

17 ACRES PROPERTY SALE

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: How long did Custer Road UMC own the 17 acres at the corner of Custer and Legacy in Plano, Texas, and what was it used for over the years?

A: We purchased 17 acres at the corner of Custer and Legacy in 1994.

The west section of the property underwent development to create a dedicated parking lot, accommodating the overflow of vehicles during our Sunday morning worship services, serving as a location for mission trip pick up and drop off, and a variety of community-wide events (like Trunk or Treat, Movie Nights, the annual Pumpkin Patch and Garage Sale). The east portion of the property served as a versatile grass field, utilized for various purposes such as soccer practices, engaging activities for Custer Road Student Ministry and Children's Ministry events (including volleyball, gaga ball, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, and more).

Q: Why did Custer Road UMC sell the 17 acres?

A: Numerous unsolicited offers from various buyers prompted the Board of Trustees to establish a Transaction Team. This team was entrusted with the responsibility of accepting, reviewing, and evaluating these offers. Additionally, a dedicated 17 acres Vision-Strategy Team was formed to recommend the most beneficial use of the proceeds. We also sought external legal guidance to ensure the best interests of the church were represented.

Throughout this process, our aim was to diligently explore all possibilities and identify the highest and most suitable buyer for the property. We proceeded with the understanding that while God remained active and faithful in our ministry for over forty years, His guidance and wisdom would lead us towards the best outcome for our church and its mission - helping people know the love of Jesus.

The decision to sell the property went before the members of Custer Road UMC, the Board of Trustees, the Committee on Finance, Church Council, and necessary Conference Committees who voted to collectively approve and show support of the sale and usage of funds. The vote was approved via a Called Church Conference on December 13, 2020, and witnessed by the duly sworn Secretary, District Superintendent, and Senior Minister.

Q: What is the money from the sale of the property being used for?

A: In accordance with the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, proceeds from the property sale may only be used for specific purposes and explicitly may not be used for the current or future operating expenses. Following extensive deliberation and prayer, the congregation voted in December of 2020 in favor of making the following decisions regarding the utilization of these funds:

- Allocating and using 10% of the gross sales price for Mission Ministry activities of Custer Road (see details in the Offsite Mission Space FAQs)
- Allocating and using 10% of the gross sales price for the support of our permanent Church facilities as specifically stated and provided for in the Permanent Endowment
- Allocating and using gross sales proceeds necessary to extinguish all existing and outstanding church debt
- Allocating and using remaining net sales proceeds funds for capital projects that will contribute to the future growth of the church

Q: How does Custer Road handle overflow parking without the 17 acres property?

A: To accommodate overflow parking, we have a convenient parking lot directly across the street from the church. Additionally, for larger events that require even more parking space, we make use of the Guinn Special Programs Center parking lot located at the northwest corner of Custer and Legacy. To ensure seamless transportation for attendees, we provide a shuttle bus service from the Guinn Center parking lot to the church building.

