

THRIVE



FROM PASTOR CHRIS



It's happening.
 If you've been around Coastal for any length of time, you've seen it. You've felt it. You've been a part of it.
 God is growing something special here. And healthy things grow. They **THRIVE**.
 That's what this next season is all about. That's why our new Spiritual Growth Campaign is called:

THRIVE

EXPANDING OUR REACH, DEEPENING OUR ROOTS

Because that's exactly what we're seeing, and exactly what we believe God wants to continue.

Not just numerical growth, but spiritual growth. Not just getting bigger, but getting stronger. Not just expanding outward, but going deeper, deeper in Christ and deeper in our community.

And not just for us, but for future generations.

If you've spent any time in the Lowcountry, you've seen the oak trees. In fact, we have a centerpiece oak on our campus.

**MASSIVE. STEADY. DEEPLY
 ROOTED. SPREADING WIDE.**

They don't grow overnight. But over time, with the right foundation, they become something strong, something lasting, something that impacts everything around them.

That's the picture of what God is doing at Coastal.

And now, it's time to make room for that growth.



THE MOMENT WE'RE IN

From the very beginning, our mission has been clear: To share and experience the LIFE and LOVE of Jesus with Charleston and the world.

That mission hasn't changed. But what has changed, is our capacity.

We've added services.
We've added seats.
We've made every adjustment we can.

And now, we've reached the point where our space is no longer supporting the mission. It's limiting it.

Every week, new people are coming. Every week, families are looking for a place to belong.

Every week, children are learning about Jesus in Coastal Kidz.

And every week, we're reminded:

WE NEED MORE ROOM.

Not for comfort.
Not for convenience.

But for people. Because every seat represents a story. Every classroom represents a child. Every space represents an opportunity for life change.

THE VISION

As we step into this **THRIVE** campaign, the Pastors and Elders of Coastal believe that God is leading us to take an important next step forward.

We are preparing to add approximately **40,000 square feet** of new ministry space to our campus, including:

- A brand new **1,200-seat worship auditorium** with stadium seating
- Expanded and enhanced **Coastal Kidz classrooms and ministry** environments
- A larger **Welcome Center** designed to better serve guests and families
- Additional restroom facilities
- A new and expanded **indoor playground** for our children

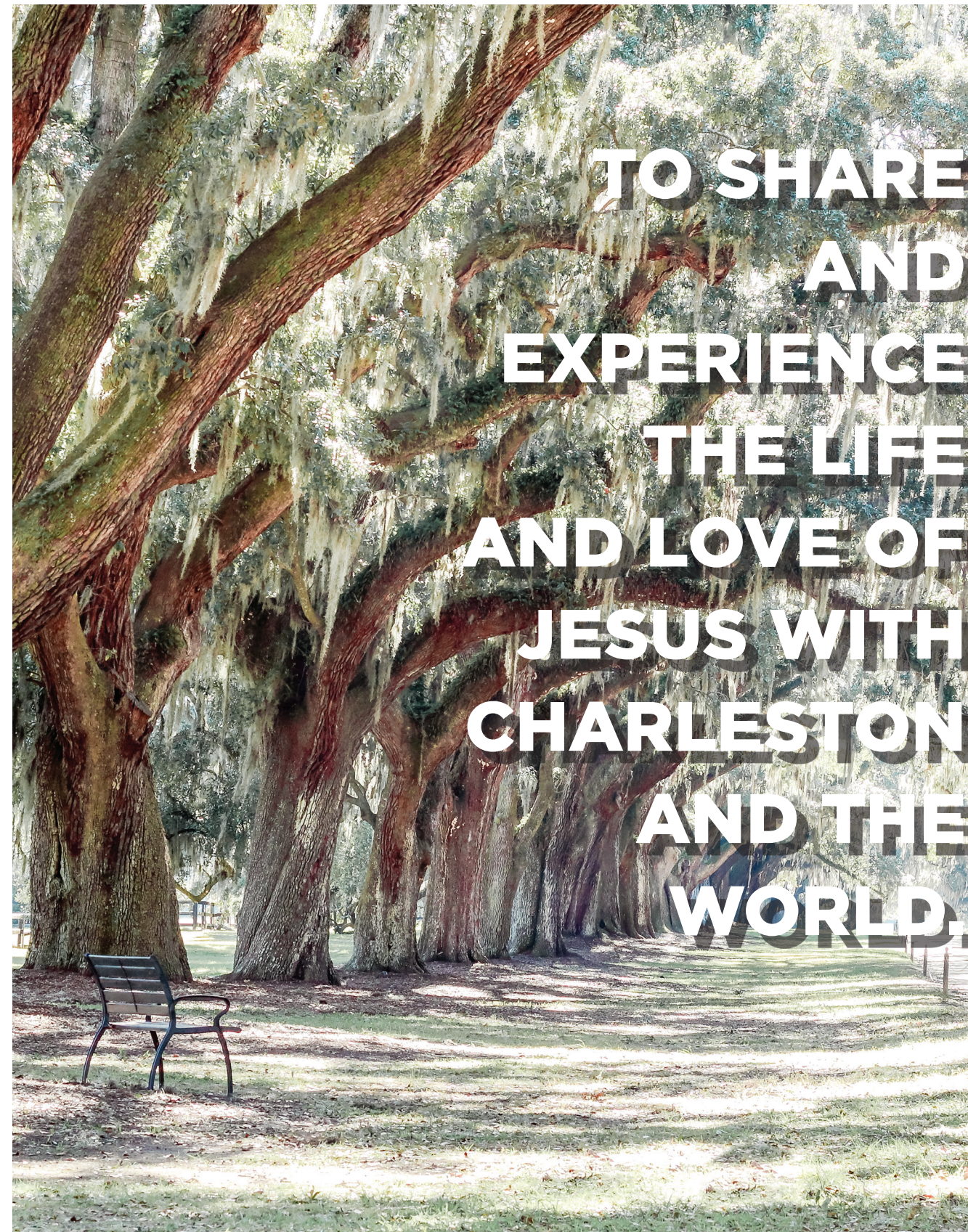
This isn't just about building something bigger.

