

Imagine

your Faith
"Building"
Campaign



Capital Campaign Objectives:

To raise \$4.5 million to renovate the existing facility and to construct additional space at the south end of the existing church structure. The renovation and new addition will be designed to meet the needs of the "MAP Needs Summary" described on the next page.

To continue to serve well in the ministry of the Kingdom of God

Luke 21:1-4

"As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wallet; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."



MAP Needs Summary

This proposed facility concept addresses each of the following aspects of ministry in both a faith enriching and stewardship guiding manner. The MAP Needs Summary rests upon six key aspects of ministry:

1. Worship

- Enhancement of existing sanctuary retaining original character
- Improved lighting
- More effective and efficient use of chancel area
- Modified pew spacing including areas for wheel chairs closer to chancel

2. Fellowship

- Modification of existing Fellowship Hall for uses such as administration and meetings
- New fellowship hall comfortably holding 300 people
- Redesigned or new kitchen area
- Addition of new multipurpose meeting rooms
- Modification of south entrance to allow for gathering space, coat storage, etc.

3. Accessibility

- Improved parking areas
- Restroom improvements and additions in new areas
- Allowance for movement of wheel chairs and motorized scooters
- Possible alleviation of congestion from Sanctuary to south entrance

4. Child Care

- Enhanced areas and equipment
- More developed play areas

5. Christian Education

- Increased space for classroom styled work
- A preschool in close proximity to administration areas
- Areas for gatherings, multipurpose, and educational purposes

6. Facility

- Enhanced signage
- Welcome area
- Improved lighting, heating, and cooling
- Updated electrical
- Increased office space
- Interior storage



Steps Leading to this Capital Campaign

1998 - Property Committee recommended engaging in assessing and planning possibility of facility renovation and church addition

2008-2011 - The MAP (Ministries Assessment and Planning) Committee formed and evaluated programmatic and physical needs of the church and developed the "MAP Needs Summary"

2011-2013 - Facility Committee worked with the architectural firm, Martin-Riley, to develop a proposal to meet the "MAP Needs Summary"

2013-2014 - Facility Finance Task Force studied financial information and recommended to proceed with capital campaign

2014 - In April the congregation voted to approve a capital campaign to continue with the work of the facility report and proposal

2014 - In September the Capital Campaign Committee was formed

"Be careful not to do your "acts of righteousness" before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth; they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Matthew 6:1-4



...Having served on the building committee ten years ago, we know there are needs in the facility. Taking care of those needs takes money. We have a lovely church building, and need to care for it.

- Norma Fish



Continuing the Work.

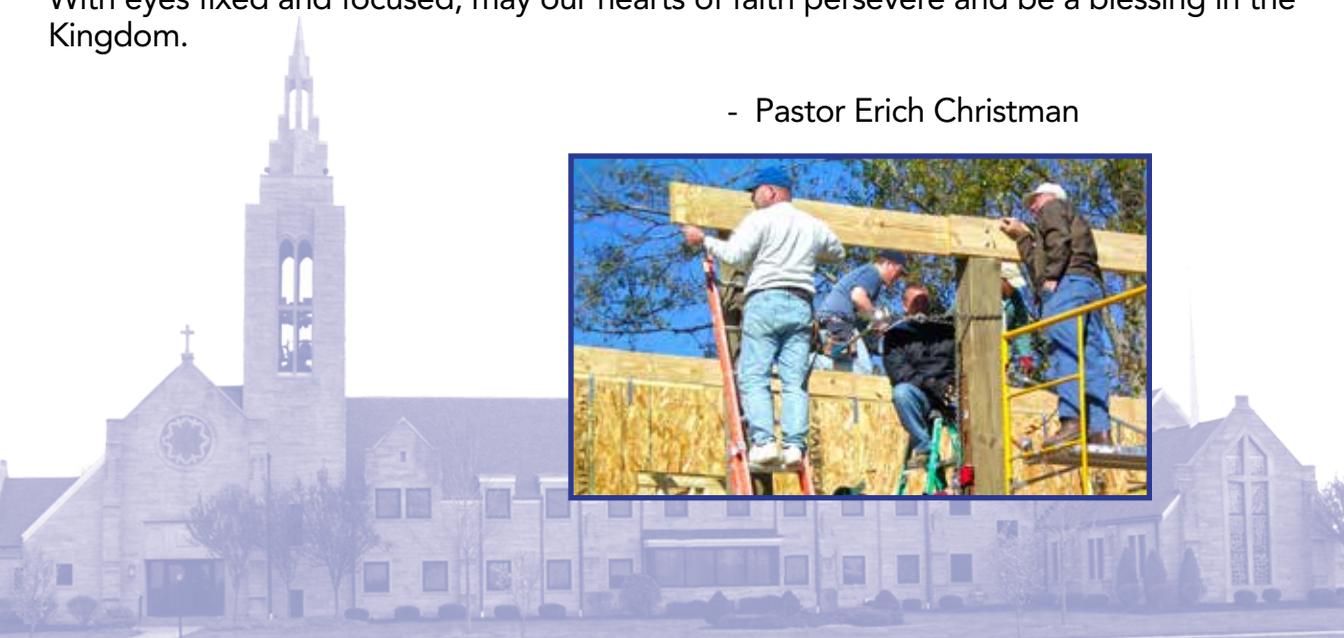
The Bible speaks of enduring people of faith, such as in Hebrews 12:1-2: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

