



FORWARD

Growing in Christ



St. Lucas Lutheran





*T*hey experienced the sorrow of Jesus' death. They felt the joy of his rising from the grave. They observed the triumph of his ascent into heaven. They participated in the excitement of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. How would the first Christians move forward from all this?

God's Word tells us, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:42,47 NIV). They spent their time in worship, listening to the apostles' teaching, which is the word of God, praying, and breaking bread, which describes the Lord's Supper. They valued spending time together with their fellow believers, enjoying their Christian fellowship. As they continued in worship and fellowship, the Lord blessed the church with more believers.

Our church moves forward the same way today. We gather for worship, hearing the Word of God, praying for all people, and administering the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. We treasure the time we spend together as brothers and sisters in Christ. We rejoice as the Lord expands our spiritual family, bringing more people to faith in Jesus. We move forward as Christ's church.

*I*t. Lucas Lutheran Church is committed to moving forward as a congregation that is "always inviting, always edifying, and always equipping." A new church building will help us realize this vision. In the next few years, with the Lord's blessing, we will move into a new worship facility, where we will gather around the Word and Sacraments, join in fellowship, and reach out to our community. As one of our donors said, "I want my church to be a place people are happy to go."

FORWARD»»
in Christ

FORWARD»»
together

FORWARD»»
to our neighbors





FORWARD » in Christ

The design of the sanctuary emphasizes the truth that Christ is the focus of worship. The pulpit, from which the Word of God is proclaimed, the baptismal font where people are made children of God through water and the Word, and the altar from which Jesus' body and blood are distributed in bread and wine, are at the center. God's people will not only gather around the Word and Sacraments spiritually, but here we will also gather around them physically, with the seats arranged around the chancel. The stained glass window above the altar proclaims that "only one thing is needed," the gospel of Jesus.

- **Sanctuary built for Lutheran Worship** — for Word and Sacrament, congregation participation, and music
- **Worship space welcoming for all** — no steps required, accessible restrooms, a room for parent and children
- **Future Ministry Space** — on the lower level to be finished later



FORWARD»» *together*

We grow in our relationship with Christ and with each other in our worship services. The time we spend together before and after services strengthens the bond we have with our spiritual family, too. We will have plenty of space to stand and visit, sit and talk, enjoy food and drink, and not have to feel that we are in anyone's way. A family lounge provides a place to hold private conversations or a private room for grieving family members at a funeral. In time, a dining area may be added on the lower level, with a beautiful patio for all kinds of gatherings.

- ▶ **Gathering Space** — plenty of room to visit with your brothers and sisters in Christ before and after worship
- ▶ **Future Dining Area** — on the lower level, a room for meals following special services with walk out access to a patio overlooking the river





FORWARD»» *to our neighbors*

At a workshop years ago, a member of our congregation commented, “We are a friendly church. We just don’t have space to show it.” Our new facility is planned with our guests in mind. The gathering space has plenty of room for greeters to welcome visitors. Guests who would like to have a conversation with the pastor before or after the service will have space to do so. Those who join the family and friends at funerals will no longer need to walk down two flights of stairs to use the restroom. Couples and bridal parties will have bright spaces to prepare for their wedding services.

- **Worship Facility** — welcoming to our guests before, during and after services
- **Guest Friendly Spaces** — to show Christian love for our neighbors on holidays and services such as weddings and funerals





FORWARD »» *for years to come!*

Our *Forward* campaign officially launches the weekend of January 22. As a congregation we will return our commitment cards on the weekend of February 19. The goal of our campaign is to raise \$800,000 to fund this important step, constructing a building in which we will carry out the gospel ministry for years to come. Offerings to fulfill commitments can be contributed through March of 2025.

What comes next?

The Church Building Coordinating Task Force has been working with architects from Groth Design Group and construction managers from Catalyst Construction. Together that have produced the conceptual plan you see depicted in this brochure. The plans take into account the current needs of the congregation and the anticipated funding that would be available.

The next step is to begin detailed architectural plans, followed by the bidding process, and receiving the necessary construction permits. A construction date depends on the success of this capital campaign.



Q&A

Is the new church going to look like these pictures?

The pictures are based plans that give a general idea of what the church will look like. Specific decisions on finishes, furnishings, and equipment will be made as final plans are developed.

What is the seating capacity?

As currently designed, the seating capacity is 210, with every seat occupied. Rearranging the seating could raise that capacity to 250. Though the pictures show chairs for seating, the sanctuary could include pews, chairs, or a combination of each. The sanctuary will be constructed so that it could be expanded in the future if the Lord blesses us with growth.

Will the stained glass windows and pipe organ be moved to the new church?

The Church Building Coordinating Task Force intends to include both in the new building. It is their prayer that funding would be available for those purposes. You can see in the pictures the potential places for the stained glass. A space the same size as our current organ case has been included in the plans. The Task Force is currently investigating the cost of both of these projects.

What is the cost of the project and how will we pay for it

The Task Force is working with an estimated \$4.5 million cost. In the past year we have received large gifts totaling \$1.2 million (a \$965,00 bequest + an anonymous gift to pay back all the funds we had encumbered for the operating fund). We have \$1.7 in the building fund. We pray the Lord will bless us with \$800,000 (or more) in the Forward capital campaign. The rest we will need to borrow. We already have a \$360,000 matching donation commitment for when payments on our loan begin. Additional campaigns will be conducted until the loan is repaid.

Will such a financial commitment hurt our operating fund?

All offerings given to the Forward campaign are to be above and beyond general fund offerings. Currently our operating fund is in good shape. Often congregations experience an increase in operating fund offerings as they conduct capital campaigns. This was the case at St. Lucas Lutheran in our last capital campaign.

With the problems in our economy, is this a good time for a capital campaign?

Even in tough times, the Lord gives his people the reason and the resources to give. Recall what Paul wrote about the Christians in Macedonia and Corinth. "And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability... For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:2,3,12 NIV). The Lord bless us with such joyful generosity.

Who are the members of the Church Building Coordinating Task Force?

Michael Beyer (mabeyer7@yahoo.com), Dennis Jeserig (dmjeserig@gmail.com), James Livingston (james.livingston@kmlhs.org), Brian Dreher (briandrehertrucking@gmail.com), Jay Shambeau (shambeau89@gmail.com), Pastor Tim Henning (thenning@stlucaswels.org).



ST. LUCAS WELS \$800,000 EXPANDED GIVING *Investments Needed*

No. of Gifts	Amount of Gift
1	\$150,000
1	\$100,000
1	\$75,000
1	\$50,000
2	\$35,000
3	\$25,000
5	\$20,000
7	\$15,000
9	\$12,000
10	\$10,000
12	\$7,500
14	\$5,000
16	\$2,400
18	\$1,000

Expanded Giving Now Through March 31, 2025

