

## **Answers to Common Questions About the Building Project and Mission in Motion Fundraising Campaign**

### **Why are we looking at expanding now?**

It has been 40 years since the church was built, and no major improvements have been made. There will never be a unanimous “right time” for a building project, but based on our needs, it’s clear that improvements are long overdue. Expanding and upgrading our facilities will allow us to better fulfill the mission of St. Paul’s.

### **Who decided what would be included in the expansion plan?**

- First we looked back at the needs identified by the building committee back in 2000 when an expansion project was pursued. It turns out that most of our needs hadn’t changed that much between 2000 and 2009.
- We conducted a congregational survey and asked members to rank the needs of the church. These needs that were identified directly impacted the plans that the committee and architect constructed.
- A focus group consisting of about 35 church members was held to review the initial plans. As a result, suggestions and changes were incorporated to create the current plan which we are pursuing.

### **Is it wise to conduct a capital campaign during such uncertain economic times?**

Interestingly enough, the Church of Jesus Christ has tended to flourish during challenging times in history. Christ-followers have always believed that the Church is the hope of the world...that there is no greater enterprise on planet earth than Christ’s Church. Tough times have tended to draw God’s people back to the most important things in life. At St Paul’s, we believe in “equal sacrifice” – not “equal gifts.” In other words, people cannot give what they do not have.

Some of our families have fallen on difficult times and should not be expected to give much at this time. However, all of us have been greatly blessed by God and have all that we need and MORE. We should give back generously and joyfully to God what he has first given us for his work here at St.Paul’s. Conversely, others of us have been greatly blessed and have significant capacities to support the Mission in Motion campaign.

Practically speaking, we believe we are in the midst of a very favorable construction market. We should anticipate very competitive construction bids due to the sluggish economy. Interest rates are reasonable and delaying this project will only subject us to higher prices due to inflation.

### **Can our congregation handle a project of this cost?**

A project of this size has been completed once before by this congregation. In terms of today’s dollars, this proposed project is of the same magnitude as when the church was first built. We are relying on faith and the knowledge that “with God all things are possible” to guide us through this process and bring us success so that we can better fulfill the mission of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church.

## **We're not able to meet our current operating budget. How are we going to be able to increase and maintain giving when we add a mortgage and increased operating costs to the budget?**

It is true that giving will need to increase. The congregation will not only need to support the current budget along with building project, but also support future budget items such as increased maintenance costs, debt service and operating costs. Additionally a new building with the facilities and amenities that people are looking for in a church will attract new families to help share the load.

## **How does my response to the Mission in Motion campaign affect my support of current expenses and benevolence?**

It shouldn't. Contributions will be separate from, and in addition to, regular ongoing giving to support annual ministries and operating expenses. It is important that current levels of giving be maintained.

## **How will I be contacted for my pledge response?**

All member families of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church will receive a Mission in Motion packet. It will be available in the church narthex at the kick-off event on May 3rd, after the Thursday service on May 7th, or mailed. (Check the church bulletin for additional sessions.) The packet contains materials needed to return your completed Financial Commitment Form.

If we don't hear back from you, someone from the committee will contact you. In addition, if you would like to schedule a personal visit to discuss the project and your contribution, please contact one of the committee members. We are also available to hold sessions with specific church groups upon request. You'll find contact information on the next page.

## **How long will my commitment continue?**

Unless otherwise arranged, the giving period is for three years beginning May 3, 2009 through May 2012. Gifts can be given in a variety of ways, however. Immediate or advance gifts to help us cover shortfalls are greatly appreciated.

## **What happens at the end of the three-year commitment period?**

In three years, church leadership will reevaluate our congregation's financial situation based on the total costs of the building project and the amount of money borrowed.

## **What if my financial situation changes, or I move out of the area before I have completed my gift?**

We understand that circumstances can change. If you find that you wish to pay up, increase, decrease or cancel your Mission in Motion commitment, please contact Pastor Brian Staude.

## **I'm confused about what fund to contribute to. Should my contributions go to the Building Fund?**

There has been some confusion among our members regarding the "building fund", "Mission in Motion fund", and the "Feasibility Fund". As we begin our fund raising drive we would like everyone to know that from this point forward, the "Building Fund", the "Mission in Motion fund", and the "Feasibility Fund" are one and the same. All gifts to the "building fund" will therefore be understood to mean a gift for the future expansion of the church. Any member can continue to make a gift to our existing facilities by designating the gift for a specific purpose.

## **How can I decide what to give?**

First of all, pray, pray and pray! Let the Lord have his way in your finances. Then read carefully all the materials we provide for you. We commit ourselves to giving you accurate, relevant information to assist you in your decision-making. Plan on giving a gift that is born out of faith...big enough to stretch you and take your breath away. This is the only way to fully feel the joy of giving and growing in Christ.

You can fulfill your commitment by making gift installments weekly, monthly or yearly using either your giving envelopes or Simply Giving. The following table may be helpful in planning your pledge. It shows how gifts can grow in size over a three-year period. Even just sacrificing one meal out a week can really add up.

My weekly gift of:	Amounts to an annual gift of:	Amounts to a 3-year gift of:
\$150	\$7800	\$23,400
100	5200	15,600
75	3900	11,700
50	2600	7800
40	2080	6240
30	1560	4680
25	1300	3900
20	1040	3120
15	780	2340
10	520	1560
5	260	780

*Wherever your  
treasure is,  
there your heart and  
thoughts will also be.  
Luke 12:34*

**May I give stocks, real estate, insurance or other gifts in kind, in addition to cash gifting?**

Absolutely! For many people, appreciated assets or non-cash resources are a wise way to fund a gift to charity. Legal consultation is recommended.

**When the fundraising period is complete, what is the next step?**

Once the pledge period is complete, a special congregational meeting will be held to gain authorization to move forward with the project. If the congregation feels that not enough money has been raised to move forward with the project, we could consider reworking the plan, or postponing the project. If the campaign progresses as hoped, ground breaking may be able to take place in the spring of 2010.

**Who can I contact to talk about the project and/or my contribution?**

***The Building Feasibility Committee***

Joy Carlson	684-4523	<a href="mailto:rjazz321@aol.com">rjazz321@aol.com</a>
David Dahleen	683-9057	<a href="mailto:djmjd0822@sbcglobal.net">djmjd0822@sbcglobal.net</a>
Bill Lamberg	683-3311	<a href="mailto:william.lamberg@axa-advisors.com">william.lamberg@axa-advisors.com</a>
Bruce Peters	682-7525	<a href="mailto:bruce.peters@uwc.edu">bruce.peters@uwc.edu</a>
Tom Reed	684-1360	<a href="mailto:twreed4u@sbcglobal.net">twreed4u@sbcglobal.net</a>
Lynn Retzak	684-9053	<a href="mailto:gretzak@milwpc.com">gretzak@milwpc.com</a>
Teresa Satori	684-1891	<a href="mailto:satori5@comcast.net">satori5@comcast.net</a>
Don Vogt	684-9392	<a href="mailto:revogt@att.net">revogt@att.net</a>
Linda Wallander	684-7132	<a href="mailto:guitarumpire@hotmail.com">guitarumpire@hotmail.com</a>