

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Capital Campaign FAQ's

Our Vision ...

As a congregation, we have participated in previous fund raising campaigns. These efforts have allowed us to purchase the West Anderson Avenue site. After the land purchase and some design fees, the building fund has \$875,000 to be used on our new facilities.

In a commitment to our faith and our beliefs, the members voted to move forward with the plan to move to the Anderson Avenue property. The Building Committee and the Finance Committee have met regularly to continue moving forward with the project. Our goals are to:

Challenge	The growth of St. Luke's
Inspire	Others to join our shared vision
Enable	All to participate in praying, serving and giving
Model	The way through our own praying, serving and giving
Encourage	The hearts of others in word and example

Our church facilities are vital as we grow and enhance our commitment to our faith community, while providing a place to learn and worship. It is a place where we can pass on to future generations our beliefs, our values, and the teachings of our principles. It provides a place for us to gather as a community to share our faith and support each other in our walk with God.

The Project

Phase 1 of the building project will allow us to establish ourselves on this location and to have church services and Sunday school together. It will consist of a multi-purpose space that will function initially as the sanctuary and fellowship hall. It will also include a larger kitchen and several meeting/class rooms. This phase will provide a space for Sunday school, dinners, and a larger fellowship area.

Other unavoidable expenses included with phase 1 are: bringing water onto the property, connection fees to the new sanitary sewer line crossing the property, and grading for the building and parking lots.

Why are we doing this again, we did it 20 years ago?

We have held campaigns and fund raising efforts in the past – and those efforts have been successful. Thanks to the generosity of earlier giving, these dollars have been set aside and will be used for this project. Some of the dollars have been spent for land purchase, architects, etc to get us where we are today. Unfortunately, we have not raised enough in past efforts to fund the project and thus we are hosting another capital campaign with the goal of building on our site and begin holding services and meeting on it.

I gave the last time; do you expect me to give again?

We appreciate your past support and believe we have invested your dollars wisely. Our new campus on our Anderson Avenue site will happen because we all believe in the future of St. Luke's and the continued good work that we accomplish as a church family. We understand you have given before, but we hope that as a family you will talk about it, pray about it, and see the need for us all to continue coming together to financially support this important endeavor. Churches grow and thrive because of giving members who are unselfish with their time, their talent, and their dollars. Your continued and renewed support would be much appreciated.

I don't want to give until ground is actually broken – then I will know it is actually happening.

We understand your concern, as many of us had hoped we would be in our new facilities, at our new site by now. The leadership is working very hard to make this a reality at this time and believe it will happen if the congregation will also believe and join in our efforts. Waiting to see if it will happen, will not allow it to happen. In order for us to sign contracts with contractors, we have to have cash and pledges to show signs of good faith for them to work with/for us. Your pledge commitments will allow us to keep moving ahead and make St. Luke's dream a reality.

What will happen to this property?

This property is key to the success of St. Luke's. It has served us well and will continue to do so until we have our new facilities completed at our Anderson Avenue site. We will continue to use the office and childcare center spaces until those facilities are built out west. We will also use the sanctuary for special occasions such as weddings or funerals. It will also be an asset we own that will allow us to enter into loans or other contracts as we build on the new site. At the time we have moved all of our operations to our Anderson Avenue location, this property will be sold.

What will happen to the blue house?

The Voters have made no decision on the blue house. We understand the Blue House is appreciated and is valued by our LCMSU Campus Ministry. It seems there is little support to invest more money in it, when most of the activity held there could be held in the church basement or the education building. There have been ongoing issues with the house, which have limited its use, but it is open for use again.

How can we afford this project when we have trouble meeting our annual budget?

We have conducted a feasibility study by a professional consultant and voted as a church membership to go forward. We believe that it can be successful based on the results and the past support of our members. We are hopeful that our members will see the needs and benefits of this campaign and continue to financially support St. Luke's with their ordinary giving for the annual budget, but also support the campaign with their extraordinary giving.

Why did we hire a campaign consultant?

Campaign consultants bring experience, knowledge, and a sense of urgency to a campaign. As a church that is managed by volunteers we needed this piece to keep our project moving and for success. Research has proven that hiring a consultant raises more money (they are a good investment), will save us time and effort, and will make it more than a campaign, but an opportunity to grow closer as a church community. The contract with the consultant is for \$48,000, which includes all of her expenses, time, expertise, and guidance provided to the campaign. She will be available to St. Luke's throughout the 3-yr pledge payment period at no additional charge. We believe this is a worthwhile expense, as we all want this to be successful as we work hard to fulfill our vision.

What is the timeframe for the capital campaign?

A campaign committee has been established and is working on the campaign. Over the next few months, you will see more information including ways you can volunteer, ways you can give, and ways you can support the campaign to enhance St. Luke's. Sunday, April 29 is designated campaign Sunday. Home visitors will be assigned to each parishioner's home to deliver and pickup (at a later date) the gift commitment form. Families will be asked to think about, talk about, and pray about their campaign gift. Giving will be done confidentially through a sealed envelope process and there will be no pressure to make a gift.

Can we make pledges?

Campaign gifts can be made over a 3-year period and sent in weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually. Appreciated assets or noncash gifts may be made by contacting the church office. If a financial commitment cannot be made at this time, we ask that you support the campaign through prayer.

It is through prayer and the desire to continue the good work of St. Luke's that those that came before have accomplished through our rich history that will make this happen. It is our turn to give and continue our history of growing our Lutheran faith and community.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11