



A move to the Tri-Faith campus will deepen our Christian faith.

Whenever you put your body where your mind and heart have been, your faith deepens. It also happens when, for instance, a person of another faith asks you to explain the significance of Easter or the Cross, or why you consider Jesus to be more than a prophet. Such questions have a way of getting us all thinking about our faith more deeply and energetically. History shows that when Christians become more deeply connected to their faith, this raises the energy and enthusiasm of a congregation and ensures its long-term vitality.

Our relocation to the Tri-Faith campus builds a better Omaha!

Countryside continues to be a leader in our community by making a statement of acceptance of all God's children regardless of religion, ethnic background, race, sexual orientation or social status. This statement has broad implications for growing Omaha's businesses and community, by recognizing the Tri-Faith Initiative as one of the many reasons Omaha is a progressive and welcoming place to live and work.

Countryside Community Church serves God's mission to the world.

Our involvement in the Tri-Faith Initiative is an example to others that people of different faiths cannot only co-exist, but actually thrive in a rich environment of discussion and education. In the face of growing world conflict, we become part of God's essential message that our faith teaches people to love, not hate.



Breaking New Ground: Spiritually

How will we grow spiritually and deepen our faith?

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity creates a rich environment in which our children and future generations can grow in their Christian faith.

There is a great deal of competition for our young people's time and attention. Being intentional about attracting children and youth to the vibrant vision and goals of the Tri-Faith Initiative will *Break New Ground Spiritually*, while equipping our youth to live successfully and compassionately in a diverse world.

Our relocation to the Tri-Faith campus confirms Countryside as a true community church.

Across the best and brightest periods of our more than 65 years of ministry, Countryside has served the wider Omaha community. Joining the Tri-Faith Initiative is a strong and powerful assertion of leadership that makes Omaha a kinder, more compassionate and spiritually deeper place to live.

Changing the World Together.



United Church of Christ
 relocation@countrysideucc.org
 countrysideucc.org
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Our *Ways to Give* brochure provides additional details on how you can contribute to this project.



Breaking New Ground Spiritually & Physically



Breaking New Ground *Spiritually & Physically*

The United Church of Christ (UCC) has a long history of promoting social justice “firsts,” welcoming all to God’s table of love and acceptance.

Countryside’s interfaith history is consistent with the UCC’s “commitment to relationship with all peoples of the earth” and its “entry into dialogue with other faith traditions.”

Today, Countryside is poised for *Breaking New Ground: Spiritually & Physically* by relocating to the Tri-Faith campus. This move will yield increasing rewards for current and future members of our congregation. As we explore our faith in context with the other Abrahamic faiths, we will deepen our love for God, neighbor and self. Our presence on the Tri-Faith campus will make a statement that most fully embodies our belief that we—and all people—are deeply and truly loved.

Countryside is very expressive of its Christian heritage in form, symbolism, and aesthetic character. Through a new and more sustainable building, we will minimize our impact on the environment. Our worship, education, missions and ministries will be inspired with more adaptable facilities tailored to meet our present and future needs. With technological improvements, we will be linked to each other and the world, while continuing to grow our spiritual path as individuals and as a congregation.

NOW is the time to make an investment in this project with our financial commitments to make our dream a reality. We are both honored and humbled to be a part of this bold step and ask you to join us by making a monetary gift that is meaningful to support this once-in-a-lifetime, transformative opportunity for Countryside Community Church.

Rick MacInnes
Chair | Countryside Relocation Committee

Jennifer Hamann
Moderator | 2016

Countryside Community Church *Mission Statement*

We are an inclusive, Open and Affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God’s table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ’s example. We care for one another, support one another and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace and justice in our conflicted world.



Breaking New Ground: *Physically*

What opportunities will our new church provide?

Enhanced Worship Space

- Welcoming and warm spaces, inviting a relationship with God and one another
- A sanctuary that supports a variety of worship experiences
- Brilliant acoustics with excellent accommodation for the hearing impaired
- State-of-the-art technology
- Barrier-free access for the disabled

Sacred Spaces Inside and Out

- Quiet spaces for individuals to retreat for reflection and prayer
- Meaningful views of the Tri-Faith campus, which physically connect interior spaces to outdoor areas

Improved Building Security

- Reduced number of exterior doors and access entry points, making our building more secure
- Enhanced security systems for the safety of the children in our congregation and those enrolled in Kindernook Preschool

Positive Environmental Impact

- Energy-producing systems that are more efficient
- Natural daylight, captured throughout, to inspire and light our spaces, while lessening energy usage
- Enhanced wall and roof insulation, reducing utility costs
- Catch basin to collect run-off rainwater for natural filtration
- Low maintenance landscaping surrounding the building

Multi-functional Meeting Spaces

- More meeting spaces that are flexible in design
- Outdoor gathering areas
- Wireless internet throughout the building
- Larger chapel to accommodate worship, weddings, concerts, lectures and meetings
- Spaces with the best technology, acoustics and lighting available
- Adjacency to neighboring faiths on campus, providing each the opportunity to share space

Efficient Kitchen and Fellowship Facilities

- Larger capacity to serve congregational meetings
- Better support for our Community Cupboard outreach program
- Space to celebrate baptisms, graduations, weddings and funerals
- Facilities to support the use of outdoor gathering areas
- Streamlined food service capabilities

Uses of Funds

COMPONENT	COST
Land	\$1,500,000
Fees, Contents, Soft Costs	\$3,800,000
Building Construction incl Contingency	\$19,200,000
Subtotal	\$24,500,000
Enhanced Sustainability Options	\$1,000,000
Capital Reserve Endowment	\$1,500,000
Total	\$27,000,000

Sources of Funds

Land Donation	\$1,500,000
Current Commitments & Current Assets	\$18,800,000
Subtotal	\$20,300,000

Relocation Campaign Goal

Building Construction with Enhanced Sustainability	\$5,200,000
Capital Reserve Endowment	\$1,500,000
Total	\$27,000,000



Rev. Eric Elnes, Ph.D. *Senior Minister*

As a follower of Jesus, the invitation being extended to you may just be the greatest challenge, and the greatest opportunity, you have ever received.

Jesus taught that the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which, when discovered, moves those who discover it to sell everything they have and purchase it. The “treasure” of which Jesus spoke is a life-changing discovery each of us makes at some point in our journey. When we discover that, despite all evidence to the contrary, there is a God, and that this God knows us – and that this God loves us beyond our ability to comprehend – we have found our treasure. We claim the treasure for ourselves when we boldly choose to order our life, our love, and our hope around God, and the Love we have discovered. This is the true meaning of faith.

Relocating to the Tri-Faith campus is not just about building beautiful new facilities that will serve us and future generations exceptionally well. Nor is it simply about joining hands with Jews, Muslims, and fellow Christians to become a bright beacon for peace in our world. Ultimately, it is about making God’s dream for Countryside, for Omaha, and for the world, our own. It is about stepping forward in faith, that God’s will may be done “on earth as it is in heaven.”