



# St Michael's

L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

Dear Friends in Christ,

Next year, our congregation will celebrate 70 years of vibrant ministry in the community. With our legacy of generosity, service, worship, and learning to guide us, we look ahead to the future and the ways God is calling our congregation to make tangible the love of Christ in our neighborhood and in the world. Over the last few years, the church council has been working through a visioning process to identify our church values and mission. Part of that process was to assess our financial position alongside our ministry goals. We will continue this work through a feasibility study to determine our need for a capital campaign. A key element of the feasibility study will be interviews with a cross-section of the congregation to receive feedback about the ministry of St. Michael's as we imagine possible ways to further our mission; for example: building improvements, mortgage debt reduction, outreach projects, etc. A preliminary case statement is provided for your review.

Steve Olson, a pastor and fund development professional is working with us. He will conduct 45-minute interviews with approximately 40 households providing helpful feedback. We hope you will be one of those households. We need your voice and insight and hope you will agree to offer your time for a conversation with Steve. The interviews are confidential, and you will not be asked to make a financial commitment. Interviews will take place October 3-15<sup>th</sup>. Steve can arrange to meet you in person at church, or he can also conduct the interview on Zoom if that is better for you. To schedule a 45-minute timeslot on one of those dates please contact our Office Administrator, Lisa Koland, in the church office at (651)-631-1510; [office@stmichaelselca.com](mailto:office@stmichaelselca.com). Or, you may sign up online by heading to:

<https://www.stmichaelselca.com/growing-into-the-future.html>

Thank you, in advance, for your participation! If you have other questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

God's Peace,



Pastor Ali C. Ferin



Pastor Brad Froslee

and the St. Michael's Feasibility Team

Al Barkve

George Beebe

Lee-Ann Breuch

Jessica Etten

Gary Wilkerson

# Introduction

St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a healthy and vibrant congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America located in Roseville, Minnesota, with membership that spans a wide geographic area within Minnesota and beyond. As a community St. Michael's Lutheran Church is grounded in the values to: **Gather** around God's grace for all in word and sacrament; **Nurture** faith through learning, music, relationships, and generosity; and **Send** us to act for justice, and serve with others following the way of Jesus. St. Michael's Lutheran Church embodies expansive welcome, generous hospitality, vibrant worship and faith, authentic relationships, vocational calling, and actions for justice and peace.

Our mission and vision of **Gather, Nurture, and Send**, guides the congregation in living out God's grace and love for all people. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we welcome those who are long-time church members and those who have no previous church experience; those who have felt excluded by the Church because of their race or ethnicity, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental capabilities, financial resources, or family circumstances as well as those who have always found a place of welcome and acceptance in the church. As a congregation we seek reconciliation, healing, and wholeness. We are then empowered by the Holy Spirit to live and work together for God's promised day of justice, peace, and mercy.

As we look to our congregation's 70th anniversary, we aim to further build on our mission of **Gather, Nurture, and Send** with a particular focus on upgrades to our physical building that would strengthen our ability to gather as a community and live out our expansive welcome.

# Capital Campaign Ideas

Conversations over the past 3.5 years have generated several ideas including funding for sanctuary upgrades, expanding our narthex to include a welcome center and gathering space, serving as a learning site for a seminary intern, paying off our current loans, a columbarium, air conditioning in the sanctuary, and creating more accessible restrooms. After careful discussions and deliberations with the Executive Committee, Property Committee, and Church Council, two phases were identified and shared with the congregation: Phase 1 (sanctuary wall project) and Phase 2 (possible narthex redesign and addition). These phases were well received by the congregation at meetings in winter of 2022 (with the congregation voting unanimously to move forward with sanctuary upgrades, and calling for this feasibility study to ascertain what is possible in future projects), and this capital campaign seeks to support them.

## Phase 1: Sanctuary Project - In Process!

Over the last two years greater concerns have arisen surrounding the high sanctuary walls and water infiltration, an issue that had surfaced 10 years previously and that the congregation had spent over \$400,000 to try to resolve. The Property Committee worked with outside firms to explore issues and propose solutions. In 2021, the Property Committee, Executive Committee, and Church Council worked with an architecture firm to 1) address the water infiltration and develop a plan for the sanctuary and sanctuary walls 2) provide design ideas and cost estimates for the narthex redesign and additions the council had discussed previously. The congregation approved moving forward with Phase 1. This will be carried out through an investment from the congregational reserves and a loan with Thrivent Financial, and individual financial contributions. Debt reduction for this project is a possibility for capital campaign funds.

A concept drawing of the finished project is included at the end of this document.

Estimated Cost: \$750,000-\$780,000

## Phase 2: Narthex Redesign and Addition

Through multiple congregational discussions, it became clear there was a lack of flexible fellowship space and adequate restrooms. An expanded narthex/gathering space with a welcome center would provide a space to gather on Sundays (when most spaces are used for education and music programs) and throughout the week for community groups and outreach partners. An initial concept design is included in this packet to generate feedback, though we anticipate further discussions around final design and details.

Air conditioning for the Sanctuary was also uplifted as a needed improvement. The congregation supported these ideas but recommended to council to first conduct a

feasibility study to ascertain what the congregation can afford.

Estimated Cost: \$1,400,000-\$1,500,000 for narthex redesign and addition

### Phase 3: Additional ideas

Other ideas that have been lifted up include (*numbers are estimates*):

- \$750,000 to repay Thrivent loan (which includes retiring the former mortgage and much of the cost of the sanctuary wall project)
- \$200,000-\$400,000 in benevolence (ex/outreach, community partnerships, global ministries)
- \$100,000-\$250,000 for future building projects (roofs, parking lot)
- \$100,000 for a columbarium (a place, garden, room, or building for funeral urns to be stored)
- \$100,000 funding for seminary intern for up to three years

We are excited to hear what other ideas arise from this process!