It's about creating space for what God is already doing—

and for what we believe He's going to do next.

Because healthy things grow.

And healthy churches make room for growth.



THRIVE BEYOND THESE WALLS

One of the greatest dangers churches face during a building campaign is becoming inward-focused.

That's not who we want to be.

Because **THRIVE** is not just about building space for ourselves.

It's about expanding our reach.

It's about growing deeper in faith, deeper in generosity, and deeper in our commitment to serve others in the name of Jesus.

That's why, even as we prepare for this next chapter, we've already made two important decisions as a church family.

This past Christmas, our church gave over **\$83,000 ABOVE** our Christmas Offering goal.

It would have been easy to hold onto that money knowing a giving campaign was coming, knowing we would soon be approaching lenders, and knowing a major building project was ahead.

But instead of storing it away, we invested it, in the community, in the Kingdom.

Every dollar - and more - was poured into **The Outpost**, our Outreach Center serving people in need through food, clothing, and practical support.

Why?

Because our mission doesn't pause while we build.

And because generosity is not something we plan to do **someday**.

It's who we are **now**.

We have also committed to giving away:

10% OF EVERY DOLLAR

received through this campaign will go toward Outreach and Missions.

Because healthy churches don't just grow larger.

They grow more generous.

IT WILL TAKE ALL OF US A STEP OF FAITH

This vision is bigger than any one person.

And that's exactly how it should be.

Because this isn't just a building project, it's a spiritual journey for our entire church family.

Moments like this invite all of us to step forward.

To pray.

To trust.

To participate.

Not equally in amount, but equally in sacrifice.

We often say: "Equal sacrifice, not equal gifts."

Not everyone can give the same amount. But everyone can take a step of faith.

For some, that step may feel small. For others, it may feel significant.

But what matters most is not the size of the gift, it's the obedience behind it.

This campaign isn't about what we can do on our own.

It's about what God can do through all of us together - everyone who considers Coastal home.

So instead of asking, "What can I afford?" we're asking:

"God, what are You leading me to do?"

Because giving by faith means stepping beyond what feels comfortable and trusting God to provide along the way.

That's where growth happens.

Not just in what we build, but in who we become.

As we trust Him more deeply, as we hold more loosely, as we step forward together, God does something powerful in us and through us.

**GOD,
WHAT
ARE YOU
LEADING
ME TO DO?**



WHAT IS "FIRST FRUITS"?

In Scripture, "first fruits" was the practice of giving the first and best portion of a harvest back to God.

It was an act of faith.

Before the full harvest was even gathered, before they knew exactly how much they would have, they chose to trust God first.

It was a way of saying:

**GOD, YOU COME FIRST.
I TRUST YOU TO PROVIDE.
EVERYTHING I HAVE COMES
FROM YOU.**

For this **THRIVE** campaign, a **First Fruits offering** is a sacrificial, up-front gift - the first step in your faith commitment.

It's not about equal amounts.

It's about putting God first.



WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

Beginning the week of September 13th, our entire church family will begin a unified spiritual journey together through our **THRIVE** Spiritual Growth Campaign.

Throughout the THRIVE campaign, we'll grow together in three ways. Our Sunday message series, our LIFE Groups, and our daily devotional will all follow the same **THRIVE** journey. Together, we'll gather each week for worship and teaching, connect in community through our LIFE Groups, and spend daily time with God through the devotional - all centered around the weekly themes and focused on growing deeper in our faith and trust in Him.

This is more than a building or giving campaign.

It's a church-wide spiritual growth journey designed to unite us as one church family as we seek what God wants to do not only through us, but in us.

Then, from **September 28th through November 6th**, we are inviting our entire church to participate in a **40-Day Fast** leading up to Commitment Sunday.

During those 40 days, we will seek God together through prayer, fasting, Scripture, and personal reflection as we ask Him to deepen our roots and expand our faith.

This journey is designed for the entire family.

Our children will participate alongside us through a special **THRIVE** Coloring Book, with pages illustrated by gifted artists from within our own church family, helping kids learn what it means to trust God, grow in faith, and be part of what He is doing at Coastal.

