



Write *your* church's **NEXT CHAPTER**

What is God calling your church to do?

It's a big question, and it's one that takes time, prayer and discernment to answer. An outside point of view is helpful – and that's why we're here.

We've worked with hundreds of churches just like yours. As church financial experts, we offer a financial analysis, followed by listening sessions. We can share with you how we've worked with other congregations. While every congregation is unique, you can learn from the experiences of other churches and ministries.

Whether your challenges revolve around property, giving, membership, or mission, we're ready to help you write your church's next chapter.

What is **PROJECT REGENERATION?**

Project Regeneration is a consultative service provided by the Presbyterian Foundation for churches and ministries. Our Ministry Relations Officers guide congregations through a process of prayerful discernment through a series of meetings, held on site or virtually, to help churches consider a strategic approach for the future. Our approach includes a financial analysis to assess the viability of ministry, followed by a collaborative, innovative process that invites everyone to fully participate. We will provide reading materials, serve as speakers, guide discussions and share stories with you that will help you decide what's best for your church.

Options for **YOUR CHURCH**

You may wonder what the options are for your congregation. There are seven core options that cover most situations. You may have other ideas, and we welcome them!

- Age in place, using the resources available to you to stay in your location as long as your fiscal health allows.
- Share your campus with another congregation or group to help sustain your ministry.
- Merge with another church to create a new, healthy congregation.
- Sell your church campus and find a new location that is better suited to your current needs.
- Reinvent your church with new ministries; this can vary widely depending on your church's situation.
- Close your current congregation and re-start as another church.
- Close your church and create an endowment to fund ministries your church supports – forever.





*“Behold, I am
doing a
new thing”*

— Isaiah 43:19a

Who leads **PROJECT REGENERATION?**

Project Regeneration’s team members are seasoned financial experts. They are also pastors, elders and active members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We not only offer an objective third party perspective during your church’s journey, but understanding and compassion, too.

Let us help you build **THE FUTURE YOU WANT FOR YOUR CHURCH**

With Project Regeneration, we recognize both the financial necessities and hardships of today’s ministries, and offer personalized solutions to give those ministries new life. If your congregation is striving to find its way during a financial or cultural shift, the path to a meaningful new ministry may begin here.



“Church is all about relationships. For me, the Presbyterian Foundation is not a Foundation, it is not a financial institution, it is none of those things. It’s these people who have dedicated their lives to being partners with us. And in being partners they’re helping us become what God is calling us to be as churches.”

— Rev. Jeremy Jinkins, Pastor, The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, New Jersey



Case Study: **UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA**

University Presbyterian Church, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, was having an identity crisis. Founded in the mid-60s as a campus ministry less than two blocks from the University of Alabama football stadium, the congregation no longer had oversight of the outreach to students and was seeking a new mission.

Just a mile and a half away, in suburban Tuscaloosa, Covenant Presbyterian Church also faced questions about its future. The congregation had begun the search for a new pastor, but with aging members and an average attendance of 40 in worship, it was not clear how long the church could afford to pay a full-time pastor.

Project Regeneration brought the two churches together in one building, and the new merged church is Grace Presbyterian. And it is thriving!

Rev. Cathy Hoop, who served as the pastor, says the church is growing. Now, the number of new members who have joined since the merger is larger than the combined membership of the two churches. “We knew there were people out there who wanted a church like this, and we have room for them here,” Hoop says. “It was worth it.”



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