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Dear Northside Family,

Greetings and happy fall season of 2024! This letter (also a one-time quarterly newsletter replacement) is to our broader Northside family – members, regular attenders, online viewers, preschool families, regular past and present visitors, past members/attenders, etc. It is shaping up to be a phenomenal 2024 year at Northside. Our preschool has launched, youth ministries are expanding, kids church is growing, and attendance is rising. Plus, personnel hires have expanded while missions and outreach giving have increased, etc. As of this writing, we are on pace to steward over \$400,000 of total income this year. That includes tithes, offerings, building and grounds gifts, designated contributions, and preschool tuition. If we add the value of items you all donate(d) to specific causes (Bash, NLE breakfast, Angel Tree, A Woman's Choice, Festival, etc.) and the total value of volunteer hours put in, the number would be in excess of \$430,000! Equally important, we have no debt and are unequivocally stewarding your gifts of sacrifice with integrity and faithfulness to grow the Kingdom of God. By God's grace, we have also been blessed to survive the hurricane, have new roofs under contract for the sanctuary and youth building, and yet we still have over \$60,000 in savings. Plus, we usually maintain an ongoing checkbook balance of \$25,000-\$40,000. To God be the glory for all He has done!

Nonetheless, looking ahead, we are at a major crossroads at Northside. While we could easily sit back, stay where we are, maintain what we are doing, and be content with what has happened already, all of the board and pastoral leadership here at Northside sense God wants to continue our growth and maturity as a local congregation committed to the Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, there is more to do; He is not done with us! We especially feel we can expand our preschool ministry by finishing the room renovations needed to open up more classroom space. There are many interrelated steps to make that all happen, each of which requires time, money, and workers. With that stated, now is the moment to launch into the next phase of our vision. The following list of requirements, improvements, and refurbishments should better illustrate our financial needs to make it happen.

1. AC upgrades in Fellowship Hall and classroom = \$5,000
2. Classroom Expansions = \$8,000
3. Youth/Multi-Purpose Building = \$25,000
4. Upgrades to kitchen area to create STEM usage = \$4,000
5. Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall exterior wall repairs, sealing, and painting = \$18,000
6. New exterior doors = \$15,000

As you know, we do everything debt free at Northside – that is the Biblical standard and example for the congregation of God's people. These one-time improvements and expansions to our ministry capacity are needs above and beyond our regular tithes, offerings, and specific gifts to missions and ministry. That's why we only move forward on each step when we have the extra funds to do so. Several years ago, I would have been hesitant to ask for such a large haul! However, we have over 100 people/families giving to Northside now, so this is not a big ask! You know me; I am not a fan of promotions like pledges or financial promises. All I am asking is that you pray, seek the Lord, and give extra (above your regular giving), over however many weeks or months God tells you, so that we can continue moving forward on these projects. Many of you can give large gifts and we need several of these; many of you can only give smaller gifts but do not underestimate their importance and multiplication value! However, I know EVERYONE can do something because God called you to Northside for such a time as this! Again, this is not a plea for survival money. It's a plea because we want to do more ministry. We want to see more young lives come to Christ and grow in Christ! Please prayerfully join me in this challenge! Love you all!!!

Blessings!

Dr. Doug Roth

Dr. Doug Roth - Pastor