Each family will also receive a small potted plant to water and care for throughout the campaign, a

simple but powerful reminder that healthy things grow when they are nurtured, rooted, and cared for.

As we watch those plants grow over the coming weeks, we'll be reminded of what God wants to do in us.

Not just around us. In us.

We will conclude this spiritual journey with a special **24-Hour Prayer Vigil on November 5th-6th**, setting aside intentional time as a church family to seek God's guidance, provision, and blessing over this next season.

All leading up to:

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

November 8th

On that Sunday, each person and family will have the opportunity to respond in faith in two ways:

By bringing a sacrificial First Fruits offering

And by making a 3-year giving commitment

Together, these make up our personal **THRIVE** commitment, a response to what God places on our hearts.

Why a 3-year commitment?

Because we can do far more together over time than we often realize in a single moment.

More importantly, because faith isn't meant to be a one-time emotional decision - it's a lifestyle of trusting and following God day after day.

We believe that as we step out in faith together, God will continue to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us." **Ephesians 3:20**

WHAT IS MY PART?

Something you'll hear often throughout this campaign is: **"Equal sacrifice, not equal gifts."**

To sacrifice means to willingly give up something valuable for a greater purpose.

While not everyone can give the same amount, everyone can sacrifice in some way.

For some families, a sacrificial commitment may mean giving a few hundred dollars. For others, it may mean giving much more.

The goal is not equal amounts. The goal is equal surrender.

We believe God will guide each person and family as they sincerely seek Him.

GIVING THAT PLEASES GOD

Giving by faith happens when we decide to give in a way that requires us to trust God.

Instead of asking, "How can we afford this?" we begin asking:

"Lord, how do You want to provide through us?"

This campaign is not about pressure.

It's about discipleship.

It's about growing deeper roots of trust, obedience, and generosity.

Because as Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

...to make a difference with your resources.

...to invest in changed lives.

...to help create space for future generations.

...to leave a legacy that will outlast your lifetime.

...to be part of a miracle.

One day, someone will walk into this new worship space.

A child will hear about Jesus in one of these classrooms.

A marriage will be restored.

A life will be changed.

A family tree will be forever different.

And part of that story, will include you.

There is no greater investment than investing in the Kingdom of God and helping people experience the LIFE and LOVE of Jesus.

We believe God has positioned Coastal for this moment.

So let's move forward together.

Let's deepen our roots.

Let's expand our reach.

And let's watch what God will do, as we choose not just to grow, but to **THRIVE**.





HOW TO DECIDE YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISIONS YOU OR YOUR FAMILY WILL MAKE DURING OUR THRIVE CAMPAIGN WILL BE THE DECISION ABOUT YOUR OWN GIVING COMMITMENT. THIS SHEET GIVES SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO DECIDE WHAT YOUR COMMITMENT WILL BE.

As you begin praying about your commitment, keep in mind that our theme is "EQUAL SACRIFICE, NOT EQUAL GIFTS." Obviously, God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars. However, God does call us to make the same quality of commitment.

Remember, your **THRIVE** commitment should include BOTH a cash gift AND a 36 month giving commitment. Most of us can give far more than we initially think by giving it over a 3 year period. You will help your church most by making BOTH gifts.

Each of us has a choice to make:

1. I can give based on REASON.

This means I look at what I have, figure out what is "reasonable," and commit that amount. It takes no faith to give by reason. Reason simply asks, "What can I afford?"

2. I can give based on REVELATION.

This means I determine my gift by praying, "Lord, what do you want to give through me?" This requires faith. When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. Revelation giving is asking "How much am I willing to trust God?"

Paul said of the Macedonians,

"THEY GAVE NOT ONLY WHAT THEY COULD AFFORD, THEY GAVE EVEN MORE THAN THEY COULD AFFORD!"

2 Corinthians 7:3

SUGGESTED STEPS FOR DETERMINING GOD'S WILL

01 BEGIN BY PRAYING EVERY DAY, "Lord, I want to give sacrificially. Now please show me how to give a gift that will stretch my faith." If you're married, pray together with your spouse.

02 GIVE YOURSELF TIME! Don't rush your decision. You'll find that the longer you genuinely pray, "Show me how," the more ways God will show you, and you'll be able to give more than the first amount that popped into your head.

03 PLAN A FAMILY CONFERENCE to discuss ways to give. Ask your family members to be thinking of ideas in advance. Be sure to involve your children, no matter how young they are. This is a great opportunity to teach giving and faith.

04 READ THE FOLLOWING BIBLE PROMISES and instructions and make a list of what you learned at your family conference..

Proverbs 3:9-10; Proverbs 11:24-25; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:19-20.

05 IN YOUR FAMILY CONFERENCE, ASK YOURSELVES ALOUD THESE QUESTIONS:

Regarding our cash gift:

How much cash could we gather by November 8th?

Is there anything we could sell or convert to cash?

Ask God for creative ways to increase your gift. You might consider income from savings, tax refunds, garage sales, an extra part-time job, reducing expenses, deferring a major purchase, etc. Involve your whole family in raising a specific amount.

Regarding our 36 month commitment:

Are there ways we could decrease our expenses in order to make a larger commitment?

