

Special Congregational Meeting
Held in the Sanctuary
November 24, 2024

Meeting called to order by President Dennis Langehaug at 9:15

Pastor Scott opens with a devotion on vision and unity and leads the congregation in prayer

Introduction of P2FT members: Pastor Scott, Pastor Dave, Jessi Boike, Sara Wegner, Jon Gelschus, Ian McDonald, Mary Christensen, Tim Piehl

P2FT members discuss commonly heard questions. A paper FAQ is available from the church office

- JESSI One of the most commonly asked questions we've heard is what is the timeline of this project? Capital campaigns traditionally last for three years, because of turnover in church membership and changes in their financial situations. The actual building project could not begin until enough gifts have been received to arrange financing, finalize our building plans and let bids. Those decisions would also be made at Special Congregation Meeting
- JON What would this capital campaign look like? If the Leap of Faith campaign is approved today, it will begin on Sunday, January 12, the KICKOFF day, when all the details of the campaign would be announced. After that, many small group meetings will be held to explain the vision and all the details, along with one-on-one visits for those who request them. There are plans for a devotional booklet to surround the campaign with prayer. The last Sunday of February would be LEAP DAY, when financial pledges would be submitted.
- IAN Financial background:
 - a. Our architects' current cost estimate for Phase II is \$10-12 million.
 - b. Our lender for Phase I has said the church would be able to borrow only about \$3 million. The church would not attempt to borrow more than that even if it could. The project must be financially feasible.
 - c. Our congregation paid off a 25-year, \$3.2 million mortgage in just 10 years, so we have a great record of financial responsibility.
 - d. Gifts given for capital campaigns are kept entirely separate from the General Fund that supports Faith's ministry. Those funds are never commingled. We have met our annual operating budget in all but one of the last 14 years, and that one shortfall was quite small.
 - e. We reviewed previous Capital Campaigns at FLC along with county and city demographic information.
 - f. As the P2FT, we know that the Leap of Faith is a major challenge, but we believe it is achievable, even though it is a very large amount.
 - g. We have asked about the commitment of Faith's leadership to this campaign, staff, P2BC, P2FT, Church Council and Ministry Teams. Of the 47 responses submitted, 100% supported this effort.

- TIM How could the family of Faith meet such a large goal?
 - a. Some people have been blessed to give large, up-front gifts.
 - b. Others are able to give weekly or monthly gifts from ongoing income.
 - c. Many of us could include the church in our wills or estate plans.
 - d. Retired people with RMD's can give them directly to the campaign.
 - e. Every gift of every size is needed and equally appreciated, but this goal will require all of us to stretch ourselves in faith.
 - f. Gifts can be given by check, electronic fund transfers, appreciated stocks or assets and other means.

- MARY We do believe the goal can be reached, but people have already asked what happens if the gifts and pledges received fall short of the goal. The short answer is that the congregation will decide, at a meeting like this one, how to proceed. Many options might be considered, but for now, we want to encourage confidence, eagerness and faith that we can meet the goal before us. In any case, the ministry needs that are driving Phase II will not diminish and, by God's grace, may only grow in the future.

- PASTOR DAVE Legacy of the future. Current sanctuary was built in 1938 when the Great Depression was not yet over. All of us here have been blessed by the legacy of those faithful donors and this is our opportunity to create a legacy to bless future generations of Faith Lutheran Church, far beyond what any of us may live to see personally.

Questions from the congregation:

- How many family units are in the congregation? 750, other data was also taken into account

- Any alternate plans if we don't raise enough money? The focus is on the goal as it stands now. If we need to revisit down the road, those decisions will be made by the congregation by Special Meeting.

Pat May makes a motion to move forward with the Leap of Faith capital campaign to raise funds for the completion of Phase II of the Faith's long-term building project.

President Dennis asks for a second on the motion and announces that we will vote by written ballot. Seconded by Dick Desens.

Ballots passed out, collected and counted by members of the Management ministry team.

Results of the vote are: Yes – 183

No – 35

The motion carries.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned by President Dennis Langehaug at 10:01am