



# Campaign Newsletter

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish

1102 NW Weigel Dr., Ankeny, IA 50023

515-964-1278 [www.slte.org](http://www.slte.org)

Volume 1:5

May 2018

## A Message From Fr. Larry



Saint Teresa of Calcutta visited Australia. A new recruit to the monastery in Australia was assigned to be her guide and “gofer” during her stay. The

young man was so thrilled and excited at the prospect of being so close to this special woman. He dreamed of how much he would learn from her and what they would talk about. But during her visit, he became frustrated. Although he was constantly near her, he never had the opportunity to say one word to St. Teresa. There were always other people for her to meet. Finally, her tour was over, and she was due to fly to New Guinea. In desperation, the friar had his opportunity to speak to St. Teresa. He said to her, “If I pay my own fare to New Guinea, can I sit next to you on the plane so I can talk to you and learn from you?” St. Teresa looked at him. “You have enough money to pay airfare to New Guinea?” she asked. “Oh, yes,” he replied eagerly. “Then give that money to the poor,” she said.

“You’ll learn more from that than anything I can tell you.” The problem was the young man wanted to experience a feeling when he needed to simply learn by doing. Dear friends, throughout this campaign, my prayer has been that we, as a community, build a culture of generosity where all of us become more generous with our time, talent, and treasure. This story illustrates it so well. If we want to be better stewards of God’s gifts, we must learn by giving these precious resources away. On Commitment Weekend, June 2 & 3, you will be asked to make an investment in our faith community to ensure that we continue to be a source of encouragement, faith, and God’s love to the world. Join Fr. Adam and me in making a commitment to the **Growing Together, Building in Faith Campaign.**

Peace,

**Fr. Larry Hoffmann**

### *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.*

## What is the vision for our parish?

- St. Luke the Evangelist Parish is a collection of people that God has brought together by design to be good stewards and to build God’s Kingdom on earth.
- What is a good steward? A good steward is one who recognizes, through prayer, that everything we possess is a gift from God. Then we are called, through our Baptism, to use our individual and collective gifts to build God’s Kingdom.
- Our vision for St. Luke’s is a parish of stewards, using the gifts that God has given us to build His Kingdom. We use our ministries, programs and facilities to strengthen each other and then we are sent out into the world, bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ and God’s Kingdom.

## Imagine...

- ♦ *Imagine our children and youth having the appropriate space to explore their faith and equip them with the necessary tools to approach the changing world.*
- ♦ *Imagine adults coming together for meetings and to explore their faith in a setting that is conducive to good discussion, reflection and prayer.*
- ♦ *Imagine a worship space that is large enough for everyone to find a place and to feel welcome and a part of our community.*
- ♦ *Imagine a facility that communicates that St. Luke the Evangelist Parish is looking forward as a people of God, embracing a future that is inspiring and life-giving.*
- ♦ *Imagine our parish family being truly a stewardship parish, using our collective gifts to bring about God’s Kingdom starting here in Ankeny and expanding to the whole world.*

## Now is the Time to Invest in the Future of Our Faith Community

Our additional space will allow us to embrace more people into our community and into our mission to build God's Kingdom. Your financial commitment to our *Growing Together – Building in Faith Campaign* is an investment in God's Kingdom.

Don and Charlene Lamberti are offering to match every dollar raised by the parish up to \$1 million.



## How Much Are We Being Asked to Invest in Our Faith Community?

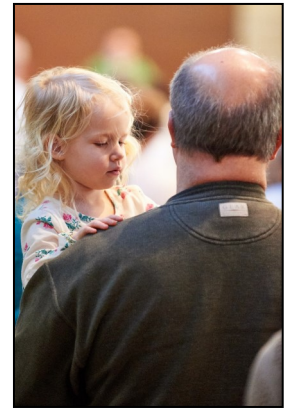
Each person or family is asked to make an equal sacrifice — not an equal commitment. While there is no set amount, we suggest that each household consider committing five percent (5%) of its total annual family income each year for the three years of the campaign.

consider a five percent (5%) gift from household assets (e.g. investments, savings, real property, retirement funds, etc.), offered either in a lump-sum gift or spread over the three years of the campaign.

For those on limited or fixed incomes, we suggest that you

To help you discern your level of commitment, we provide the following chart:

5% Investment Chart				
Monthly Income	Weekly Pledge	Monthly Pledge	Annual Pledge	Total 3-Year Pledge
\$500	\$6	\$25	\$300	\$900
\$1,000	\$12	\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$2,000	\$23	\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$3,000	\$35	\$150	\$1,800	\$5,400
\$5,000	\$58	\$250	\$3,000	\$9,000
\$7,000	\$81	\$350	\$4,200	\$12,600
\$10,000	\$115	\$500	\$6,000	\$18,000
\$15,000	\$173	\$750	\$9,000	\$27,000



Please note: Your contributions to our capital campaign are to be in addition to your regular tithing to the church. Your regular tithing supports St. Luke's vital programs and ministries.

