



August 4, 2023

Dear Friends -

As the members of FSC's Governing Board, Foundation Board, and ministerial staff gathered July 15 to discuss what's next for the church's deteriorating bell tower, three things became clear.

- 1. We must do something.** Circumstances will force us to restore, replace, or remove the bell tower. Within months, not years, we must shape our path forward.
- 2. We must think beyond the bell tower.** As our neo-Romanesque building turns 100 in 2024, structural and maintenance costs continue to mount. And as our greater world and society grapple with immense challenges, anything we do today must empower our church community to meet the needs of the future.
- 3. We need you.** The thoughts and contributions of all Fountain Streeters, friends, and stakeholders will lead us to solutions, inspire positive action, and leave a legacy.

Informally, we've taken to calling our focus on FSC's future the "Second Century Campaign." In the coming months, we must address the needs of the coming decades — fixing what needs fixing, and assembling physical assets, programs, and services to meet congregant and community needs and aspirations.

Fixing the bell tower alone, without addressing these other lofty callings, might be possible, but the results would ring hollow.

Together, we will solve our most pressing problems and shape our future. By together, we mean working with ministerial leaders, staff, congregants, community members, contractors, and other stakeholders.

And, by together, we mean listening to you and counting on you.

In the coming weeks, you'll learn of ways to participate in a dynamic and evolving envisioning process, to help shape FSC's next century.

We approach the challenges and opportunities before us with open minds and a commitment to keep you informed and engaged.

On that note, we've created a page on FSC's website, where we will post information related to the "Second Century Campaign," including the June 22 proposal and estimate of \$2.3 million to restore the bell tower (www.fountainstreet.org/second-century). We've also created a dedicated email address, secondcentury@fountainstreet.org, as a channel for your questions and ideas. Expect to hear from us again soon and often.

With hope, gratitude, and love,

The Governing Board

The Foundation Board

Rev. Christopher Roe and Staff