



Dear St. John Family,

We believe you would agree that the ministry of our church and school is an eternal blessing, not only to families who call St. John home, but also to those outside our walls. This is not by accident, but is a direct result of the bold legacy of those who have gone before us, built on the faithfulness of Jesus and a legacy that must continue boldly for the future. God continues to bless us by adding more and more children, adults and families of all ages to our church and school! At the same time, it is no secret that we are increasingly facing many limitations with our aging campus facility.

In order to help fulfill our Jesus-led mission in our community and beyond, we are launching a spiritual initiative called ONE Legacy. It is our desire to seek the Lord's provision in providing financial resources needed to move forward with our exciting Campus Master Site Plan renovation and expansion project. Not only will it address a multitude of campus-wide maintenance issues, it will also create space for our church and school family to continue to grow today and into the future with greater excellence. The ONE Legacy initiative is a critical step into the future of our ministry together and you are vital to its success.

The key element in any spiritual initiative with God is prayer. We ask you to pray for God to unite our church and school family around His purpose and vision for us. Please take the next steps with us to bring this God-sized vision to life by carefully reading the information that follows, and then begin praying "God, what do you want to do through me - with the resources you've entrusted to me - to make an eternal difference in the future of our church and school?"! This is a huge undertaking, but at the same time an ultra-rewarding endeavor. What exciting days for us to come together as one in Jesus...reaching many!

In Jesus We Are Yours,


Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg


Pastor Steve Grafe

FAQ: the basics

Here are a few of the frequently asked questions about our Fall spiritual adventure, *ONE Legacy*.



Q: Why are we embarking on a capital funding initiative?

A: The momentum of our One in Jesus...Reaching Many mission and vision, combined with a year and half of research by our Campus Evaluation Team, surveys of church and school staff, ministry leadership and ministry groups, along with ongoing feedback opportunities and area demographic data, have all helped assess our existing and emerging future church and school facility needs. Last November, our congregation approved moving forward with the development of a Campus Master Site Plan and a capital funding initiative.

Some of the major specifics of this exciting plan will address existing facility maintenance, space and design challenges including:

- Dilapidated campus-wide heating and cooling (HVAC) systems
- Aging pipes and infrastructure
- Campus-wide roof issues
- Cracked and settling parking lots and drainage
- Crumbling brick facades
- Insufficient security and ADA accessibility compliance
- Ineffective general facility and campus flow
- Outdated finishes in many key areas of our church and school facility
- School classrooms at capacity
- Lack of specialized classroom spaces (science lab, art room, etc.)
- Current gymnasium usage and size

- Lack of a large centralized campus gathering space
- Non-cohesive church and school office design
- Overdue sanctuary pipe organ refurbishment
- General curb appeal

The Master Site Plan also positions us for future growth:

- Addresses current and future demographic projections
- Doubles our school enrollment capacity and includes the possibility of adding day care
- Renovates and reconfigures existing classrooms and hallways
- Includes the addition of science, art, language and multi-purpose rooms
- Adds a new state-of-the-art media center/library
- Includes new larger gymnasium/auditorium space for athletics and Modern Praise worship expansion
- Consolidates and relocates church and school ministry offices
- Frees up current gymnasium as a renovated multi-purpose church and school activity center
- Relocates and expands children's playground(s)
- Creates a centralized area for daily shared life activity and weekend fellowship
- Provides additional spaces for Bible studies, small groups and community support classes
- Expands and maximizes onsite parking potential
- Provides updated infrastructure, including plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and security
- Remodels numerous rooms in the church wing, providing more attractive, comfortable, and practical space
- Improves overall campus functionality, flow and aesthetics

