



Dear Destination Family,

I am excited to share with you about our annual TANGIBLE COMMUNITY Special Offering beginning now and continuing through Sunday May 24, 2015.

Over the last few years Destination has grown from a handful of people to a thriving church. Along the way we have strived to generously invest outside ourselves. This offering is our chance to bless Chicago by continuing our long-term goal to own a permanent facility.

Through owning a facility, we desire to increase our ministry impact and tangibly serve our city. Whether it's by hosting community events, providing counseling services, helping the homeless, offering space for local groups, running training programs, gathering artists, fostering social justice initiatives, holding Small Groups, or serving the needs of businesses, we desire to be a more TANGIBLE COMMUNITY in Chicago.

Please read over this packet to learn about our exciting opportunity to give sacrificially. Pray about what God would have you give. Allow God to stretch your faith!

Your friend,

Matt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Sweetman', written in a cursive style.

Matt Sweetman
Pastor | Destination Church

P.S. The enclosed documents will give you an overview of the special offering and answer many common questions. However, if you have any additional questions after reading this, please do not hesitate to contact us at connect@destinationchurch.org

This page intentionally left blank

TANGIBLE COMMUNITY: A DESTINATION SPECIAL OFFERING NOW THROUGH MAY 24, 2015 | GOAL \$30,000

OVERVIEW

This Special Offering is an annual event around Easter time that calls Destination's attenders and members to sacrificially give. Easter is a time to remember how generously and sacrificially God gave to us through the death and resurrection of His son, so we in turn desire to give to God in the same manner.

The Special Offering starts now and will conclude on Sunday May 24, 2015. Giving can happen at any time during this period. Our 2015 goal is \$30,000. Our long-term goal is to raise one million dollars by 2017.

Please use a giving envelope and mark the "TANGIBLE COMMUNITY" box. Please also mark any checks or online giving with the phrase "TANGIBLE COMMUNITY."

PURPOSE

Jesus' ministry invaded and transformed the world. As followers of Christ we desire to have a permanent presence in the city where we can more effectively touch the world around us.

We have started our journey as a tangible community through various serving opportunities, special offerings given outside ourselves, and the relationships we are all building outside of the church. So, do we really need a facility?

The simple answer is no. We don't need a facility to worship God and serve needs. We can worship and learn together just fine every Sunday in a rented school auditorium. But there is so much more we could do with a facility. Our tangible presence in the city does need to grow and we feel led by God that owning a facility is an important step for Destination.

As a church we have never been held back by limitations. God has made provision for us every step of the way. This is our chance to step up and increasingly become God's hand of blessing in this city to those in need and to those who don't know Jesus. We want to be a more TANGIBLE COMMUNITY.

We feel that God has put it on our hearts to purchase our own facility in Chicago in order to expand our ministry and serve the city. This is not simply a "nice idea." It's something we feel God is directing us towards.

TANGIBLE COMMUNITY: A DESTINATION SPECIAL OFFERING NOW THROUGH MAY 24, 2015 | GOAL \$30,000

WHERE, WHEN & WHAT?

We don't have many specifics about location or type of facility. A new build is unlikely, although not impossible. Perhaps a repurposed building, storefront, or an old church building. These details will be fleshed out as we continue to follow God. Our long-term goal is to raise one million dollars by 2017. This would enable us to borrow up to four million dollars from a bank or private investors to cover the purchase price, renovations, and closing costs.

Unless God clearly directs otherwise, we desire to stay in the general geographical area. We are convicted that the North side needs a gospel-declaring, bible-believing, spirit-filled, socially just and genuinely relevant church like Destination strives to be. We also desire to start additional services, campuses, and churches.

As our church grows each year, we will prayerfully increase the offering goal. Our timeframe will be affected by our growth. If God continues to bless our growth in the same way He has, then our TANGIBLE COMMUNITY fund will increase each year. We desire to minimize any borrowing from the bank. We want to see the church grow and for our people to grow in generosity.

Don't be surprised by little activity beyond the offering. Down the road, as our capital increases, we plan to consult with experts about purchasing a facility. Please remember, these things are "down the road." We can certainly pray for God to accelerate this process.

BENEFITS TO OWNING

There are many advantages for churches buying their own facility. Owning ...

