



St. Paul Lutheran Church 2026 Ministry Expansion Campaign

Theme

"Firmly Rooted, Boldly Building"

Anchored in Colossians 2:6–7

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. (Col. 2:6–7)

A Reflection From Pastor Alms

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

St. Paul Lutheran Church has been richly blessed. Each week, we gather to receive God's gifts of pardon and peace in Word and Supper. We have a rich history stretching back many decades, and we stand upon the shoulders of the faithful saints who came before us. We remain firmly rooted in the truth of God's Word.

I am thankful to serve a congregation dedicated to supporting one another and serving those around us. We are welcoming new faces, finding new ways to care for our community, and watching our school flourish as a place for families seeking a Christ-centered education.

Today, our congregation, school, early childhood center, worship services, groups, and community events touch the lives of around 300 people each week. Nearly every available room has been pressed into service. Our mission has simply outgrown our available space.

The theme of our Ministry Expansion Campaign is "Firmly Rooted, Boldly Building," drawn from Colossians 2:6–7: "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith."

We are firmly rooted in Christ and in His unshakeable grace and presence with us. We are grateful for those whose faith and generosity built the ministry we enjoy today. Now, with that same faith and gratitude, we are called to prepare St. Paul for the opportunities God is placing before us.

This campaign centers on three priorities. First, we will strengthen our Foundation by retiring the remaining mortgage and freeing resources for future ministry. Second, we will support Growth by developing the Commons, a flexible space for fellowship, Bible study, school activities, meetings, and future needs, as well as creating a safe, updated playground for our children and neighborhood families. Finally, we will deepen our individual and shared commitment to Outreach. New space is not an end in itself, but a tool for sharing the Gospel, serving our neighbors, and growing as a church.

Because our foundation in Jesus Christ is unshakable, we can step forward in faith and build boldly for the future.

I invite you to read this booklet prayerfully. Consider how God may be calling you to give, serve, invite, encourage, and pray. May the Lord keep us rooted in Christ, united in purpose, and bold in building for the sake of His kingdom.

In Christ,

A Word From Our Principal

Every morning as our students walk through the front doors, I am reminded of what a profound privilege it is to serve this community. There is a joy in these hallways that is hard to put into words, but you can certainly feel it.

Over the past few seasons, God has done something truly extraordinary here. Families are seeking us out because of our Christ-centered environment, our dedicated educators, and our commitment to academic excellence. While this recognition is incredibly humbling, it has also brought us to a beautifully unique moment in our history.

Simply put, our school family has outgrown our physical walls.

Right now, every single classroom on our campus is being used during the week. Our media center is constantly buzzing with activity as we maximize every square inch. We are at a point where our future growth—and our ability to serve current student needs with optimal space—is limited strictly by our square footage, not by our passion or our calling.

The "Firmly Rooted, Boldly Building" campaign is our proactive answer to this blessing. This is not about fixing a problem; it is about providing room for a flourishing school to keep moving forward. By expanding our facilities, we are ensuring that future generations of students have the space to learn, play, and grow in their faith.

Thank you for your partnership, your prayers, your shared dedication to our kids, and your gifts. I am incredibly excited to take this bold step forward together.

In Christ,

Suzanne Alms

Principal, St. Paul Lutheran School

Thriving Ministry, Limited Space: Why It Is Time Again

The case for support, grounded in where St. Paul stands today.

God has grown St. Paul's ministry faster than St. Paul's walls. Roughly 150 people are on campus Monday through Friday between the congregation, the day school, early childcare, and the infant and toddler program. Every classroom, the media center, and even the sacristy is already in use. There is no room left over: not for a Bible study during the week, not for a vicar, not for the current needs in terms of classroom space for the school.

This is not a story of decline or crisis. It is the opposite: St. Paul Lutheran Church and School is growing. The school is becoming known as a destination school, presenting its methods at District and National LCMS educator conferences, and the congregation has also seen continual growth in welcoming new members, increased community engagement, and calls for outreach to expand beyond our walls. Supporting these needs is currently capped by square footage, not by people, passion, or calling.

The last time this congregation expanded its facilities to match its ministry was 1993. It is time again, and not because the building is failing, but because the mission has grown.