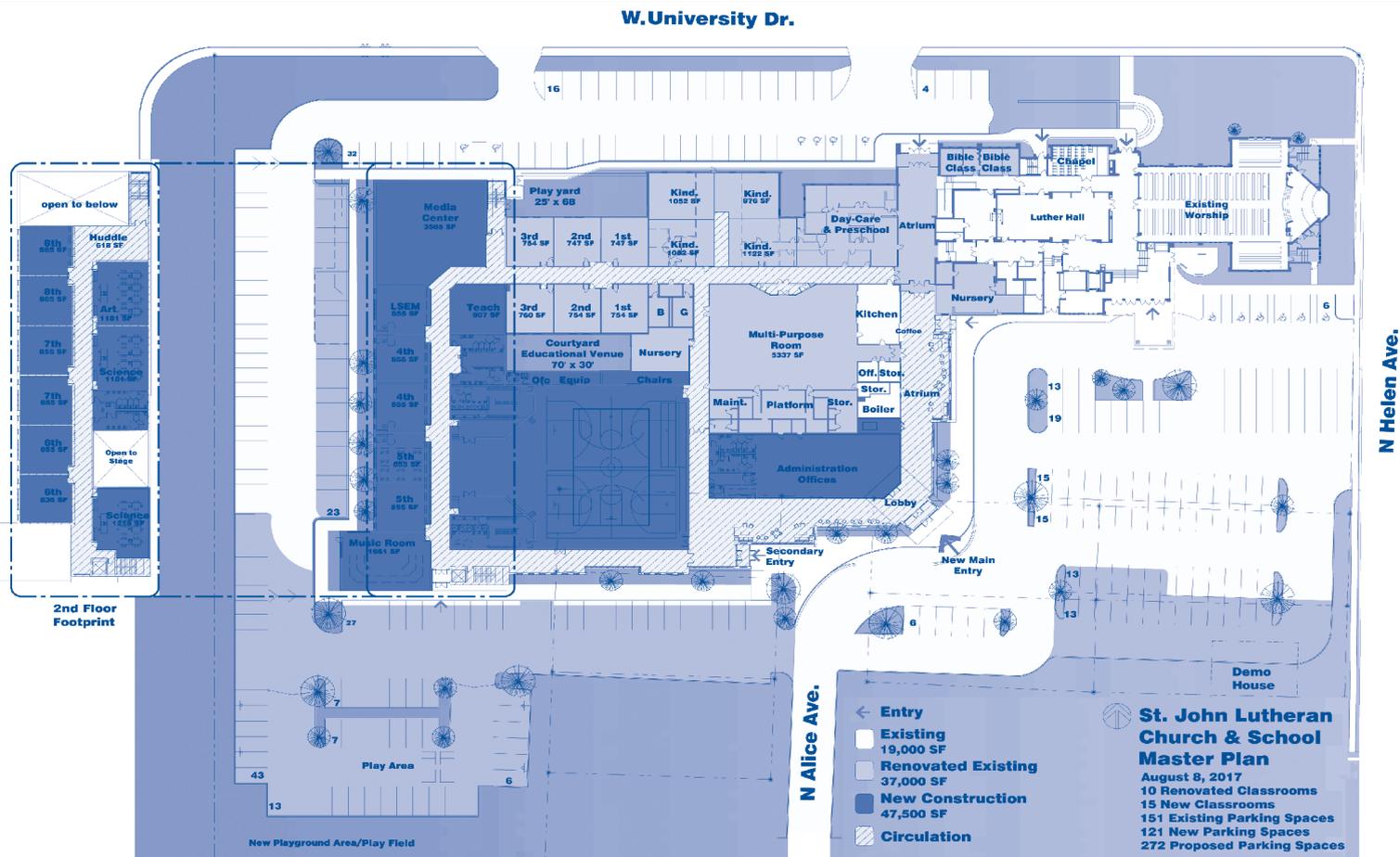


NEW FRONT FACADE LOOKING SOUTH FROM UNIVERSITY DRIVE

Q: Does available demographic information support this effort?

A: Current demographic information for the surrounding area indicates a projected overall growth trend. The Rochester Community Schools district is already planning for this expected growth, as extensive multi-year renovation and expansion work

is currently occurring on numerous school campuses. Lutheran church and school ministries in surrounding areas such as Macomb have already begun expansion initiatives. It is important that we remain relevant to our community by providing a highly attractive and innovative Christ-centered educational environment. But this isn't just for our school ministry. Current as well as future facility needs exist for all aspects of our





All drawings are preliminary.

growing intergenerational ministry together. Our renovation and expansion efforts will also serve to better meet the needs of our increasing church-related and community-focused ministries and activities. These are exciting times!