There are two cornerstones in the present building, the first was laid into place during a cornerstone laying service on July 1, 1956. The second cornerstone, laid in place on November 29, 1964, marked the construction of the church addition that was dedicated on November 28, 1965. Those stones speak of generations of the faithful tending to the founding object of this congregation, which includes preaching the Word of God and providing the facilities for public worship.

This capital campaign is building upon the legacy of faith **so richly lived out by past generations of this congregation**, which extends into our present day. While the goal of this campaign is in the amount of \$4.5 million, the true goal is to provide a safe, functional and accessible facility for the purpose of ministering with and to people. Generations of people have sacrificed, given and worked hard to enable the ministry of God to flourish. Now we have the task of sacrificing, giving and working hard, not letting anything hinder, but running the race marked out for us as we fix our eyes on Jesus Christ, who sacrificed and endured beyond measure.

Come, Hear the Reason we are Inspired to Serve Together – for the Glory of God. With eyes fixed and focused, may our hearts of faith persevere and be a blessing in the Kingdom.

- Pastor Erich Christman





...The building that we attended has changed over the years, but the God that we worship has remained the same. As we move on in life, the needs become different. As those needs change, the needs of the building also change. We have great leadership in our church. Let's stay focused on the God who will never change, as we strive to meet the needs of our church facility, to meet the needs of its members.

We will surely be blessed as we move forward together.

- Shiela Short



... I attribute St. John's as being a BIG part of my spiritual awakening.... the ministers, teachers, leaders, friends, fellowship and the variety of programs offered me the opportunity for change and growth. To fulfill the vision of the building project would ensure that St. John's friends continue to mature and transform hearts and enroute others toward heaven.

- Nancy Rupp

Personal Commitment

Imagine your Faith "Building": The Capital Campaign is about having Faith that God will provide the resources for the project approved by the St. John's Christian Church in April 2014.

As members and friends of St. John's Christian Church take a step in Capital Campaigning, no matter how small or large, may the faith of each person be stretched and expended as Jesus says in Mark 11:22-25.

"Have faith in God," Jesus answered. "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Be Open to God's Leading to How You Can Give

We trust in God that the resources will be available and provided for the Capital Campaign's goal of \$4.5 million. The goal will be reached with all types of gifts from our members and friends.

"Everything is possible for one who believes."

Mark 9:23 (NIV)

Weekly Giving - Designate to Building Fund

- Members can give each week via on-line giving
- Members can give each week during worship
- Mark your envelope "Building Fund"
- Each gift "Builds!" Use yellow envelopes in the pew racks!

