliarity.
- What confessions do you bring into God’s embrace this day – things done and left undone?
- Prayerfully receive the forgiveness of God.

### ***Thanksgiving***

- Reflect on a time when you were extended a helping hand when you stumbled; a way-clearing introduction when you were a stranger; a mentoring clarification when you didn’t understand – when you found yourself in a place and community “*where love can dwell and all can safely live,*” as our campaign theme song describes. Name the gratitude you feel to those who acted in the way of Christ.
- 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 us to “*build a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.*”

- Pray for the ways that God will build through us *“a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known.”*
- Pray for those who, through the years to come, will find their way into this community and faith and encounter no barriers impeding their access; who will, in every sense, find a house where *“all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.”*