Are there ways we could increase our income in order to make a larger commitment?

You can give far more when it's spread out over time.

06 DECIDE AS A FAMILY THE TOTAL AMOUNT YOU'LL GIVE, hold hands and have a prayer of commitment similar to this:

Father, this is a big step for us. We're asking you to strengthen our faith and help us grow spiritually through giving. We thank you for all you have given us. We know we wouldn't have anything if it weren't for you. We want to be cheerful givers. We're claiming the promises you've said in your Word that you'll take care of our needs if we trust you. Thank you for this opportunity to grow. Thank you for our church. Help us to reach our goals. In Jesus' name,"

AMEN.



TOP NINE WAYS TO INCREASE YOUR CASH GIFT

Here are some creative ways that people in our church family are already using and suggest you try:

01 ELIMINATE ALL EATING OUT.

Eliminate (fast food, Starbucks, sodas, cigarettes, etc.) for the next 2 months. Save that cash to be added to your offering.

02 HOLD A GARAGE SALE..

You probably have a garage or closet full of unused items that could be converted into cash.

03 TAKE A PART TIME JOB.

A number of people will be moonlighting in order to be able to give more on November 8th.

04 SPARE CHANGE

Have everyone in your family locate the spare change in your house and begin collecting it all in one giant bank.

05 POSTPONE A MAJOR PURCHASE.

Wait a few more months to buy that big item in order to give more.

06 MAKE CRAFTS AND SELL THEM.

Use your talents to raise additional cash for the offering.

07 SELL STOCKS, FUNDS, OR BONDS

08 INVOLVE YOUR CHILDREN.

Ask them how they could be involved, what they could do - lemonade stands, babysitting, etc.

09 SELL ITEMS ONLINE

Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, Ebay, etc.

DISCOVERING CREATIVE WAYS TO INCREASE MY CASH GIFT

THE THRIVE OFFERING WE GIVE ON NOVEMBER 8TH WILL BE BOTH A CASH OFFERING AND A COMMITMENT TO GIVE OVER THE NEXT 36 MONTHS. OBVIOUSLY, THE MORE WE ARE ABLE TO GIVE IN CASH UP FRONT, THE SOONER WE WILL BE ABLE TO MEET OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AND START THE BUILDING PROCESS.

At first thought, most people do not think they have much cash laying around to give. But with a little creativity, and by taking advantage of the time we have before the offering, each of us can probably come up with a sizable cash gift. And together it will all add up.

Basically, there are two approaches to finding more cash to give:

Look for ways to reduce your expenses.
Look for ways to increase your income.

By using a combination of these two leading up to Commitment Sunday, you'll be able to give far more cash than you thought. Be creative and share your ideas in your Groups!

GOD'S PROMISES TO YOU!

There are more promises in the Bible about giving than about any other subject.

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." (Proverbs 11:25 NIV)

"Remember this: The person who plants



a little will have a small harvest, but the person who plants a lot will have a big harvest." (2 Corinthians 9:6 NLT)

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." (Luke 6:38 NLT)

Good will come to those who are generous. . . ." (Psalm 112:5 NLT)

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." (Malachi 3:10 NIV)

"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce." (Proverbs 3:9 NLT)

"Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they

will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life." (1 Timothy 6:18-19 NLT)

"You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives

cheerfully.' And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others." (2 Corinthians 9:7-8 NLT)

MORE OF YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: Why are we having this Giving Campaign? Why not just announce that we need funds to build a building?

A: We will not just come up with the kind of money necessary to build a building by simply announcing the need. It takes time and effort to fully communicate the need, the purpose, the goals, and the vision to everyone in our church. And our goals are much more than just raising funds.

Q: What kind of reactions should we expect from people?

A: We are beginning this campaign knowing there will be three different reactions: First, there are those who are already committed to giving. They don't need this campaign. They are spiritually mature, they understand all the reasons why we must step out in faith, and they give sacrificially whenever they are asked to. Second, there are those who are not going to give no matter what we do. They will come up with all kinds of objections, excuses, and criticisms about this campaign.

But the real issue is they simply don't want to give. We're not doing this campaign for this group either. And we won't let the objections of a few rob the rest of us of the joy of giving. Third, there are those who will want to give when they catch the vision of what we're attempting and how giving will help them grow spiritually. These people are the reason for this emphasis.

Q: How will the money we raise be used?

A: The funds from THRIVE will be used to help build the next chapter in Coastal's story by creating space for more people to encounter Jesus. This includes a new 1,200-seat Worship Center, expanded Coastal Kidz classrooms, a larger Welcome Center, additional restrooms, and an exciting new indoor playground for children. Together, these improvements will allow us to expand our reach while deepening our roots as a church family.

It is important to remember that your THRIVE commitment is above and beyond your regular giving,

which continues to support the ongoing ministries and day-to-day operation of Coastal Community Church. Your regular giving fuels our weekly ministry, while your THRIVE commitment helps create space for the generations still to come.

Q: I've attended Coastal for some time now and have appreciated the fact that our church does not do constant "fundraising." Instead, you've just clearly taught us what the Bible says about giving. What is the difference between a "fundraising" campaign and a "giving" campaign like THRIVE?

