

A photograph of two young children, a girl on the left and a boy on the right, both smiling and holding hands. They are wearing school uniforms. The girl is wearing a white shirt with a pink collar and a pink backpack. The boy is wearing a white and blue checkered shirt and a blue backpack. The background is a bright, slightly blurred indoor setting, possibly a school hallway. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Riverside Cornerstone CAMPAIGN

A capital campaign for **the church & school**

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Cornerstone: The Campaign for Riverside Presbyterian

Dear Families of Riverside Presbyterian Church and Riverside Presbyterian Day School,

We invite you to learn more about Riverside Presbyterian's next chapter.

Riverside Presbyterian Church and Riverside Presbyterian Day School are special places — they have been a *cornerstone* of our community for as long as we can remember. And if your family is like each of ours, you have found a home here at RPC and RPDS.

Please join us as we lay a new cornerstone and build more opportunities for Riverside to grow. The possibilities are endless, and we hope you will dream with us as you read more about the campaign.

The *Cornerstone Campaign* will build a new Family Life Center that bursts with activity seven days a week. We know that a building is just a building—it's what happens inside that matters. In the new FLC, we see families making memories on the basketball court and friends growing closer as they to serve the neighborhoods outside our doors. Most importantly, we see the FLC as the best opportunity to introduce new families to our church and our school.

Our intent is not to burden the next generation with the upkeep of the FLC, but to make it a center of activity for years to come. Part of the *Cornerstone Campaign* will be a maintenance endowment that takes care of the FLC once it has been built.

The campaign will build a stronger community that reaches far beyond Five Points. A financial aid endowment will enable us to welcome more students to RPDS and build a school that reflects our neighborhoods. And a missions endowment will give us more opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ in Jacksonville and across the globe.

We are proud to lead this campaign because we see so much potential for Riverside Presbyterian to keep shaping the communities we love. Please join us with your support.

With excitement,

Jed Davis, Karla Newton
Campaign Chairs

A single block can make a world of difference.

Consider the lives that have been shaped by Riverside Presbyterian over the past 100 years. Not only the families who have worshiped here, or the students who have been educated here. But also, the lives they have touched.

It is clear that God has worked through Riverside Presbyterian for generations — uplifting souls and educating minds. From here, congregations have built a strong faith. They have been the hands and feet of Christ—serving neighbors in need close to home and far away. They've followed Christ's example as they have led and built our city.

Thousands of RPDS students have grown as rich in character as they have in academic knowledge. Under the watchful eye of talented teachers, they have discovered their individual gifts and learned to use them to lead and to serve. From here, these students have gone on to make a difference in their own communities.

Riverside Presbyterian's story is far-reaching, but it is far from over. God has big plans to continue using Riverside as a tool to impact the world around us. You can feel it in the classroom or in the sanctuary. Riverside is full of life; RPC's new pastor and RPDS's head of school bring energy and a vision for the future.

So, where do we go...from here?



"I am so excited for families and children at the church and in our neighborhood. We are located in such a vibrant part of Jacksonville. I am thrilled we will have this facility as a way for the church, school and community to come together."

- Emily Heeg, RPC Director of Christian Formation

The people of Riverside Presbyterian have played a major role in shaping Jacksonville over the past 100 years. We believe God will continue to use Riverside as a tool to impact our city and our world. Your support of the Cornerstone campaign will make it possible by extending Riverside's reach and impact.



Riverside Cornerstone Campaign

Carrying Forth the Legacy

We worship in beautiful facilities; our students learn from talented teachers surrounded by children from across Jacksonville. Yesterday's leaders made that possible. Their bold vision built a beautiful sanctuary in the heart of Riverside. They built the spaces where we can come together, grow our faith, and reach out. They opened a school that for 73 years has welcomed eager learners and shaped young minds.

It is now our turn to pay it forward. It is our chance to leave a legacy while building an even more vibrant community for Jacksonville. The *Riverside Cornerstone Campaign* is our opportunity. *Riverside Cornerstone Campaign* will build new spaces and take care of existing facilities. The campaign will strengthen our reach by broadening access to an RPDS education and by expanding RPC's mission fund so we can serve even more.

Through *Cornerstone*, Riverside can continue to shape a culture known for inclusivity, compassion, and open-mindedness. We invite you to turn the page and learn more about Riverside Presbyterian's next chapter.



"At some point, you have to go out on a limb. You have to make a bold move that sets our intentions and gives God room to work. This campaign gives God the space to do something new and exciting among us."

- Pastor Brian Lays

A New Family Life Center: \$5 Million

How can one building shape generations?

When that building helps bring families closer together and closer to God's love, its impact is clear. A new Family Life Center is key to Riverside's long-term vision and vitality. It will transform our ability to bring prospective church members and school families to campus where they can experience Riverside Presbyterian's hospitality.

"The current of our culture no longer flows through the church," explains Pastor Brian Lays. "It goes around it. It's a necessity now to provide more avenues to engage with people where they are. A Family Life Center is the perfect tool."

A new Family Life Center will draw more youth to RPC, growing our congregation and ensuring our church's future. And it will bring a world of new opportunities for our current members to reach out. Imagine more space for RPC's important mission work.

"A new Family Life Center will enhance the robust programs we offer our students and enrich the community experience we so greatly value and cherish."

- Ben Campen, RPDS family, RPC member

One of Riverside Presbyterian Church's most vibrant ministries—and one of its best opportunities to introduce RPDS to new families—is the basketball league. Every year, 500 children from across Jacksonville play in the league. Each game they play is a missed opportunity for RPC because they are held in gyms of other churches across town. Having our own family life center means we can bring these families to OUR own campus and invite them to come back on Sunday morning.

