

LOOKING *Beyond* THE WALLS

NEWSLETTER #1

NOVEMBER 2007

What is Looking Beyond The Walls?

It is a master plan necessary for the continuation of the vital and growing ministry at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. It includes the repair, renovation and expansion of our facility to match the needs of present and future ministry opportunities, as well as plans to build a medical clinic in Africa with Global Health Ministries.

What is our need?

Our facility is showing its wear. Roofs, windows, doorways, floors, brickwork, furnaces all need replacing or repair. Our facility is also too small for our present ministry. Sunday School rooms, offices, youth ministry areas, gathering spaces, custodial and storage areas, music and visual arts areas are all cramped or inadequate. Also, we have no way to expand ministry in our present structure. Opportunities for community outreach, such as housing a Christian pre-school, an ever-present need in Austin, can not happen without this project.



What is the cost?

The estimated cost is \$4.3 Million. This includes roughly \$1.0 Million for repairs, \$1.0 Million for renovations, \$2.2 Million for expansion, site improvements and furnishings, and \$100,000 for the medical clinic in Africa.

What is our plan?

Our plan is to raise the \$4.3 Million through three-year pledges and gifts which will come out of the Capital Stewardship Program. During this program information packets, mailings, forums, and other ways to help people understand and be involved in this program are made available to all. All members of the congregation – over 800 households – are asked to make a sacrificial

pledge to support this project. We hope to raise 1/3 of the total through a small number of major gifts, 1/3 through a larger number of medium-sized gifts, and 1/3 through many smaller gifts.

What is expected of me?

All members are asked to commit themselves to a process of prayer and discernment, asking God for guidance in answering the question: "Lord, what do You want to do through me to accomplish Your will at Our Savior's Lutheran Church?" The guiding principle is "equal sacrifice, not equal gifts." All members are asked to attend worship on Commitment Sunday, February 3, 2008 and make their pledge to God as an act of worship.

Calendar of Events

November 15, 2007:	Major Gifts Event
December 9 and 16:	Information Packets distributed
January 2008:	Inspiration phase of program
January 13-14:	Advance Commitment Gatherings for leaders
February 3:	Commitment Sunday
February 17:	Announcement Sunday

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1600 W. Oakland Ave.
Austin, MN 55912

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Pastor Glenn's Message

In founding Pastor Glennys Knutson's book, *The Cross and the Crown*, there are pictures of the people who were present when the first church was built in 1953. Church leaders, building committee members, and many others are all pictured as they began the ministry of this congregation. Some of those people are still present with us today. We are so grateful for their vision, courage, and sacrifice which made possible the ministry of Our Savior's which we enjoy today.

Now is our time. Now we have the rare opportunity to be the people for which future generations will be grateful. We have the chance to respond to God's call and make possible a wonderful facility which will allow us to continue the mission to which we have been called, to be "A Community, Centered in Christ, Committed to equipping God's people for life and service in God's world." Please join me in this wonderful work.