

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Special Voter's Meeting - Thursday, March 23 @ 6:30 pm
Capital Campaign for Ministry Expansion**

Frequently Asked Questions

The Mission of St. Paul

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School are dedicated to the mission of making disciples by **Equipping Every Generation to Live Rooted in Jesus**. Since 1851, the congregation of St. Paul has been faithful to this mission throughout every decade of our journey together. We are committed to building on that past as we look ahead to an exciting future. The mission stays the same, while the people, opportunities, and means are ever changing.

What is a Capital Campaign?

A capital campaign is a strategic fundraising effort that aims to raise funding to help support a large project. At St. Paul Lutheran we recognize that we have a need to expand our current facility to meet the needs of our school community and church ministries. A capital campaign does not replace annual tithing, rather aims to receive additional first fruit giving. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8: "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

What are our Facility Expansion Needs?

Space is at a premium at St. Paul for both school and church ministries. Enrollment in our Christian Day School has nearly doubled in grades K-8 in the past 15 years. Additional classes cannot be added due to all rooms being used, including non-traditional spaces such as the Family Life Center, Youth Room, Library and Undercroft. Available space for board meetings, small groups, Bible studies and congregational social events is also limited.

How Has School Enrollment Increased Over the Past 15 Years?

School Year	PreK Enrollment	K-8 Enrollment	Total Enrollment
2008-09	98 students	174 students	272 students
2011-12	93 students	170 students	263 students
2015-16*	84 students	209 students	293 students
2017-18	79 students	231 students	310 students
2020-21**	69 students	245 students	314 students
2021-22	83 students	272 students	355 students
2022-23	87 students	282 students	369 students

*Year Grafton School District started 4K program **First full school year of COVID

When Did Discussions of Building Expansion Begin?

In 2019, individual boards and Church Council were informed the school was running out of space as enrollment increased. At that time, Church Council approved the creation of a Building Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee includes the principal (Michael Yurk), vice principal (Dauna Werner), chairperson of the Board of Parish Properties (James Lindsay), Director of Finance (Jason Hasenstein) and three congregational members (Dave Scherzer, Wayne Wiertzema, David Schmidt - all present or former Board/Council members). This Committee began meeting in late 2019. Throughout the past four years, this Committee has met with Groth Design Group and Catalyst Construction to create conceptual drawings and to estimate price points for an expansion project that would meet the needs of the congregation and school.

What May Happen if we Don't Expand our Facility at this Time?

There are three realities for St. Paul if we choose not to expand our facility at this time: 1) built in the 1950s, the South Wing is in need of repairs, including the roof flooring, window replacement and upgrades to the heating and air conditioning systems; 2) additional enrollment numbers will continue to be frozen due to lack of classroom space; and 3) additional church ministry opportunities will need to be postponed until more space is made available.

How Does a Building Expansion Align with St. Paul's Mission and Ministries?

The mission of St. Paul is to glorify God and make disciples by equipping every generation to live rooted in Jesus. An expansion will allow PreK classrooms to be repurposed for church ministries, additional meeting space and ministry activities. The two rooms on the south side of the Family Life Center could transform into one larger room with a portable partition to accommodate large and small groups.

Have Building Plans and Costs Been Finalized?

No. We have conceptual drawings with price estimates of what an expansion project might cost. Final plans would be created after the congregation determines the level of financial commitment that can be raised through a capital campaign and the extent of long-term financing that may be necessary.

How Do We Successfully Run a Capital Campaign?

Traditionally a consulting firm is hired to run a larger capital campaign. From the congregation's previous experience, a capital campaign includes multiple phases and requires volunteers from the church and school. It is important to recognize that while pastoral and school leadership participate in the campaign, they need to continue their focus on the daily ministries of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School. The campaign will likely run for two to three years. Further, a consulting firm will possess the knowledge and expertise to help us most effectively communicate the campaign's case throughout our congregation, including how a ministry expansion fits into the larger vision of Christ's work among us.

What are the Next Steps for the Congregation to Take?

At the Special Voters Meeting on March 23, the Voters Assembly will discuss and vote on whether to move forward with a capital campaign. The congregation is invited to join in prayer over the Special Voters Meeting and the decision of undertaking a capital campaign. In all things, we seek to know and do God's will for our congregation as we continue to minister to families in our church, school and community. Jeremiah 29:12: Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen.

If a Capital Campaign is Approved, What Does a Potential Timeline Look Like for the Capital Campaign and Building Expansion?

The timeline for a capital campaign and building expansion will span several years and involve coordination among many parties. Assuming the Voters Assembly approves the leadership at St. Paul to move forward with a capital campaign at the Special Voters Meeting on March 23, below is an approximate timeline for the ministry expansion campaign:

Process	Estimated Timeline
Engage consulting firm to assist with the capital campaign	April 2023
Design and prepare for the capital campaign	April through June 2023
Capital campaign public launch and information phase	July through September 2023
Celebrate and acknowledge capital campaign commitments	October 2023
Formally engage architect and construction firms	November 2023
Architect begins preparing drafts of construction plans, specifications, and drawings	November 2023
Building Committee works with architect to tailor construction plans to meet specific building needs in coordination with total available amount committed in the capital campaign	December 2023 through April 2024
Construction plans, specifications, and drawings are finalized	April / May 2024
Construction work begins	June 2024
Construction work completed	June 2025
Occupy and furnish new space	July 2025
Open and celebrate new space to public and prepare for new school year	August 2025

The above process and estimated timeline is provided solely for sake of illustration. No binding plans or actions have been entered or committed by St. Paul leadership at this time.

How May I Learn More about the Capital Campaign or Ministry Expansion?

To learn more about the capital campaign and ministry expansion, please attend the Special Voters Meeting on March 23. You may also contact members of the Building Committee, listed above.

