

# Campaign Newsletter

## St. Luke the Evangelist Parish

1102 NW Weigel Dr., Ankeny, IA 50023

515-964-1278 www.slte.org

Volume 1:3

March 2018



### A Message From Fr. Larry



I was thrilled to see nearly 50 parishioners participate in the Capital Campaign volunteer organization meeting on Tuesday, February 20. The level of support and enthusiasm about our parish and the campaign is exciting. For those

who have volunteered so far, thank you for your willingness to serve and invest your time and talent in this worthwhile effort. If you would like to join this effort by sharing your time and talent with us, contact Jenifer Mulcahy in the office.

There are other important ways you can participate in this campaign:

**Attend a campaign event:** See page 3 for the dates of upcoming events. These events will be an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments about the campaign, and to meet other members. You will not be asked to make a commitment at these events.

**Keep informed:** Campaign newsletters will be coming to you on a regular basis. Please read them. If you have questions, call Jenifer Mulcahy in the office.

**Pray:** Please remember in your prayers St. Luke and all those who make up our faith family. Please also consider regularly praying the Campaign prayer found on this page. The campaign is about prayer. It is about community. It is about making an investment in our parish's shared commitment to worship, teach and care. Over the years, I have seen your faith in action. Today I see your desire to make this campaign happen, and I believe you will succeed. Please know that I will continue to pray for all of you and for the success of all your endeavors to love and serve God and neighbor.

Peace,

Fr. Larry Hoffmann  
Pastor

### *Saint Luke the Evangelist's Capital Campaign Prayer*

*Loving Father, help us thankfully remember the past, plan for the future, and build for today. Jesus, walk with us, be our strength and guide, unite our sacrifices to yours. Holy Spirit, grant us wisdom, generosity, and perseverance to build God's kingdom. Blessed Mother, we place our hopes and petitions in your arms as you present them to your Son. Saint Luke, patron saint of our parish family, pray for us. Amen.*

### Steering Committee Approves Prayer & Logo

Over 25 members on the Campaign Steering Committee met for the first of four meetings to direct the campaign and to ensure that it reflects the needs and culture of our parish.

The Campaign Spiritual Formation Team composed and recommended a campaign prayer that will guide us through the campaign. The Steering Committee approved the prayer and thanked the team for their work. (See prayer to the right.) The prayer will be recited at Masses and during church meetings. Families are encouraged to recite the prayer in their homes. It is important that

all of us keep prayer at the center of this campaign. We want the campaign to be as much a spiritual effort as it is a financial one. Also approved was a children's campaign prayer (Page 2). This prayer will be used in our children's RE and school programs and the children are encouraged to pray it at home.

The goal for our campaign was set at \$1,500,000. This is a very ambitious goal for a parish our size. The recent feasibility study indicated that we had about a 30% chance of raising this

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## Steering Committee Continued from page 1

amount with a quality campaign based in prayer, large member involvement, and good information provided to parishioners.

The Public Relations Team recommended a campaign logo and, after good discussion, the committee approved it. The logo appears in the newsletter masthead on page one and will accompany all campaign communications.

The committee made some very valuable suggestions for the Dialogue Events Team. The team's task is to provide opportunities for parishioners to meet with parish leadership to hear in more detail the parish plans, to ask questions and to raise concerns. See page 3 for more information on future events.

## Did You Know?

**Because of YOUR generosity,** St. Luke has regularly committed 10% of your tithing to assist others in the community. There are very few parishes that commit this much of their budget to helping others. Here is a list of organizations that received a gift from us in 2017.

Ankeny Ministerial Assoc.  
Ankeny Police Department (Emergency Fund for travelers)  
Ankeny Service Center  
Biking For Babies  
Birthright  
Bread for the World  
Catholic Charities,  
Refugee Resettlement  
Program  
Catholic Relief Services  
Center for Social  
Ministry  
Creative Visions  
Diocese of Des Moines  
DMARC  
Easter Seals  
Habitat for Humanity  
Hands Together  
House of Mercy  
InnerVisions Health  
Care  
JE  
Joppa Outreach  
Mary's Meals  
Meals from the Heartland  
Mosaic in Des Moines  
NAMI of Greater Des Moines  
Passageway  
Project Fresh Start  
Red Cloud Indian School  
Ruth Harbor  
Sisters of St. Francis Water Project  
St. Joseph's Emergency Family Shelter  
St. Vincent de Paul



This list doesn't include the hundreds of volunteer hours parishioners contribute around the community, help those in need.

## Children's Campaign Prayer

Loving Father,  
I love you with all my heart  
and I know you are with me.  
Jesus, please help Saint Luke's parish family  
to do your will.  
Holy Spirit, lead us to care for others.  
Mother Mary, bring our prayers to your Son.  
Saint Luke, pray for us. Amen

## Campaign Q&A

### **Q: What happens to the mobile classrooms if we add classrooms to our school?**

This will depend upon how many classrooms we build. If we raise the entire \$4.9 million, we will be able to build all 10 classrooms and sell the mobile classrooms. If we do not reach our goal and are unable to build all 10 classrooms, then we will assess the results of our fundraising and make a decision on how to utilize the mobile classrooms.