A Family Life Center will also give us new chances to welcome our Riverside neighbors for community meetings, farmers' markets, or for open gym time. We can work with the Five Points Collaborative to identify community needs and fill them.

"A new Family Life Center will provide so many new opportunities for RPDS' Physical Education programs. We will have an indoor space that allows us to expand the activities and games we can play."

- Michael Sullivan, RPDS Coach and Physical Education Teacher



A new Family Life Center opens the door on so many outreach opportunities for Riverside Presbyterian Church. It will help grow the church for the future by giving the youth a place to gather and play. And it will also be home to the Riverside Presbyterian Basketball League—bringing families and prospective members to our campus rather than to other church gyms.

Cheering on the Home Team

RPDS is the only school of its size and stature in Jacksonville that does not have a gym. Building a Family Life Center sends the message to prospective families that RPDS invests in its facilities the same way it invests in its exceptional learning experiences. **In short, a new FLC is critical to RPDS's longevity.**

For RPDS students, a new family life center will change everything. On days when it's raining or simply too hot, they can still play in the new gym. On the courts, students will learn teamwork, build character, connect with teammates, and value exercise as an asset for life.

And for the first time in the school's history, basketball and volleyball games can be played at home. **Instead of traveling to unfamiliar gyms, we will come together at home to cheer on our favorite RPDS teams while proudly showing our school spirit.**

As the new Family Life Center is built, the campus will be redesigned with safety in mind. The FLC will create a new perimeter at the corner of Post and May Streets. Additional fencing—appropriate for the Riverside campus—will connect other RPDS buildings and make the learning environment even safer.

The new FLC will enclose the student fields and playgrounds, creating a traditional campus quad. These outdoor spaces will be places where students play together, eat together, and build life-long friendships.

"A new Family Life Center will enhance the robust programs we offer our students and enrich the community experiences we so greatly value and cherish."

- Ben Ketchum, Head of School, RPDS



A new Family Life Center will revolutionize RPDS's and RPC's outreach opportunities. A gym will be a magnet for new RPC youth group members; families playing in RPC's basketball league will come to the Riverside campus and experience its warmth. A new gym will be a sign to prospective RPDS families of the school's vitality and exceptional education.



Endowments that Reach Out: \$1 Million

Riverside Cornerstone Campaign will expand our outreach opportunities by growing three endowments. The first, the facilities endowment, will maintain our buildings so we can continue to use them in service to the Lord. The second, the missions endowment, will expand our ability to respond to needs in our community and abroad. And third, the financial aid endowment will increase our ability to provide support to more families who cannot afford full tuition to RPDS.

Building the Facilities Maintenance Endowment

Our historic sanctuary is arguably the most beautiful in all of Jacksonville. We are blessed with buildings that bring us together in fellowship, build our community as we grow in our faith, and help us reach out to others. And as we grow, so will the wear and tear on our buildings.

We are stewards of these buildings, and it is our responsibility to maintain them as we use them for future generations. Growing our facilities maintenance endowment ensures the long-term sustainability of our campus. It will provide a reliable source of funds for projects such as the anticipated replacement of the slate sanctuary roof and the ongoing protection of the stained-glass windows.



Our facilities endowment will provide a reliable source of maintenance funds in future years. The Riverside Cornerstone Campaign will grow the endowment to ensure that new and existing structures are around to benefit future generations.

“Our church is a beautiful piece of architecture that needs to be taken care of. The facilities are so important to fulfilling the mission of the school and the church.”

- Rusty Newton

Growing the Missions Endowment

For generations, Riverside Presbyterian Church has been called to serve others. By growing the missions endowment, we can be a blessing to even more of our neighbors here in Jacksonville and around the globe. A growing missions endowment will increase our annual capacity to give beyond ourselves and be a blessing not only on our own campus but also through our outreach ministries and local and global partnerships.

One of the strengths of RPDS is the lessons it teaches students about serving others. By expanding the church's mission fund, we become an even stronger example to these young children. With an expanded missions fund, the church and the school can work together on even more projects for the benefit of our community.



The call to ministry has always been a hallmark of Riverside Presbyterian Church. A larger endowment means that from here — from Riverside — we can reach out to even more people in need at home and around the globe.

Financial Aid Endowment

Proclaiming God's unconditional love for all children is exactly what Riverside Presbyterian Church members had in mind when they founded RPDS nearly 75 years ago. Instead of being in a bubble, RPDS students are surrounded by peers who bring a rich variety of experiences.

By growing the RPDS financial aid endowment, even more families will be able to access an RPDS education. And by welcoming in children from across Jacksonville, RPDS fosters an inclusive culture where all children benefit.



Stronger Together

From a small lot at the corner of Park and Post Streets, Riverside Presbyterian Church has served Jacksonville for 100 years. To reach out to children in the Riverside community and share with them God's love, RPDS was born in 1955. It is RPC's oldest and largest ministries—and critical to our mission.

RPC and RPDS are critical to each other. So many families choose RPC as their church home because of their experience at RPDS. And it works the other way as well. RPC and RPDS share the same values and work for the same goals.

Riverside Cornerstone Campaign capitalizes on Riverside's greatest strengths—equipping students, families, and citizens to go forth into the world and make an impact.

Your support of this campaign strengthens both RPC and RPDS as they work together to advance common goals in faith. Your support will ensure a vital future for both RPC and RPDS. A future filled with exceptional learning opportunities for students of all ages, well-maintained facilities that beckon families for play and for worship, and chances to minister to our neighbors in the Riverside community and beyond.

With your support, the possibilities are endless. From here, the Holy Spirit will travel far and wide through Riverside church members, RPDS students, and their families.





Riverside
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