Faith in Our Future Mission Campaign Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we doing a Mission Campaign?

St. Peter's has spent the past two years analyzing the needs of our congregation and surrounding community, reviewing our current ministries, and engaging in strategic planning to outline a vision for ongoing stewardship of the gifts entrusted to us. Based on feedback received through the Feasibility Study and various discussions over the past year, including our Strategic Planning process, the Mission Campaign has two primary components: "Church Property" and "Mission and Ministry." The newest part of our building is more than 15 years old and other sections have been used in serving the Lord for 61 years. We must maintain, repair, and update it to ensure a safe, secure, comfortable, and energy-efficient place for worship services and community outreach. Yet, the *Faith in Our Future* campaign is about more than bricks and mortar. We also seek to enhance and grow our mission in the coming years. Each component is detailed in our campaign literature.

Is this instead of our Regular Giving?

No, the Mission Campaign does not replace our Annual Stewardship Campaign or regular envelope/online giving. Instead, the Mission Campaign is "above and beyond;" it's an opportunity to give sacrificially to the advancement of strategic plan initiatives. Stewardship pledges and envelope giving support operational costs, such as staff salaries, existing ministries, utilities, mailing, and general maintenance. Mission Campaign contributions directly support the projects outlined in the campaign literature. Your campaign pledge or gift will be above and beyond your general offering.

How do we make our Mission Campaign pledge?

Your prayers are so needed through this journey! As with all things, begin in prayer. Then, decide the pledge amount that aligns with how you are being led by the Holy Spirit. You may give the amount that you pledge in various ways over three years (or a shorter period). Once you have come to a decision, please fill out the enclosed pledge form and return it to the church before or by Commitment Sunday (May 16, 2021). Extra pledge forms will be available at the church and online.

How much am I expected to give?

It would be impossible to raise enough money to pay for these Mission needs through offering plate cash donations or "gifts of convenience." We must rely on everyone to plan for sacrificial generosity, and then do their best to accomplish it...one step at a time. Every signed pledge commitment relies on the spiritual values of sacrifice and faith. We recognize that it has been an unusual year in global health and economic impact. You must be the one to determine how much monetary support you can give and budget it across multiple years, as best fits your financial situation. If you are fortunate to be able to give more in the first year, please do so! Such help is greatly appreciated and will allow us to accomplish projects more quickly and within budget.



How do I pay for my campaign pledge?

If you are contributing from your current income or bank savings, gifts can be made by cash, check, or online (including Tithe.ly). Most financial institutions have bill pay services that allow your donations to be sent directly from your bank. Just sign up for your bank's online bill-paying service, and you're halfway there. You can have your campaign gift sent each week, month, quarter, or once for the entire year! Additionally, online giving is an option via our website. You can find the "Give" button at the top of our church website or by directly visiting www.stpeterslutheran.org/give. If you make your gift online, be sure to select the "Mission Campaign" designation to ensure your gift is recorded appropriately.

Will other types of donations be accepted?

In addition to giving from current income or bank accounts, you can support the Mission Campaign in many other ways. Some additional gifting considerations are stocks, bonds, mutual funds, Qualified Charitable Contributions from IRAs (if over 70.5 years of age), appreciated real estate and more. If you are interested in giving in one of these ways, please contact our church office at (717) 569-9211 to learn more. Don't forget to also share with your friends and family who may be interested in participating!

When will my contributions begin?

Your contributions can begin as soon as you would like...we have received several gifts already! Some may choose to give an upfront gift the first year, some may decide to give weekly/monthly/quarterly throughout the campaign, and some may only give in years two and three. Regardless of when you choose to start payments, we request that you return your pledge form to the church office on or before Commitment Sunday (May 16, 2021).

What happens if we raise more money than the goal?

When we are blessed with your generosity that meets our campaign goal of \$1,250,000, we will continue our drive toward our stretch goal of \$2,000,000 to further grow our opportunities for mission and ministry.

When will any work begin?

Some of the most urgently needed repairs have already begun! In a show of faith in this congregation and this campaign, our Congregation Council voted to pre-pay several of these expenses, including replacement of four rooftop heat pump units (\$50,000), installment of a new boiler (\$50,000), and replacing the control system (\$80,000). The remaining schedule of work is contingent on the availability of funds coming in. More work can be done sooner, if more gifts arrive during the campaign's first year.

Where can I continue to find updated information?

You can find updates regarding the campaign in the monthly Herald, weekly eblasts, social media, and announcements at service. Campaign updates will also be on our Mission Campaign page (www.stpeterslutheran.org/mission-campaign).

Still Have Questions?

If you have any questions or want to talk about your contribution to the *Faith in our Future* Mission Campaign, please contact our Kirby-Smith campaign consultant, Richie Musser, at 484-364-0781 rmusser@kirbysmith.com, or you can also contact the church office at (717) 569-9211.

Thank you for all your continued prayers and support!