### **Q: Where will the future permanent church be located?**

The permanent church is part of a future phase of our long-range plan. It is currently being considered off the east end of the current worship space toward Weigel Drive. The current worship space will then become our parish hall.

### **Q: What is our current parish debt and how will it be managed?**

We have a 25-year adjustable loan that adjusts every five years. The current interest rate is 2.98% and we have 23 years left on the loan that totals \$5.6 million. Currently we pay \$14,000 a month for interest and this money comes from our regular operating budget. We pay \$14,000 in principal payments each month and this money comes from funds from the first campaign that has approximately \$800,000 remaining in it and should last about 5 years. If we continue to grow at 100 families a year, we will double in size and we anticipate in five years, our operating budget should be able to handle both the principal and interest payments on the loan.

### **Q: Will we go further in debt with Phase II of our building plan?**

No, we will not borrow funds for Phase II. We will only spend what we are able to raise.

### **Q: Will our school eventually expand to a K-12 grade system?**

No. The Diocese is responsible for making any decisions regarding a Catholic High School. St. Luke's is a feeder school into Dowling High School and there are no plans for another high school.

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## You're Invited to a Campaign Event Designed for You!

Would you like to share your ideas regarding the future of our parish and school? Do you have questions regarding the Capital Campaign or would you like to learn more about Campaign 2018? If so, the Events & Dialogue team would like to invite you to attend one of the following social events:

March 19<sup>th</sup> at Fenders in Polk City – 7 PM  
March 24<sup>th</sup> at Café Diem in Ankeny – 9:30 AM  
March 27<sup>th</sup> at Fenders in Polk City – 7 PM



All adult members of the parish are invited to attend one event. Beverages & light snacks will be provided at each event, and we encourage you to invite your friends!

This is a wonderful opportunity to not only socialize with other members of the parish, but to also discuss the tremendous growth happening within all different aspects of our parish and school!

To ensure there is room for everyone, please only sign up for the event you wish to attend by contacting Mike Roarty at 303-717-9826 or [jmroarty@outlook.com](mailto:jmroarty@outlook.com) to register or for questions.

Mark your calendar so you won't miss it. You MUST sign up 24 hours before the event.

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to bring our community together during these events! We look forward to seeing each & every one of you and continuing to work together to make St. Luke's parish and school a place where

*We Worship We Teach We Care!*

*"When we moved to Ankeny five years ago, we were excited to hear that Ankeny had a brand new parish! As a graduate of St. Pius X Grade School and Dowling High School, it was extremely important to me to provide my children with a Catholic education. Within a short time of joining St. Luke's, we began meeting families who also had a desire for strong relationships within their Church. St. Luke's is not only where we worship, but where we socialize, learn and grow."*  
Marcus and Nicol Jones with Gianna and Dominic



### Have 1-2 Hours to Share with the Campaign?

The **Calling Team** is looking for members to help make phone calls. The tasks of the Calling Team are to check to see if everyone received a commitment packet, to answer questions and to remind parishioners to bring their commitment card with them on Commitment Weekend. Volunteers will be trained and then asked to make 10-15 phone calls between May 15 and 30. If you want to help with phone calls, please contact Jenifer Mulcahy in the parish office.



St. Luke has a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest in yourself through the resources that God has given you – your energy, your prayers, and your money – in this work to which God has called us.



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church & School  
1102 NW Weigel Dr.  
Ankeny, IA 50023

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Our Campaign  
Commitment Weekend is  
June 2 & 3, 2018

### Campaign Q&A Continued from page 3

**Q: What is the current number of parish households who contribute to the operating budget or offertory each year?**

We currently have 516 registered families. Around 59% of those parish households contribute to our operating budget. The national average is around 50% of households contribute to their church.

**Q: What is the status of the Senior Living Center?**

The Senior Living Center is part of our parish long-range plan. When the Ringgenbergs donated the land to St. Luke's, part of the land was to be used for a Senior Living Center. The Ringgenbergs also donated adjacent land to the Diocese. The donor wanted to have the land used to assist seniors in the Ankeny area. Currently, St. Luke is in discussion with a consortium made up of the Diocese, Catholic Charities, Bishop Drumm, and the Catholic Health Association (Mercy Hospital) to draft a plan that will honor the wishes of the Ringgenbergs and serve seniors. St. Luke and the consortium have met a couple of times and two more meetings are scheduled. These discussions are ongoing and may take time since there are so many parties involved. There currently is no timeline for constructing the center or centers.

**Q: May I contribute non-cash gifts to the campaign?**

Yes. You may consider donating cars, crops, land, or other items of value. Contributing stocks, bonds, and mutual funds that have been held for at least a year and have appreciated provide special tax advantages. Donors will receive a tax deduction for the full market value of the gift, but you will not have to pay capital gains tax on the appreciated amount. If you sell depreciated stock and contribute the proceeds to the parish, you will receive both a tax deduction for the gift and a deduction for the capital loss. Please consult your tax advisor or accountant to determine the best way to make a donation and take advantage of your tax savings.

**Q: When will we be asked to make a financial commitment to the campaign?**

Commitment Weekend is June 2 & 3. Parishioners are asked to spend time in prayer, seeking God's guidance in determining how to share the gifts God has shared with you, with St. Luke. In mid May, commitment packets will be available to each household and we ask that your commitment cards be returned on or before June 2 & 3.