Q: Rather than expanding our onsite facility, have we considered acquiring an additional offsite property (i.e. the Living Word facility)?

A: Yes. Our demographic study took this possibility into account and helped clarify that one of the great strengths of our church and school is our prominent location in Rochester. Expanding to a multi-site model (for our school ministry in particular) is not the best strategic option at this time, nor would it be cost effective when considering the additional staffing, security, building renovations, and operational support required by two facilities rather than by one. A combination of these factors clearly point toward renovating and expanding our current site for maximum impact in our community.

Q: How will this make us better at reaching people for Jesus?

A: Buildings in and of themselves are not ministry, but they are an important investment in making onsite ministry with excellence possible. God has worked powerfully through our church and school family in this community for close to 100 years. This project lays further groundwork for that legacy of

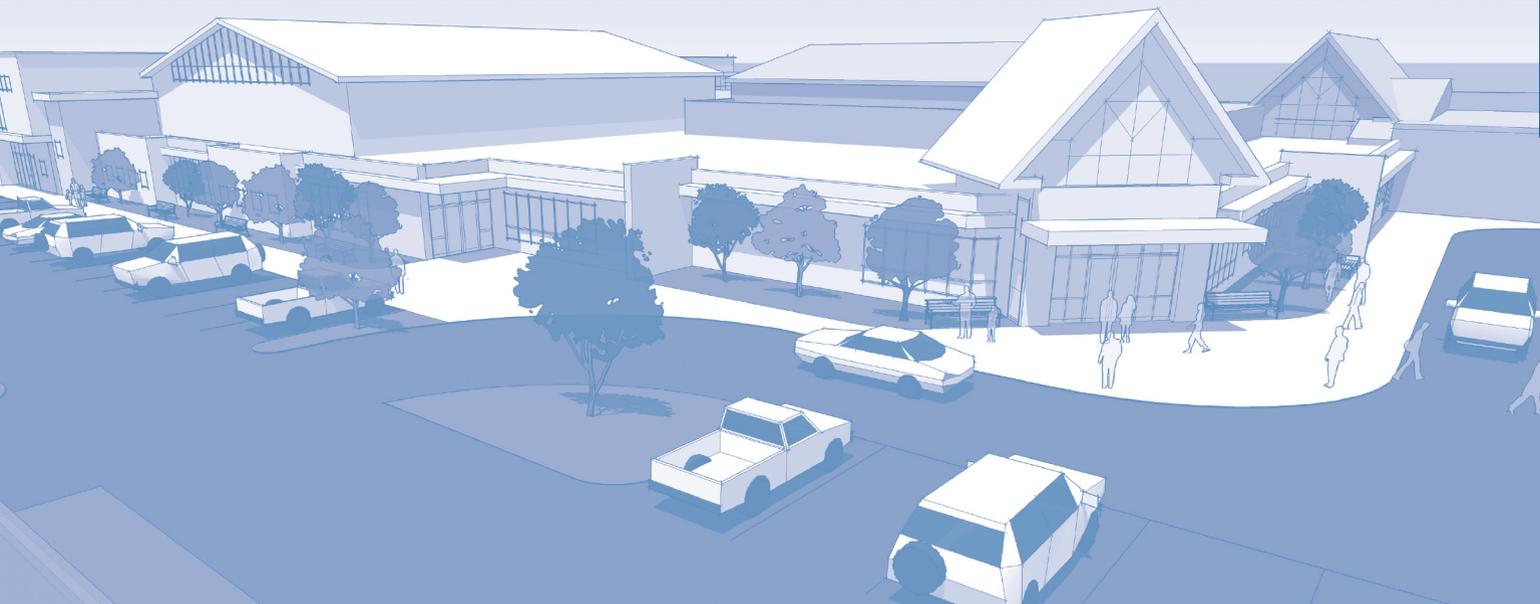
relational witness to continue with excellence into the future!

Q: How much will this cost?