This campaign exists to enable ministry already underway (a flourishing school and a congregation hungry for fellowship and outreach) to keep moving forward.

The Three Pillars

Everything in this campaign fits under one of three pillars: Foundation, Growth, and Outreach.

Pillar 1 — Foundation: Retire the Mortgage

What: Pay off the remaining mortgage balance (approximately \$115,000).

Why: This frees roughly \$35,000 per year currently spent on debt service, redirecting it permanently to ministry. A congregation entering its next chapter completely debt-free does so from a position of opportunity and gratitude, not obligation. This is a fitting first step before asking the congregation to build again.

The present mortgage enabled the creation of 3 classrooms and the media center, expansion of the kitchen, and renovation of the fellowship hall and adjacent rooms. God has richly blessed those initial gifts into a ministry that has served—and continues to serve—so many children and their families for nearly 35 years (think of the school children hearing about Jesus, the Vacation Bible School alive with joy, the Sunday school classes, and the meetings that have moved St. Paul forward). The congregation acknowledges and thanks God for all the blessings stemming from the mortgage and those who gave sacrificially to support St. Paul over these years.

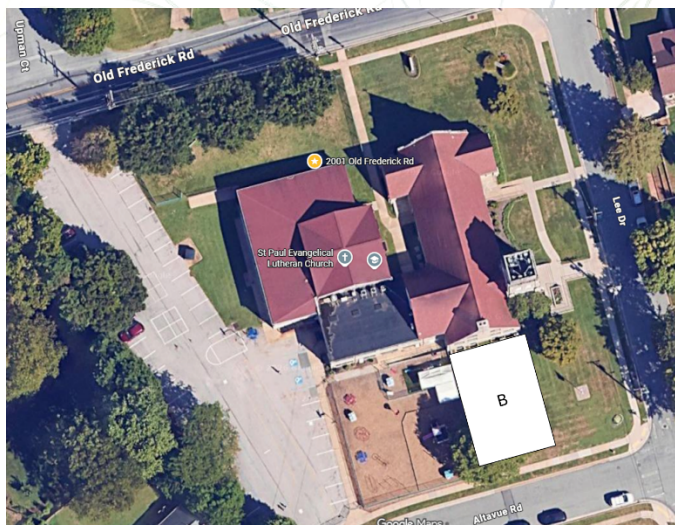
Pillar 2 — Growth: The Commons and a New Playground

What: Project 1. Construction of the Commons: a new flexible, multi-purpose addition (approximately \$550,000).

Why: This addresses the documented space crisis directly. While there is historical enthusiasm for a gymnasium, a true gym runs \$3M+, while our realistic 3-year campaign has a capacity closer to \$675K–\$900K total (1.5–2x annual giving of roughly \$450K), which must be spread across every priority. Rather than drop the idea, a right sized addition to address most of what the gym idea was meant to solve: a weekday meeting space for Bible studies or church meetings, small office space for additional staff, an indoor gathering and play space for the school, and potentially a new fellowship hall for Sunday school, receptions, and other events. Details: The Commons could be a new, 2-story space, with a lower level built to fellowship-hall-grade standards (i.e., standard ceiling height, durable flooring) instead of athletic-grade gym construction, serving as a large indoor space. This indoor space may also (or alternatively) allow future renovations for classroom expansion. The upper level, including renovations to the church office, would provide several meeting spaces and bathrooms proximal to the Narthex.

Consideration for the Commons

Expansion goes in location B, and includes renovation of church office, with current office space converted to meeting spaces with renovated bathrooms proximal to the Sanctuary and Narthex and leading to new offices at south end of expansion. A lower-level buildout would serve as an indoor play area and new space for events, receptions, or Bible study.



What: Project 2. A new playground (approximately \$150,000).

Why: Our school is serving children from infancy through fifth grade and needs an updated playground to provide a safe, developmentally appropriate environment that supports the varying physical, social, and cognitive needs of each age group. Modern playground equipment that meets current safety standards helps reduce the risk of injuries while encouraging active play, collaboration, and healthy development for students. Because the playground serves as a gathering place and is also used by neighborhood children outside of school hours, updating it

will strengthen the broader community by providing a safe, accessible space where local families can gather, children can stay active, and lasting community connections can grow. The playground supports the school's recruitment and reputation, gives the surrounding neighborhood a reason to see St. Paul as a welcoming presence, and creates a gathering point for families before and after school and worship.