A: A BIG difference! The purpose of a "giving" campaign is to challenge each of us to give out of our OWN resources. In a "fundraising" campaign, you collect money from someone else by selling them a product or service. A giving campaign always results in personal spiritual growth - a fundraising campaign just raises money. The THRIVE campaign is designed to (1) Stretch your faith, (2) Build your hope in God's promises, (3) Deepen

your love for Christ & his church, and (4) Teach you Christlike generosity. By learning to sacrifice personally for the cause of Christ, you will grow toward spiritual maturity.

Q: I am a single parent with several kids and almost no income, but I want to be a part of our giving campaign. How can I give?

A: First, let me commend you for your heart's desire to give. It reminds me of the poor widow Jesus honored for her faith in giving in Mark 12:41-44, "Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on." From this moving example of sacrifice, Jesus taught 3 important truths:

Your attitude is more important than your amount in giving.

It is always possible to give something IF we really trust God.

God measures our faith by comparing what we've given with what we have left over after we've given.

This is why our theme is "Equal sacrifice, not equal gifts." As you pray about what a genuine sacrifice will mean to you, I urge you to read the Bible story of the miracle that happened when another single parent gave away what little she had (1 Kings 17:8-16). God took care

of her the rest of her life. And God is still doing miracles today in the lives of those who dare to trust him!

Q: Will I be able to change my 36 month commitment if I need or want to?

A: Of course! Unforeseen circumstances may cause you to want to increase or decrease your giving commitment in the future. At any time during the 36 months all you'll need to do is ask for another commitment card and turn it in with your revised commitment!

Q: WHEN and HOW do I make my commitment?

A: Together we will all turn in our First Fruits Sacrificial Offering & our Commitment Card on Commitment Sunday, November 8th! First you need to decide how much of a cash offering you'll give. Then decide the amount you pledge to give in addition to your cash gift over the next 36 months. Then write both of those amounts on your Commitment Card, add them together for a total, (cash + pledge) and sign your Commitment Card. Give both in the offering on November 8th. If you can't attend, mail it in advance so your gift can be included in the Miracle total.

Q: When will we begin fulfilling our THRIVE commitments?

A: Giving toward our pledges will begin November 8th with your gift and will end 36 months later.

Q: How will I designate my THRIVE commitment each week?

A: Whether you're giving through a check, one of our Giving Kiosks, TEXTing, our App, or our website, simply use the word, THRIVE.

Q: Can each member of our family make a separate commitment?

A: Yes! Even young children can learn the values of commitment, generosity, faith, and sacrifice by signing their own commitment card. Extra cards will be available.

Q: Will my commitment be kept confidential?

A: Absolutely.

Q: Is it OK to make a commitment to give an amount that I don't have right now?

A: Yes! That is called FAITH! It pleases God (Hebrews 11:6).

Q: May I give a gift in memory of someone?

A: Yes. Simply write "In memory of..." on your Commitment Card.

Q: When will we begin building?

A: We hope to break ground sometime in the summer of 2027.

Q: Do we have a contractor?

A: We are currently interviewing several qualified contractors and expect to make a final decision soon. Hill Construction, which completed our Coastal Kidz expansion and built our Welcome Center connecting the two buildings, is currently our leading candidate because of their outstanding work and familiarity with our campus. We are sure many other questions will arise during our Giving Campaign. Please feel free to bring any questions or concerns to the attention of **Pastor Chris**.

TESTIMONIALS



MELISSA COX

When I first came to this church, I was a broken single mom searching for hope, healing, and a place to belong. From the moment I walked through the doors, I was met with love, kindness, and acceptance that made me feel truly welcomed.

Over the past year, this church has become so much more than a place I attend on Sundays, it has become my family. Through the friendships I've built here, I've found people who have stood beside me through life's highs and lows, loved my children, and encouraged me in my walk with Christ.

God has also used this church to bring one of the greatest blessings into my life: meeting the incredible godly man who is now my fiancé. Together, we've been able to grow in our faith and build a relationship centered on Christ.



ERIC & PENNY STONE

Through the teaching, fellowship, and unwavering support of this church family, my relationship with God has grown deeper than I ever imagined. Looking back, I can clearly see God's hand guiding me here during one of the most difficult seasons of my life, and I am deeply grateful for the love, grace, and community I have found within these walls.

Coastal Community Church has completely changed our family story.

For years, our marriage and blended family were in a very broken place. We were attending church, but things were actually getting worse. I (Penny) had reached the point of giving up on my marriage and even felt separation was the only option left.

Two years passed with little to no communication between us. But when Eric and I reconnected, I saw a completely different man,

one grounded in faith, growing as a spiritual leader, and committed to walking through life together instead of apart. As we talked, I could see the change was real, and God began softening my heart and restoring hope I thought was gone.

Coastal played a huge role in that transformation. Through the loving community, LIFE Groups, and pastoral staff, God began rebuilding what was broken. One pastor first connected with Eric in a simple but intentional way, and others invested time discipling him and helping him grow spiritually. That growth didn't just change Eric, it changed the direction of our marriage and our entire family.