## Update on Our 2013 Together We Build Campaign

The end of our **Together We Build Campaign** is June. We are getting close to collecting the total amount committed in 2013. We ask parishioners to do what they can to complete their commitments by June 1. If you need more time or if you need to change your level of commitment, just call Jenifer in the parish office. She would be happy to make any changes to your commitment you need.

**For those who fulfill their commitment to the 2013 campaign,** St. Luke's would like to recognize your sacrifice by including your name on a permanent display that will be prominently displayed in our parish. The display may be a donor tree or a stained glass window. You may request that your name not be displayed if you wish. Just let the office know.



The Campaign Steering Committee has set the parishioner goal for the campaign at \$1.5 million.

# Campaign Q & A

**Q: It appears that the priority of the money raised is going toward the school. Is this true?**

It depends upon how much money parishioners contribute to the campaign. The goal is for the parishioners to contribute \$1.5 million to the campaign. The first \$1 million raised will be matched by the Lambertis, bringing us to a possible total of \$2.5 million. It appears that the school is being favored because the Lamberis have requested that their \$1 million go directly to the school. Since we plan to spend only the first \$1.5 of the total raised on the school, of which, \$1 million is the Lamberti's money, this means only \$500,000 of the money parishioners contribute will go to the school. The remaining \$1 million of the money raised by the parish is going to the church and parking. Everything we receive over the \$1.5 million in parish contributions will go to the school and additional parking.



**Q: Can I change my level of commitment if I need to?**

Yes. Just call Jenifer in the parish office and request a change at any time.

**Q: Can I donate non-cash gifts?**

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: Will the new additions look like what we saw in the video or in the last newsletter?**

The images used in the video and newsletter were provided to give us an idea of what the space COULD look

like. As more details become available, we will share them with the parish. The locations of the additions are close to where the additions will end up.

**Q: What is the financial condition of the parish?**

In general, the parish is doing OK. This year, we budgeted giving of \$260,000 to conclude our Phase I campaign and \$560,000 to support our parish operating budget through tithing. So far, tithing is behind the budget, and parish staff are managing expenses very tightly to minimize the impact to parishioners. These are the budgeted expenses:

- ◆ \$200,000 for running the parish – salaries, utilities, maintenance
- ◆ \$175,000 for interest portion of the mortgage
- ◆ \$175,000 to principal – currently a \$5.5M balance (This is paid out of our capital campaign funds)
- ◆ \$135,000 for parish's support of the school
- ◆ \$50,000 for parish's support of Faith Formation & Religious Education

**Q: When can we start construction of Phase II?**

The diocese requires that we have at least 50% of the money needed collected and the other 50% committed.

**Q: Will we get rid of the mobile classrooms in Phase II?**

If we raise the total needed, \$4.9 million, then we sell the mobile classrooms. The city has issued us a 5-year permit for the mobile classrooms.

**Q: When do we start our contributions to the campaign?**

You will have three years to complete your commitment starting the first of June 2018.

**Q: What happens if we only raise \$2.5 million?**

To complete the entire Phase II project, we will need to raise a total of \$4.9 million. With this amount, we can construct an additional 10 classrooms which will prepare us for the anticipated growth through the 2025 school year. If we only raise \$2.5 million, we will complete as much of the Phase II expansion as our funds allow. We will not go further into debt. However, we will eventually need to build the remaining classrooms for our growing school and RE program.

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*“As Christian stewards,  
we receive God’s gifts gratefully,  
cultivate them responsibly, share them  
lovingly in justice with others, and  
return them with increase to the Lord.”*

**STEWARDSHIP:**  
*A DISCIPLE’S RESPONSE* from the USCCB



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

**Q & A** Continued from page 3

**Q: Will we need to do more capital campaigns?**

Eventually, we will need to raise money for our permanent church that is planned just to the east of our current church. No timetable has been set for the permanent church. We will wait until the parish grows to the size necessary to afford a new church.

If we can't raise the total of \$4.9 million needed to complete all of Phase II in this campaign, we may possibly need to consider another campaign in the near future.

**Q: How will we measure the success of our campaign?**

We will judge our success by:

1. The amount of money raised to fund Phase II of our parish long-range expansion plan.
2. How well we have enhanced our parish's sense of community.
3. Parishioners' understanding and practice of the transformative power of stewardship.

**Include Your Children in the Commitment Decision**

Determining your level of commitment to the campaign is a big decision. For some, it will be the largest gift of money they will have ever made. It is important to include the entire family in the decision process. Talk with your children about why you want to participate in the campaign and invite them to do something special to participate, remembering that all that we have is a gift from God and we are called to use our gifts to make the world a better place.

**The Campaign is on Our Webpage and Facebook**

Visit our parish webpage for more information about the campaign and Phase II. Go to: [SLTE.org](http://SLTE.org) and click on the campaign logo on the right. Follow the campaign on Facebook by searching: St. Luke the Evangelist Capital Campaign.

**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 go through a 90-minute training on **May 15 at 6:30** and then are asked to make 10-15 phone calls between May 24 and June 1. If you want to help with phone calls, please contact Jenifer in the parish office.