- removes any possible conflicts with school functions or other organizations
- protects us from sudden rental increases
- protects us from eviction, which happened to churches in New York City
- allows freedom in the addition of services and adjustment of service times
- provides the opportunity to multiply and expand all church ministries
- enables us to provide permanent and tangible services to the city
- allows us to provide office space for staff and practice space for worship
- gives more creative freedom for general decor and sermon series stage design
- opens the possibility to host conferences and other events
- reduces long term volunteer fatigue from the weekly setup process
- increases our visibility to the unchurched
- leaves a legacy for future generations
- enables us to contribute to the improvement and development of property in the city
- affords us the chance to bless other groups who will benefit from the facility

TANGIBLE COMMUNITY: A DESTINATION SPECIAL OFFERING NOW THROUGH MAY 24, 2015 | GOAL \$30,000

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why a Special Offering?

As part of God's plan to grow the faith of the people in His church, He calls us to sacrificial give from time to time. This Special Offering is an opportunity for us to grow in our faith and to prepare us for what God wants to do through our church. This offering is not because we are behind on budget, but rather it is to position us to make a greater impact in our city, in our church, and around the world.

What's the difference between the Regular Offering and this Special Offering?

A person's regular offering is the proportional amount (usually the full tithe of 10%) that we set apart on a regular basis and give throughout the year. From time to time there are opportunities to give in a sacrificial way. This Special Offering is one of those sacrificial occasions that stretch us to grow in our faith. The TANGIBLE COMMUNITY offering should be over and above what we all regularly give.

How is the offering going to be managed?

The offering will be deposited into a separate church bank account in order to effectively allocate it to our TANGIBLE COMMUNITY fund. At Christmas time we will receive another Special Offering that will be focused on social needs and directed to various ministries, benevolence, and people outside of Destination. If an important need arises before we are able to take up the Christmas offering, we will draw funds from this current offering. We plan and manage these two annual offerings this way because we want everyone in the church to prepare for them, and for each person to maximize their generosity as God directs.

How much should I give?

Since the goal is \$30,000, this Special Offering will involve everyone. Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift that will stretch your faith. The precise amount you give is between you and God. Some people can give much larger gifts of many thousands. Others will be able to give \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000, or more. The issue is not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. What amount can you give that will stretch your faith?

Can a church our size really raise this much money in one offering?

Since the church's beginning we have had God-sized dreams. These big dreams require big faith. The accomplishment of these things will be determined by our generosity during this Special Offering. When Destination was around thirty people, we raised over \$17,000 in a single offering. We can give like that again!

TANGIBLE COMMUNITY: A DESTINATION SPECIAL OFFERING NOW THROUGH MAY 24, 2015 | GOAL \$30,000

Should I give towards the beginning or the end of the Special Offering?

The best time to give is right away. Please pray about making your best gift at the start. However, you can continue to give until May 24, 2015. As each week of the offering goes by you may feel a desire to give again. We want to encourage you to remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in this. It is not unusual for people to give multiple times during this period of sacrificial giving. Please mark the "TANGIBLE COMMUNITY" box on your giving envelope. Remember, consistent gifts over time add up. A person giving \$85 per week over a seven-week period will give about \$600 to this Special Offering.

Can I give online?

Yes. When you give online at DestinationChurch.org/giving, simply select the "TANGIBLE COMMUNITY" option. While we do make it possible for people to give with credit cards because of its convenience, we also discourage it for two reasons. If you are not paying off your card please do not give with it. Also, we pay a processing fee up to 3% on credit card giving. Over time this really builds up. In 2014 Destination had to pay about \$2,500 in processing fees. We want to make giving easy for new people to start, but for those who start to give regularly, we encourage them to switch to give via bank automation. You can use your bank online payment option to send a check directly. This incurs no fees. Simply mark in the memo area that your gift is for "TANGIBLE COMMUNITY." The mailing address is: Destination Church, PO Box 1492, Chicago, IL 60690-1492. Go to DestinationChurch.org/giving for more instructions

Are my gifts tax-deductible?

All gifts to Destination, whether via the regular offering or this Special Offering, are completely tax-deductible. Your gift will be deductible in the tax year given (i.e., gifts given in 2015 will be deductible on your 2015 taxes). Please be sure to include your name and address when you give so that a receipt can be sent to you for your tax preparations. You are not required to utilize a tax-deduction for your gift, but it is an option for all gifts.

How did we arrive at the goal of \$30,000?

The \$30,000 goal was prayerfully set by the Destination leadership team. It is a faith goal that can be accomplished through the participation and sacrificial giving by our members and attenders. Our resources ultimately come from God. He promises to bless the efforts of those who trust him. We are all dependent on God to bless this faith goal.

How will I know if we reach our goal?

Please pray for God's guidance as we all give sacrificially. You will be updated on our progress each Sunday during the Sunday services. Reaching this goal will be a celebration of what we can do together as we stretch our faith under God's leadership.

What is the Tangible Community total?

Thanks to generous offerings from the last three years, our current balance is \$110,000.