Pillar 3 — Outreach: A Covenant of Prayer, Service, and Engagement

What: Every giving household is asked to make two commitments, not one: a financial gift toward Foundation and Growth, and a personal commitment to one specific act of outreach or service over the three years of the campaign. Examples could include serving at an existing outreach event, inviting a neighbor to worship, or hosting a small group in the new Commons once it opens.

Why: A campaign that is only about buildings risks becoming only about buildings. The St. Paul 2030 planning document is explicit that the goal of outreach is not new members, but new disciples reached with the Gospel. Pairing the financial ask with a non-monetary discipleship commitment keeps the campaign Christ-centered and ties every new square foot back to its purpose: more room for ministry, not just more room.

Goal	Illustrative Raise	Triggers
Goal 1 (first 6 months)	~\$250,000	Mortgage retired; architectural design finalized for the Commons and playground renovation
Goal 2	~\$500,000	Groundbreaking on the Commons; playground installed
Goal 3 (full goal)	\$675,000–\$900,000	Commons finished and furnished

We know that a three-year pledge may seem like a significant amount. However, it can be helpful to think of it as a monthly gift to the Lord and to St. Paul. For example, a total pledge of \$3,000 over three years is about \$83 per month, while a \$10,000 pledge is about \$278 per month. Every household is invited to prayerfully consider its own commitment. There is no single “right” amount.

Theme & Scripture

“Firmly Rooted, Boldly Building”

Anchored in Colossians 2:6–7, which speaks of being rooted and built up in Christ, walking in Him with thanksgiving. The theme maps directly onto the three pillars: “rooted” reflects Foundation (becoming debt-free, grounded in gratitude for the past); “building” reflects Growth (the Commons and the playground); and the verse's call to abound in thanksgiving reflects Outreach (a generous, others-facing response to what God has given).

Campaign Timeline

September 13 - Campaign Kickoff Sunday

The Mission Unveiled

God has grown St. Paul's ministry faster than our walls. Join us as we officially launch our Ministry Expansion Campaign and unveil the master plans to remove our structural caps. See how we are building room for the future of our church, our destination day school, and our community.

October 30 - Leadership Commitment Event

Leading the Way

Before we invite our broader community to pledge, our staff, elders, and ministry leaders gather to pave the way. This intentional evening is a dedicated time to celebrate how God is moving through St. Paul Church and School, review our structural plans, and make advanced giving commitments. By leading with our sacrifice, we set the spiritual foundation necessary to break through our walls and expand our mission.

November 15 - Commitment Celebration

Committing in Faith

This is a defining moment as a church family. Having spent weeks in prayer and fellowship, we will gather corporately to submit our financial pledge cards. Together, we follow the example set by our leadership to prayerfully invest in the spiritual legacy of St. Paul for generations to come.

December 6 - First Gifts Sunday

Activating the Vision

Today, our promised commitments become an active ministry. We gather our initial wave of physical and digital financial offerings to officially launch the St. Paul Expansion Fund. Your first fruits giving directly breaks the space limitations holding back our weekday Bible studies, school growth, and community outreach.

January 2027 to December 2029 - Fulfillment

Turning Pledges into Ministry

The launch of our campaign is just the beginning; the true transformation happens over the next three years. Your steady, faithful giving over this 36-month window is what transforms our shared vision into tangible classrooms, open meeting spaces, and room for outreach to thrive.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN *Giving Chart*

Together We Build for His Glory

Over the next three years, we invite every family to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to give. Every gift—of every size—helps build our future for generations to come.



