

BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

MINISTRY INITIATIVE

What is Bridge to the Future?

In John's gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples that the time is near for him to die – a concept that they did not yet understand. To clarify, Jesus then says, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me" (John 12:32, CEB). FaithBridge believes strongly that Christ continues the work of drawing all people to himself, and, as such, commits to a new ministry plan of **helping all people find their way to Jesus**. We intend to accomplish this through the *Bridge to the Future* ministry initiative. We will unveil the specifics of this ministry plan right after worship during the **Vision Summit on October 29**. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Please plan to attend.

What can I do to help?

1. **Pray.** We invite our congregation into a season of prayer during this ministry initiative. To help, we have published a 21-day devotional journal. We hope you find it helpful as you pray through what God is calling you to do as an individual, and to guide prayers for FaithBridge.
2. **Participate.** Make a commitment to attend every Sunday during the six-week worship series beginning on October 29. Pastor Ben will preach and teach through the specifics of the *Bridge to the Future* ministry initiative and you will not want to miss a Sunday!
3. **Communicate.** We are excited about this new and bold vision that God has given our church and we want help spreading the word. Please feel free to forward this email and don't hesitate to contact any of the *Bridge to the Future* leadership team if you have questions along the way. We have also created a website that we will update regularly to help keep you informed of important dates. You can find that at **www.faithbridgeumc.org/BridgeToTheFuture**

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Why are we working with an outside consultant?

After much prayer and discussion, the FaithBridge leadership team decided that the challenge before us was too big to handle on our own. It was apparent that we needed the assistance of a professional organization that has a lot of experience helping churches like ours with generosity initiatives. Following careful consideration, a lot of vetting, and even more prayer, we made the decision to contract with Tom Melzoni of Horizons Stewardship. We feel strongly that Tom and Horizons are the right fit for our church and are excited to work with Tom in this capacity. You can read more about Horizons, including Tom's bio, at www.horizons.net/team/tommelzoni

Who is on the *Bridge to the Future* leadership team?

Lead Pastor: Ben Carson	ben@faithbridgeumc.org
Campaign Chairperson: Dayna Wright Tom Wright	dwright@samaritan.org coachWright12@gmail.com
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Youth and Children Team: Elise Sigmon Kyle Sigmon	elise@faithbridgeUMC.org kyle@faithbridgeUMC.org

What about the current mortgage?

One of the *Bridge to the Future* ministry initiative's goals is to eliminate the current mortgage over the next two years.

What about the vision for the High Country Community Center?

We acknowledge that the current needs for space are urgent, but we also commit to being faithful stewards of all our resources. That requires that we proceed with the goal of eliminating the current debt by 2020. Good stewardship of our current mortgage allows the vision for the High Country Community Center to become a reality, and we continue to plan toward that end.

Save these key dates:

Gratitude Sunday/Vision Summit: October 29
Challenge and Celebration Sunday: November 19
Commitment Sunday: December 3
First Fruit Sunday: December 17