A: Keep in mind this is an all-encompassing, long-range campus master plan intentionally designed to most likely be built in phases. While the final numbers are still a couple months away, our Campus Evaluation Team, working with architects Auger Klein Aller (AKA) of Lake Orion, estimate the total cost of the complete project to be in the range of \$10-14 million - a huge amount of money to be sure! Yet it is a small sacrificial price to pay for the future of God's eternal work among us and for the next generation of those who will come to know Him through the ministry of St. John Lutheran Church & School into the future!

Q: Isn't the scope of this project beyond us?

A: Absolutely! If we take on this project ourselves, it will certainly fall short. However, if we trust the One who promises to do through us far beyond what we can imagine, then it will succeed. Given what God has been doing among us in terms of growth, expanding ministries and activities, vision and excitement, as well as the growing demographics in our area, we are convinced that this project is not only within our God-given potential, but also a "must do" in terms of our future. That is where our ONE Legacy initiative comes in.



NEW SOUTH MAIN ENTRANCE LOOKING NORTHWEST

Q: What will be expected of me?

A: You will not be asked to give a specific amount of money. All that will be asked is that you honestly and prayerfully seek God's desire for your participation in the ONE Legacy initiative in whatever capacity He leads you, over and above your regular giving for the next three years. The goal is not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. Your participation - at any level - will help change lives because it will help further God's mission and vision for our area.

Q: Will my pledge be kept confidential?

A: Of course! As is the case with all financial gifts contributed to St. John, no one outside of the St. John financial office will know the amount of your pledge. All transactions are confidential.

Q: Is this effort only going to benefit our St. John Lutheran Church & School ministry?

A: As is the case with all regular contributions made to St. John, a 10% tithe of all funds contributed to the ONE Legacy initiative will be given away to benefit our mission partners, including our Michigan District's Here We Stand campaign as part of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation this fall. We believe this to be an exciting and important aspect of this mission focused initiative.

Q: What about our current mortgage?

A: Our St. John family currently has a \$1.8 million mortgage on our campus at a very low interest rate. At the culmination of the ONE Legacy initiative this fall, our congregation will have opportunity to prayerfully decide how to best proceed.

Q: Is all of this really necessary?

A: We believe it is. To do nothing with a crumbling, aging facility is not an option of good stewardship. Costs will only increase the longer we wait. Yet to focus only on the necessary maintenance as it is today may be short-sighted when considering the exciting possibilities before us. The Master Site Plan seeks to address current and future ministry needs with a well thought out plan to build for excellence. Most importantly it allows our St. John family to come around a united vision for the future and begin seeking the Lord's will in fulfilling it for the good of the kingdom.

Q: When will the building expansion and renovation begin?

A: Pending future congregation approval, we are praying that God will open the door for us to break ground on some initial aspect or phase(s) of this project as early as the spring/summer of 2018.

Inspired by the convergence of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation this fall, the 200th anniversary of our Rochester community, the 75th anniversary of our school ministry and the excitement around all that is ahead, our fall spiritual initiative theme is a continued answer to Jesus' prayer from John 17:20-23 that forms our mission and ministry together.



Upcoming Events:

Sept. 9-10 | Sept. 16-17 | Sept. 23-24 | ONE Legacy Information Weekends

Join us after each worship service for brief Q&A and opportunity to learn more about the project. Meeting locations will be announced.

Sept. 29-30 | ONE Legacy 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Come and be part of 24 hours of constant prayer leading into the start of the ONE Legacy initiative worship series. Watch for sign-up opportunities in the coming days.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 | Oct. 7-8 | Oct. 14-15 | ONE Legacy Worship Series

These "can't miss" worship celebration weekends will feature great music and preaching centered on our Lord's amazing faithfulness throughout our history, preparing us to step forward together into the future by His leading.

Oct. 21-22 | ONE Legacy Pledge Weekend

After weeks of prayer and preparation, family members of all ages will have the opportunity to make a sacrificial financial three-year pledge to the Lord and His work among us.

Oct. 28-29 | ONE Legacy Reformation/Confirmation Weekend

As we celebrate the ongoing legacy of our young confirmands on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, commitments will continue to be received.

Nov. 4-5 | ONE Legacy Announcement Celebration Weekend

We will come together in worship to celebrate the blessings of our God as the final total amount of pledges received is revealed!