Ultimately, it wasn't just one moment, it was God working through the people of Coastal who taught us how to love like Jesus. God used this church to restore our marriage, heal our family, and draw us back into a deeper walk with Him.

We are deeply grateful for Coastal Community Church and for what God continues to do in our lives through this church family.



KEN & SUZANNE DOBLER

Coastal Community Church has become our true church home and a vital part of our family's faith journey. Our church family has strengthened our walk with Christ and deepened our desire to help those less fortunate than us. Through opportunities to serve together, we've experienced the joy of fellowship with other believers while making a difference in our community.

The LIFE Groups we've joined have been especially meaningful, they've given us space to grow spiritually, ask honest questions, and build lasting friendships. We've seen God at work in our lives through Coastal's focus on generosity.

Coastal has encouraged us as a couple and as a family to live more intentionally for Him. Whether through Sunday services, serving alongside others, or the relationships we've formed, Coastal has helped us put deeper roots in our faith while expanding our hearts toward others. We're grateful for all God is doing and excited to see what's next as we **THRIVE** together.



ALLISON & VICTOR JUSINO

After the loss of my mom in 2019 and during the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic, I was struggling to make sense of life. God placed a dear friend in my life, someone truly the salt of the earth, and I trusted her enough to ask if we could go to church together.

What I found at Coastal was so much more than I expected. I found purpose and a community that loves well, teaches truth, and continually points me back to God's grace. Over the past five years, I've seen how faithfully showing up, even on the hard days, has strengthened our family, carried us through difficult seasons, and transformed the way I see my life.

Coastal has given our family a place to grow spiritually together. The people here don't just greet you on Sunday, they show up, reach out, check in, and genuinely care. Through friendships, encouragement, and support, we've experienced what it truly means to be part of a church family. Our Coastal family has become such an important part of our lives that Sunday mornings truly feel like coming home.



MORGAN FROSHOUR

I have been coming to Coastal with my family for four years, and this church has truly changed our lives.

Before we started attending, my mom and I were looking for a church home but feeling discouraged. I was also in a season where, even with friends and family around me, I still felt something was missing inside.

Our family was invited to Coastal by a friend, and I was hesitant at first, I was 17 and didn't really want to add anything else to my life. But I decided to come, and everything changed quickly. From the way I was welcomed to the worship and the message that day, I immediately felt at home.

Within a few weeks, I made the decision to give my life to Christ, and I've been growing in my relationship with Him ever since. I felt called to serve, starting with Saturday Serve, and today I serve in Student Ministry, Young Adults, and on the First Impressions team.

Coastal has given me some of the best friendships I could have ever prayed for and a church family I know I can depend on. This church has transformed my life spiritually, and I thank God every day for leading me here.



KAREN & STEVE LAUGHLIN

Coastal Community Church changed our lives.

Before Coastal, we were sporadic churchgoers. We visited during a LIFE Group Sunday and were immediately struck by the warmth, energy, and love we experienced. After a few more visits, we knew we had found something special - a church with strong biblical teaching, Christ-centered leadership, meaningful outreach, LIFE Groups, and a true family atmosphere.

Before coming to Coastal, I (Karen) would have described myself as a believer, but without a real relationship with God. Over the past six years, that has completely changed. Being part of Coastal - through LIFE Groups, serving, Scripture, and Christian friendships - has drawn me into a daily walk with God. My husband and I were baptized five years ago, and in that moment I knew I had been truly changed - saved and secure in Christ. I've also found a deep peace and acceptance through this church family that I had never known before.

Steve adds: Coastal Community Church changed my life as well. God

has used this church to transform our journey, and we are growing in our faith every day as true believers.



CHRISTIAN & JENNIFER WRIGHT

When you're part of such an amazing work of God, it's incredible to see what He does in your life. God's plan for our family has been beautifully woven into the fabric of Coastal Community Church, and I can't thank Him enough for planting us here. Finding Coastal wasn't some long, epic search, it felt more like a "default setting," especially since my wife used to work out with the founding pastor!

We've been members since May 2023, and since then Pastor Chris married us in 2024, we dedicated our kids, and Jen was baptized at Folly Beach. Coastal truly has everything we were looking for. Coastal Kidz has been perfect for our two girls, and the staff consistently shows the love of Christ in real and practical ways. The Bible-based messages challenge us and strengthen our faith, which is especially meaningful to me as a preacher's kid.

We've built meaningful connections with other families, and LIFE Groups

have been a huge blessing. In some of our hardest moments, from Jen's hospitalization with preeclampsia during our second child's birth to the passing of my mother, Pastor Chris and the Coastal family were there, praying for us and supporting us every step of the way.

Being planted at Coastal isn't just about joining something big, it's about being where God wants you. And when you're planted by God, you will **THRIVE**.



ANDREW & JANET HORTON

We came to Coastal looking for a place for our children, hoping they could be part of a thriving youth and children's ministry. What we found instead was a church that embraced our entire family.

We first attended a LIFE Group and immediately felt connected with others in a similar season of life. That experience gave us the courage to begin leading a LIFE Group ourselves the following semester. Since then, serving through Saturday Serve has become something our whole family looks forward to, something we do together and talk about long after.

