

Hello! Thank you for your interest in the Crazy Faith Capital Campaign at Second Story Church!

Our goal in this campaign is to raise \$100,000+ to be given over the next three years to both sustain what God has started and expand into what we believe He's calling us to be. But before we get into the specifics of the campaign, allow me to share a story with you...

Last summer, my daughter, Abby, was involved in a serious car accident. I got the call on a Tuesday evening at 10pm that her car had been t-boned by another vehicle going about 50mph and that while both the driver and my daughter were ok, I needed to come to the accident scene to pick her up.

When I got to the crash-site, I was truly shaken to my core. Both cars looked like they had been through a trash compactor, and my daughter was sitting on the side of the road weeping and in shock. We talked. We prayed. We got cleaned up and went home. But the experience left me haunted by the reality that tomorrow isn't promised to any of us, and that we only have so much time on this earth to love, share, lead, and influence the people closest to us.

My daughter was 18 at the time of the accident. And for people her age, whether I like it or not, church, Jesus, and Christianity have become... well... irrelevant to the world they live in. I have so much still to give to her. I still have so much inside me as a dad that I want to teach her and so much love to pour into her. I left that crash scene grateful for my daughter's safety and determined to use whatever time I have left on this earth to urgently impart to her, and everyone I knew, the love that God has instilled in me in my own life. I knew right then and there – it's time to start another church. And it's time to do it now.

Every church's story of how and why they came to be is different. However, at Second Story Church, our path has been an unlikely one from the very beginning.

Having formerly been a campus of an existing church that was hit hard by the effects of Covid, and then re-launched as an independent and autonomous church, the runway leading up to our launch was a process we often referred to as, "...building the airplane in flight," – a process that can be precarious and complicated to say the least!

We were blessed to have a passionate core, a supportive sending church, and denominational group at Converge, who believed in us enough to generously resource our initial start-up expenses and marketing campaigns. They did so because they believed not only in the mission of Second Story Church, but in the track record we had already established in reaching people for Christ during the pandemic, partnering with local businesses and missional organizations, and living out a faith that has an urgent and foundational relevance to our everyday lives.

At Second Story Church, we aren't a cruise ship that exists for the entertainment of our passengers, but rather an aircraft carrier from which we send people out on mission with a faith that impacts every accident scene we encounter.

We believe that the church shouldn't have to decide between relevance and substance. We shouldn't have to choose between knowing who God is and genuinely experiencing Him in an authentic way. Our stories are always better when Jesus is in them, and the healing He offers can get everyone home safely.

On one hand, the Crazy Faith Capital Campaign is aimed at sustaining Second Story Church through the infancy stages of our ministry – helping the church stay steady in the middle of what are often turbulent years for a church plant.

However, we don't believe that the church is called to simply maintain and sustain. We believe that God has called us to thrive, grow, and expand our efforts with a unique vision which allows us to explore new avenues of ministry through such efforts as:

- Founding Second Story Worship – a worship ministry aimed at the development of a dynamic culture of worship known for leading people powerfully into God's presence not simply for the "show" we are putting on, but the authenticity and genuine heart behind the music and experience – the ways in which powerful Biblical truths are set to music in a way that moves people who are both close to God and far from Him.
- Deepening partnerships with ministries like Esther Homes, local group homes, and halfway houses, bringing the good news of Jesus to the least, the last, and the most hurting by helping these ministries stay resourced with spiritual tools, and purchasing a 12-15 passenger van to help people get to church who otherwise have no means of getting there.
- Through staffing our church with passionate, loyal, and vision-driven individuals in worship and kids ministries who can build our church through the infancy stages into being the unique body God has called us to be.
- Through continuing to develop our online presence into a full-fledged campus of the church where we can reach people far away from God in a digital age.
- Through serving the larger community of the Church in the Twin Cities and beyond by being a church who invites other churches into dialogue, relationship, partnership, and development through hosting leadership development events, the creation of a leadership network, and partnering with churches around Minnesota and beyond. Simply put: We can do more together than we can alone.

While our airplane may be getting built in flight, we truly believe that as it comes together, it's called to fly to incredible heights. We have a crazy faith that this church and the people in it have survived what we've survived for a reason. God has called us out of our own stories to build something much bigger than ourselves that can give light and hope to so many others.

We are excited that you're considering being a part of what God is building at Second Story Church, and we are asking you to generously partner with us with the expectation that God is going to do more than we could ask or imagine through our efforts together.

None of us want to look back on our lives and wonder what we might have grown, what we might have built, what friends or family members might know Jesus, or what hope we could have offered a world where accidents happen every day had we been more caught up in our crazy faith than we are in the crazy of the world around us.

We truly believe that the only thing crazier than boldly acting on our faith by leveraging our time talent and treasure so others can experience a second story with Jesus, is not acting at all.

Accidents, troubles, heartbreaks, and brokenness are around us every day. Let's put our faith into action and rush to the scene together to bring hope and healing to those who need it in a way they can understand – and let's do it because that's what God did for us.

With Warmth & Expectancy,

Seth Hinrichs  
Senior Pastor, Second Story Church