OUR GOAL:

**\$675,000 –
\$900,000**



*Building a stronger future
for our church, our community
and God's Kingdom.*

OUR 3-YEAR GIVING COMMITMENT

TOTAL TO RAISE OVER 3 YEARS	AVERAGE TO RAISE PER YEAR
\$675,000	\$225,000
\$900,000	\$300,000

HOW MANY FAMILIES ARE NEEDED AT EACH GIFT LEVEL

3-YEAR TOTAL GIFT AMOUNT	FAMILIES NEEDED TO RAISE \$675,000	FAMILIES NEEDED TO RAISE \$900,000	AVERAGE GIFT PER YEAR
 \$25,000+	3 families (\$25,000 each = \$75,000)	4 families (\$25,000 each = \$100,000)	\$8,333+
 \$10,000 – \$24,999	11 families (\$15,000 average = \$165,000)	15 families (\$15,000 average = \$225,000)	\$3,333 – \$8,333
 \$5,000 – \$9,999	24 families (\$7,500 average = \$180,000)	34 families (\$7,500 average = \$255,000)	\$1,667 – \$3,333
 \$2,500 – \$4,999	35 families (\$3,500 average = \$122,500)	50 families (\$3,500 average = \$175,000)	\$833 – \$1,667
 \$1,000 – \$2,499	52 families (\$1,750 average = \$91,000)	69 families (\$1,750 average = \$120,750)	\$333 – \$833
 \$500 – \$999	68 families (\$750 average = \$51,000)	90 families (\$750 average = \$67,500)	\$167 – \$333
 \$250 – \$499	63 families (\$375 average = \$23,625)	84 families (\$375 average = \$31,500)	\$83 – \$167
TOTAL	256 families (\$707,125*)	346 families (\$975,750*)	

* Totals exceed each goal to provide a cushion for unfulfilled commitments.



*Every family. Every gift. Every year for three years.
Together, we build for His glory.*



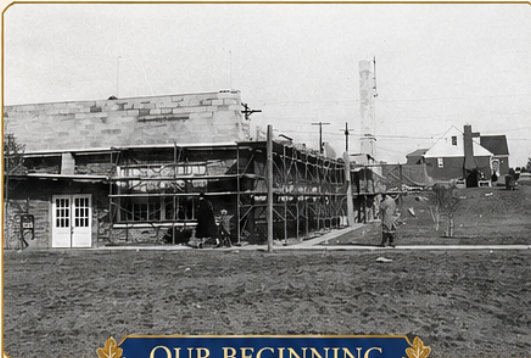


ROOTED IN FAITH. *Built for the Future.*



Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord,
so walk in him, rooted and built up in him
and established in the faith,
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

(Col. 2:6-7)



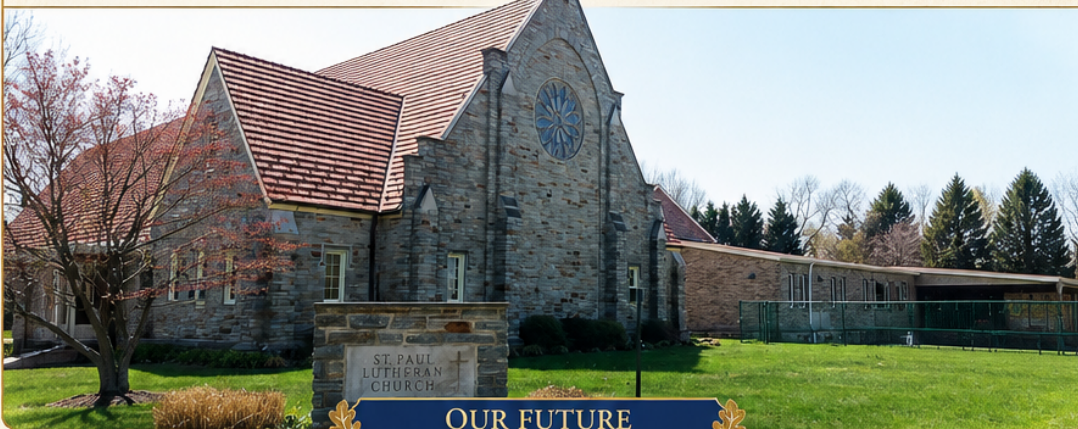
OUR BEGINNING

Rooted in Faith



OUR GROWTH

Built with Purpose



OUR FUTURE

Building for Generations

FIRMLY ROOTED. BOLDLY BUILDING.



NOTES

Firmly Rooted, Boldly Building

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FIRMLY ROOTED, *Boldly Building*

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Colossians 2:6-7

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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