We also came to Coastal during a difficult season, feeling hurt

and needing a fresh start. From the beginning, we were met with kindness, love, and genuine care from pastors, staff, and volunteers who walked with us through a very hard time.

When I (Andrew) recently lost my grandmother, I shared it on a Connection Card and was deeply moved by the response, prayer, encouragement, and support from the church family and pastoral team.

What began as a search for a church for our children has become a place where our whole family is known, loved, and encouraged. We are grateful for Coastal, for its leadership, and for a church that truly reaches the next generation while caring for families at every stage.

We are thankful to call Coastal our church home.



KRISTINA SANTAMAURO

Coastal has woven itself into the fabric of our family life in ways I didn't even expect. Both of my boys, Kai (12) and Nico (2), have found real community here, and I notice it every single week. Kai has built and strengthened some of his deepest friendships through Student Ministry,

and seeing my two-year-old already forming his own little connections in Coastal Kidz fills me with joy.

I also serve in Coastal Kidz, and I genuinely love being part of that space. The energy, care, and intentionality behind how it's run is unlike anything I've experienced anywhere else.

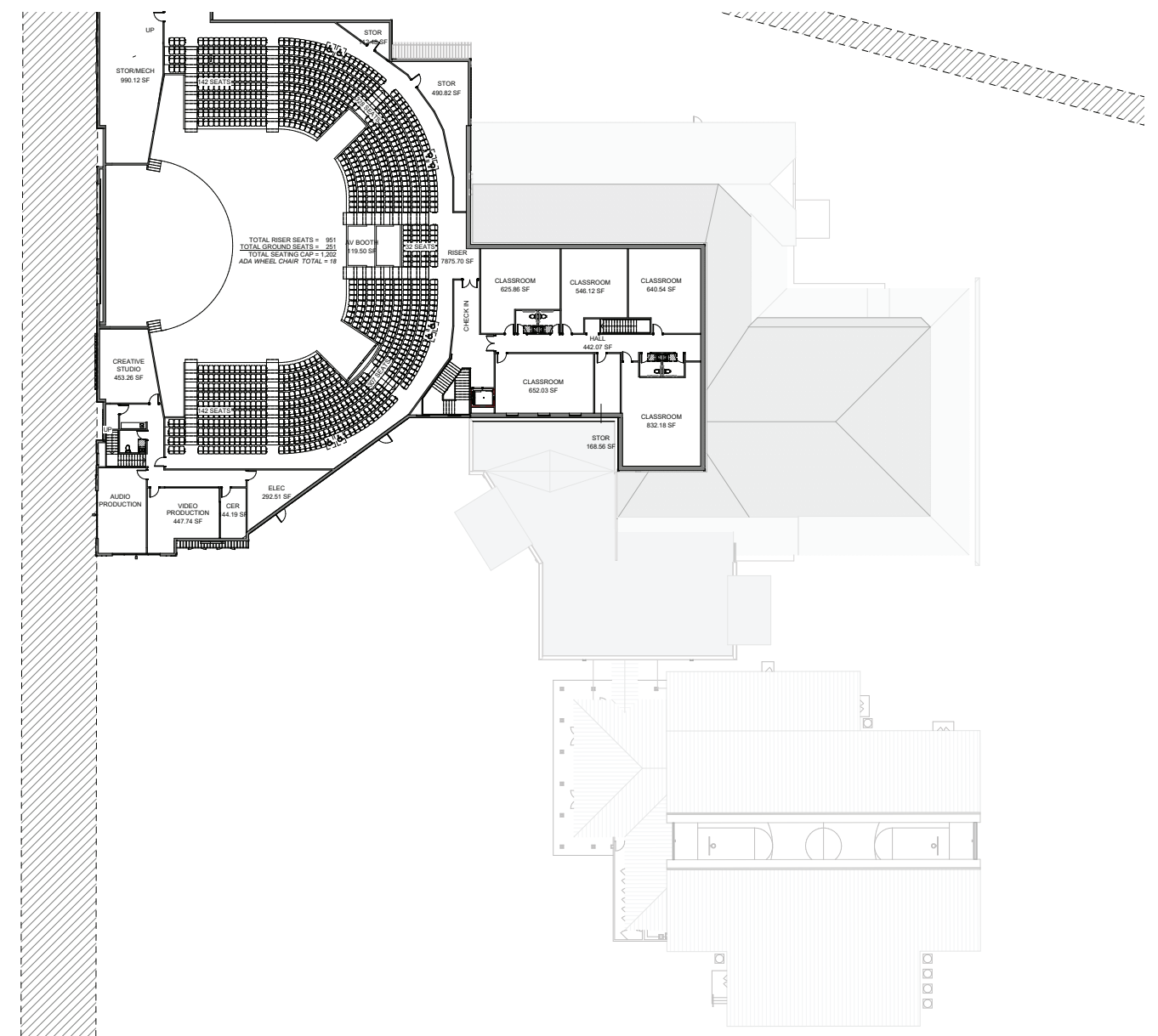
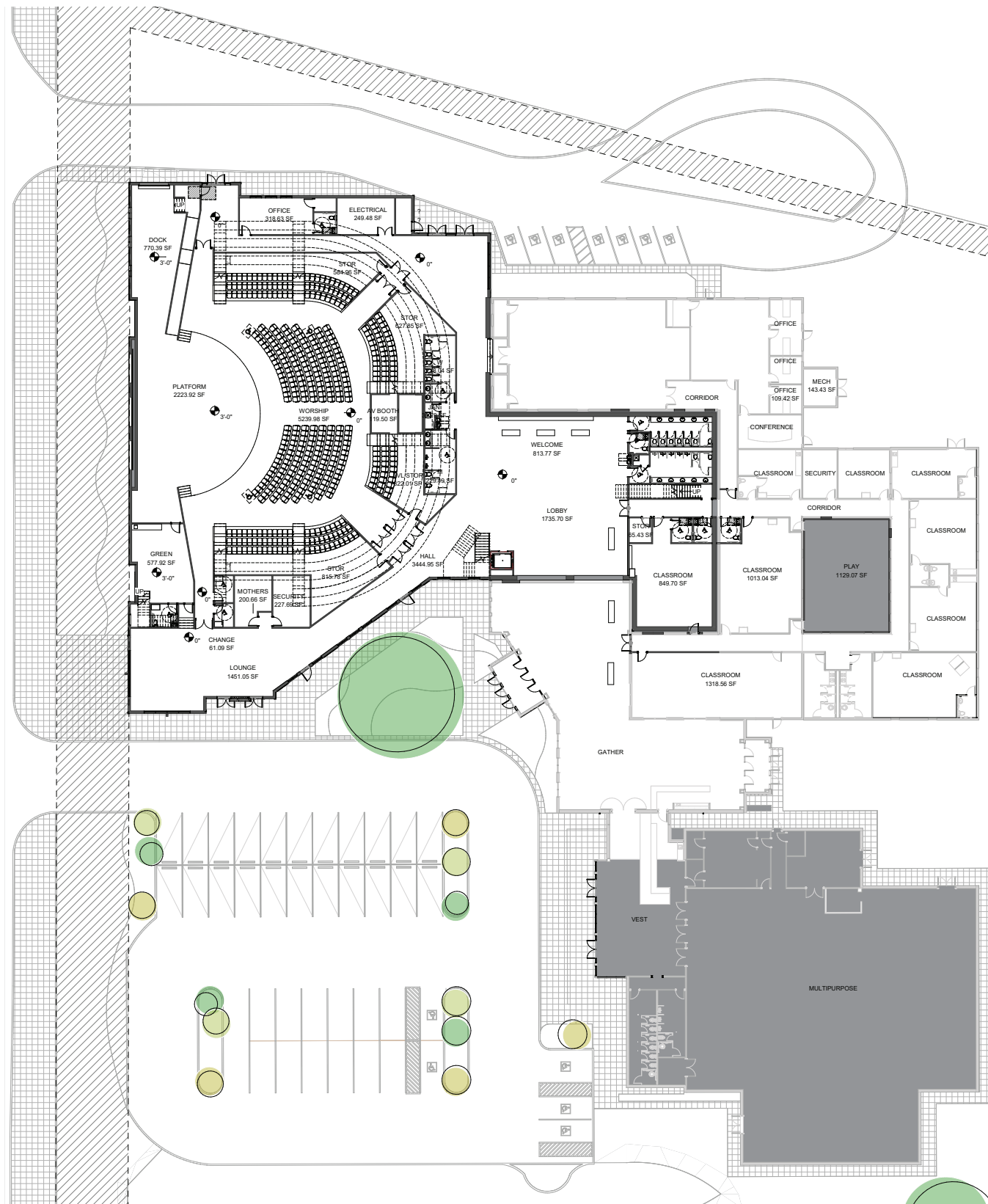
