

# Building on Our Faith

## Newsletter 1 / January 2020



2020 Calvary Lutheran Church  
Capital Campaign

***“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” (Eph 2:19–22)***

Paul describes Christians as being part of a divine household established on the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, with Jesus being the solid corner holding it all together. But unlike the structures put up by humans, the Church is a living building; Christians grow within it. They are brought together as a place where the Holy Spirit is present and active, leading them to develop and mature in their belief in Christ and the actions that flow from that. This is an essential part of our identity.

Our common faith leads us to participate in various activities that reflect our identity, putting our faith into action. We praise God for His goodness shown to us. We gather to receive Christ’s gifts. We meet to study the words of eternal life and wisdom recorded in the Scriptures. We offer ourselves in service to our neighbors, showing how we love them as much as we love ourselves. We provide opportunities for our younger members to develop their identity as Christians. We welcome people from other nations and cultures to become part of the divine household with us. Each of these is a way that we act according to our faith, as we are led by the Holy Spirit Who dwells in us.

At this time in our congregation’s life, we are going to enhance the physical structure where those faith-driven activities take place. You’ve seen and heard about this in various venues, including special meetings where ideas for how to improve our church facilities have been discussed.

### **Rev. Dr. Eric Kennaugh – Campaign Consultant**



Eric serves as Consultant for the Ministry Support Team of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF).

Eric has committed himself to helping local congregations discover and fully live into their God-given purpose. To this end, he has served as a consultant with the Ohio District – LCMS’ Transforming Congregations Initiative and as a coach to congregations and pastors through CoachAdvance, as well as guiding congregations through various vision discovery processes.

***“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.” 1 Chronicles 29:14***

Renderings of what the improvements would look like have been shown. It is exciting to imagine what worshiping in an expanded sanctuary might feel like or how a renovated social hall could host larger events.

But for that to become a reality, we are being asked to build on the faith that has been established in us by God Himself. Part of our identity as Christians includes using what God has given to us for His purposes. We call that stewardship, which is a “churchy” way of describing management. God grants us both the ability to earn money or acquire property and the will to use those to benefit others or to expand His kingdom. He even empowers us to use temporal things to achieve everlasting results.

How we use our wealth reflects our values and our beliefs. Our congregation’s “Building on Our Faith” campaign provides a new opportunity to do that. By dedicating some of what God has given to us for the renovation project, we will show ourselves, our fellow members, and our community that what happens and can happen at Calvary is God’s activity in our part of the world. We want His work to be done among us. We want to be a place where the Holy Spirit dwells. We want to grow together into a holy temple in the Lord.

These are our shared goals, part of our common faith. So I invite you to put that faith into action by participating in this campaign to improve where God’s activities are done among us.



*Rev. Luke Zimmerman*  
Pastor, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

In his 18 years of pastoral ministry he has served three congregations: Trinity Lutheran Church – Baton Rouge, LA; Risen Christ Lutheran Church – Springfield, OH; and currently serves as Senior Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School – Batavia, IL. He has led these congregations through Capital Campaigns for building a sanctuary, renovating facilities, and reducing debt.

Eric holds degrees from Western Michigan University; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; and Ashland Theological Seminary.

Eric and his wife, Amy, reside in Batavia, IL. Amy is a former school teacher who now works as a clinical mental health counselor. They are blessed to be the parents of three teenage daughters.

### **Recap: Inform Event Luncheon**

The Inform Event Luncheon was held after Divine Service on January 26. The event was well received with about 75 members attending.

The intent of the event was to inform and inspire members regarding the 2020 Calvary Lutheran Church Capital Campaign entitled “Building on Our Faith”.

Pastor Luke Zimmerman opened with prayer and introduced the Campaign Director, Bryan Strickler. Bryan discussed a FAQ handout covering questions and responses assembled thus far.

Pastor Zimmerman presented a Case Statement covering the history of Calvary and future vision of the upcoming renovation as another step to further Calvary’s long history of discipleship for future generations.

Bryan then discussed, using a slide presentation, four areas of impact that the renovation targets—Worship, Education, Fellowship and Human Care & Outreach—and the rationale and purpose of a Capital Campaign.

Pastor Zimmerman closed the event with prayer.

--Ray Miller



### **Important Upcoming Events:**

#### **Inform Forums**

- Thursday, February 6 at 7:00pm
- Sunday, February 9 at 12:00pm
- Saturday, February 15 at 12:00pm

#### **Inspire Sunday**

February 23

#### **Bible Study Sundays**

March 1, March 8, March 15

#### **Commitment Sunday**

March 22

#### **Prayer Vigil**

March 28

#### **First Gift Sunday**

April 5

### **Calvary 2020 Campaign Leadership Team**



Our campaign leadership team is pictured above (L-R):

Kay Ardner	Inform, Initial Commitments & Commitment Celebration Director
Bryan Strickler	Campaign Director
Rev. Luke Zimmerman	Pastor
Ray Miller	Communications Director
James Blockus	Prayer & Visitation Director
William Ritner	Follow-Up Director
<i>Not pictured:</i>	
Heidi Jacobson	Campaign Coordinator

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