



***“According to the grace of God..., like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.” 1 Corinthians 3:10***

### **What is the *Securing Our Foundation~Building our Future* Appeal?**

This appeal is a congregation-wide effort to raise funds to improve our church facility so that we may continue the spiritual growth of our faith community and its mission. Here at Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, we have been blessed by the faithfulness and generosity of members from past generations. This Appeal is our opportunity to build upon those blessings by remaining good stewards of the church facilities entrusted to us.

### **What is the scope of our project?**

Over the past three years we have worked through a detailed process to understand our facility needs by attempting to get feedback from as many members as possible. We developed a master plan to maintain and enhance our facility. A special task force worked with the Congregational Council, Staff and architects to refine this plan.

Last fall, the master plan was presented to the congregation. Listening and evaluating the feedback made it clear that the organ and the infrastructure needs were the highest priority. The Phase One project plan consists of the following:

- **Casavant Pipe Organ (Estimated cost: \$600,000)**
  - Complete renovation of the Casavant organ including repositioned pipes in the balcony with modifications to allow greater visibility of the stained glass window.
  
- **Infrastructure (Estimated cost: \$500,000)**
  - Replace the flat roofs over the organ chambers
  - Install new insulated roof over the sanctuary. The current roof is not insulated.
  - Replace the roofs on the north and south sides of the Sanctuary
  - Install two new high efficiency boilers with a new thermostatic control system for the entire facility
  
- **Site Safety & Accessibility Improvements (Estimated cost: \$50,000)**
  - Add a new, second driveway lane
  - Create five handicapped parking spots
  - Install a new North entranceway that provides greater visibility, safety and accessibility

### **What opportunities will our project provide?**

Our project will enhance God's ministries in many ways, strengthening the spiritual lives of our faith community for this and future generations. The Phase One project will address the following congregational needs that surfaced as we developed our master facilities plan:

- **Casavant Pipe Organ**

Worship and music make up the foundation of our Christian faith community. For more than 50 years, our Casavant organ has served as a cornerstone of Mt. Carmel's worship experience and celebrations in our congregational life. Because of the organ's age, deferred maintenance, and water damage, the time has come to build on the vision of the founding members of Mount Carmel by investing in the organ for future generations.

- **Infrastructure Needs**

Providing for the infrastructure needs of our church, such as high efficiency boilers, insulation, and maintenance of our roof, demonstrates good stewardship of the wonderful facilities that have been entrusted to us by past members of Mt. Carmel.

- **Site Safety & Accessibility Needs**

The new entry and driveway will enhance the accessibility and safety for our members and guests creating a more welcoming environment.

These are exciting times for our congregation. Our project will demonstrate that we are alive in faith and will further energize us as a spirit-filled community as we live out our mission in the world.

### **What is the financial goal for our Appeal?**

The total cost of this Phase One project is \$1,150,000. Our goal is to raise as much of this amount as possible. Once the capital fund drive is completed, we will know how much our members have pledged, and how much we may need to borrow to complete the project.

### **When will the Phase Two renovation occur?**

The second phase of our master facilities plan would include renovation of the narthex (Gathering Area), nursery and stairwell. These projects are an important part of our master plan. Only after we have completed phase one will we turn our attention to the possibility of proceeding with phase two.

### **Is this also the time to make my Annual Stewardship Commitment?**

Yes. A second commitment card will be provided for you to indicate your one-year financial commitment to support our ministries and church expenses in 2012. As expenses continue to inch upwards, we recognize the need to continue growing in our regular stewardship giving. Please pray and consider the possibility of increasing your

regular giving 2% to 3%. Keeping our regular giving strong allows us to keep touching hearts and lives with Christ's love through our many ministries. Our regular offerings need to be our first priority in giving. Gifts to the capital fund need to be over and above our regular fund offerings. Thank you for your generous support.

### How do I respond to this appeal?

On Sunday, September 18, we will be hosting special Appeal Gatherings. After a brief presentation, you will receive an appeal packet which will contain additional information including your three-year capital fund response card and your one-year annual stewardship card. We then ask you to spend the following weeks praying and considering how God is leading you to respond to this appeal. Then, on October 9, Commitment Sunday, we ask you to place both cards in the return envelope and bring the envelope to worship. You can mail the envelope if you cannot be with us on October 9.

Capital fund appeal pledges can be funded in the following ways:

1. One time gift given at the time of your pledge.
2. Periodic gifts over the next three years.
3. A combination of both 1 and 2 above.

As you respond to our capital fund, we encourage you to consider making an initial gift and then a three-year commitment. Initial cash gifts are given at the time you make your commitment. You begin fulfilling your three-year commitment by making contributions every week, month, quarter or year starting November 1, 2011. Contribution envelopes carrying the **Securing Our Foundation ~ Building our Future** Appeal logo will be made available for you to make your capital fund contributions.

The following giving table may be helpful in planning your gifts. Here's how a weekly gift can grow in size over a three-year period:

<b>My Weekly Gift of:</b>	<b>Amounts to a Monthly Gift of:</b>	<b>Amounts to an Annual Gift of:</b>	<b>Amounts to a 3-year Gift of:</b>
\$ 5.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 780.00
10.00	43.00	520.00	1,560.00
15.00	65.00	780.00	2,340.00
20.00	87.00	1,040.00	3,120.00
25.00	108.00	1,300.00	3,900.00
30.00	130.00	1,560.00	4,680.00
40.00	173.00	2,080.00	6,240.00
50.00	217.00	2,600.00	7,800.00
70.00	303.00	3,640.00	10,920.00
100.00	433.00	5,200.00	15,600.00
150.00	650.00	7,800.00	23,400.00

### May I contribute gifts other than cash?

Besides cash, you may contribute gifts of property, stock, paid-up life insurance and other securities. If you wish to discuss making a gift other than cash, contact one of the individuals listed at the end of this document.

## What Is the Invitation to Give?

You may ask: "What would you like me to consider giving so we can achieve our capital fund goals?" The **Invitation to Give** answers this question. You will receive a **Hoped for Gift** letter. The letter suggests a variety of gift options we hope each of you will prayerfully consider when making your commitment to our capital fund.

## What are the Invitation to Give options?

**1 Matching Existing Giving** - As a starting point, we ask you to pray and consider matching or doubling your current regular giving over the next three years. For example, if you are currently giving \$20 per week (\$1,040 a year) to the church's ministry, would you pray and consider giving *an additional* \$20 per week to the capital fund over the next three years, for a total commitment of \$3,120?

**2 Pacesetter Gift** - We ask those who are in a position to give more to pray and consider making a pacesetter gift of \$3,000 to \$20,000 over the next three years.

**3 Leadership Gift** - We invite those who have been financially blessed to pray and consider making a leadership gift of \$20,000 to \$250,000 or more.

## The Decision is Yours

The gifts we ask you to consider are challenging. Receiving gifts within the ranges hoped for is necessary for us to achieve our goals. We believe our members have the right and responsibility to make their own decision. We also know that God is at work in our lives helping us grow in our faith and generosity. **May God lead you** as you pray over your decision.

## How can I help make this appeal a success?

- By prayerfully responding to God's gift of love in Christ Jesus with your generous gifts.
- By joining us for our Appeal Gatherings on Sunday, September 18.
- By returning both response cards on Commitment Sunday, October 9.
- By praying for God's blessings upon our Appeal.

## Who may I call if I have additional questions?

Please contact our Capital Fund Appeal Core Team if you have questions or comments:

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