One moment that stayed with our family was attending the baptism of one of Kai's closest friends. It moved all of us deeply. Coastal has given our family a safe harbor - a place where we can exhale. In the middle of a busy, complicated life, walking through those doors brings us peace.

I'm grateful our boys are growing up rooted here, and grateful we've found a church community that is good for the whole family.

TO SHARE AND EXPERIENCE THE LIFE AND LOVE OF JESUS WITH CHARLESTON AND THE WORLD.







HOW MUCH WILL THE THRIVE PROJECT COST?

At this stage, the Thrive project is estimated to cost between \$15-\$20 million. Because we are still in the architectural design phase, the final construction drawings have not yet been completed or put out for competitive bids. Once that process is finished, we'll have a more precise cost.

As we move forward, we are committed to being wise stewards of every dollar God entrusts to us. We also remain committed to our mission beyond these walls. That's why 10% of every dollar given

through the **THRIVE** Campaign will go directly toward outreach and missions, helping us continue to meet needs, serve our community, and share the love of Jesus both locally and around the world.

Ultimately, Thrive isn't just about constructing a building. It's about creating room for more people to hear the Gospel, helping families grow in their faith, and positioning Coastal to reach future generations. Buildings are simply tools. People are the mission.



"GOOD WILL
COME TO
THOSE WHO
ARE
GENEROUS..."

Psalms 112:5 NIV



coastal community church

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