One Time Gifts - Designate to Building Fund

- Members can give cash
- Members can give stocks
- Members can give out of unexpected windfalls
- Members can give through their wills or estates
- Members can give through retirement plans

History of Our Church:

- 1852** - On horseback, Rev. Wasnich carried the gospel to the Swiss pioneers. These pioneers realized a need for a community worship – St. John's Reformed Congregation was organized and met in homes
- 1855** - First church building erected along Brush Creek just south of Archbold
- 1875** - St. John's grew out of first building and moved into a new building just north of first building
- 1913** - Purchased a lot along South Defiance Street
- 1914** - Began raising funds to build a new church - Satisfactory funds were raised in 30 days
- 1945** - Consistory recommended gathering funds to enlarge the church
- 1947** - Congregation voted to build a new church
- 1949** - Acquired a gift of three acre tract of land for purpose of building a new church and began to raise funds
- 1955** - Ground breaking for the new church
- 1957** - St. John's dedicated the present building
- 1962** - Note burning for current building
- 1964** - Ground breaking service held for fellowship hall, kitchen and chapel
- 1965** - Dedicated addition to the church
- 1970** - Mortgage burning service held

Our church building has largely remained unchanged since 1965. In our congregation's history, there have been four church buildings constructed; four congregations have been a part of our heritage. There have been four name changes: 1852 - St. John's Reformed Church; 1934 - St. John's Evangelical Reformed Church; 1957 - St. John's United Church of Christ; 2006 - St. John's Christian Church.

Throughout our 162 year history the congregation of St. John's has held four services of dedication for a new building. Each time, years of discussion, discernment and decision making preceded the construction of those four buildings. The same process has been followed with this building project.



...We feel humbly called to provide others that come after us with these opportunities to love, to serve and to grow their family faith by passing on that same legacy to them. God's perfect plan will enfold in the work of this church as we follow His vision and trust Him with this Building Legacy in the early 21st century. What a privilege and honor to be part of passing it forward to those yet to be born.

- Jon and Jan Lindsay and family



St. John's was established in 1852. Many of us are descendants of these first members...

Now - it is my turn to step up and contribute to a building program. When I see the number of children taking part in activities, I truly believe that St. John's will continue for the next 163 years, making the proposed renovation necessary.

- Nancy Ries



...When my husband and I searched for a church, we hoped and prayed for a place we could call a second home. Some place we felt welcomed from the get go and the kids wanted to keep going. I could feel that St. John's was what we needed from the first visit. As a mom of two kids back then, and a husband that worked 12 hour shifts on the weekend, I was quite nervous walking into a new place with such

expectations. I will admit I did survive and I liked what was around me, so much that we are still here almost three years later! ...I feel that our church is growing rapidly.

This addition can mean big things for us as a church family. As parents of a young family, the addition would mean a place to house our diaper bags, warm up food for little ones, or have a private space to nurse... Personally, I love the idea of room to grow. I can see my children growing up here and maybe even the young mom, alone with her kids, walking into a church for the first time just looking for a second home.

- Bo and Bri Krukowski

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

JOHN BECK
Chairman

JIM REDD
*Gift Committee
Chairman*

**KEITH KERN
BRAD ROTH
DOUG RUPP**
Budget and Stewardship

**KAREN WALKER
JOYCE KINSMAN
BRENT WINZELER**
Publicity Committee

**JEAN STAMM
SUSIE ENDERLE**
*Correspondence
Committee*

JEFF RUTLEDGE
*Accounting and Auditing
Committee*

ERICH CHRISTMAN
Spiritual Leadership

...We love to worship and fellowship with all people present and we always appreciated our ministers and leaders...This capital project would not benefit us much at our age, but it is our hope, it will benefit the younger people spiritually. It would bring the building up to the needs of the time and also give us great joy to know God's great commandment to preach and teach to the world until end times, will continue through St. John's.

It was a priceless experience, helping to fund and to build our present church building. We thought it impossible to raise the funds needed. Prayer and faith in our Lord made it possible. There was immense joy and jubilation when the new church was dedicated; it was like winning a super bowl when you aren't expected to win. We believed with God's help we would achieve. We are wise and old enough to know that current members would have enough funds right now to pay for this campaign. We also know that members need God's help to discern how much each family needs to save for future use



such as college, retirement, and helping others. We would hope that members would consider sharing their wealth with the church, especially if future heirs already have adequate funds to live. Many people in the world don't have anything, but still believe. Pray the Lord will provide and He will!

- Wayne & Susanne Spiess