

1. Q. **What's the Cost?**

A. The total cost of the project is approximately \$3 million. The amount that we are trying to raise in the Ministry Expansion Campaign is \$1.2 million. The church currently has \$340,000 in the bank allocated for the project with an additional amount estimated to be approximately \$300,000 to be potentially allocated to the project. The long-term mortgage amount to be financed should be no more than \$1.2 million.

2. Q. **What's the timeline?**

A. The Ministry Expansion Campaign formally kicks off on March 16th and runs for three years. The construction of the new classroom building and modernization of the existing church building will take approximately one year once ground-breaking takes place. The target date for ground-breaking is September 1st, 2025.

3. Q. **How does this help our ministry?**

A. Upon completion of the project, we will have more classroom space to accommodate approximately 120 students. The church will also have a new fellowship hall, new and improved bathrooms, new heating and central air conditioning throughout the entire building as well as a new and enlarged parking lot.

4. Q. **Will this effect tuition?**

A. No. School tuition is completely unrelated to this endeavor.

5. Q. **What will be the long-term loan amount with LCEF upon campaign completion?**

A. Approximately \$1.1 - \$1.2 million on the high side. If we over-achieve with our campaign and keep our building costs down without accessing the contingency account (\$240,000), we reduce the amount of the long-term mortgage and free up money to address our staffing challenges that come with expanded facilities and programs.

6. Q. How much more will our monthly offering be to service the increased monthly mortgage payment to LCEF?

A. If our long-term mortgage is approximately \$1.2 million, that would require a monthly payment of between \$7,000 and \$8,000 (interest dependent). With approximately 100 giving families in our congregation, that would amount to between \$70 and \$80 additional offering per month per family above and beyond our current giving. If we over-achieve in our Ministry Expansion Campaign thus lowering our long-term mortgage principle, that will reduce the monthly mortgage payment.

7. Q. Why are we embarking on this ambitious project?

A. Bottom line - To provide more opportunities for adults and children to hear the Gospel.

8. Q. When will ground-breaking happen?

A. The target date to break ground on the new classroom building is September 1st. The plan is to get the new building completed and students moved into the new building then complete the modernization of the existing building.

9. Q. Should the voters approve additional work in our sanctuary to increase seating capacity and/or improve aesthetics, how will that be paid for?

A. The thought at this point is to allocate a portion of the Stephen and Ann James bequest to pay for any improvements to our sanctuary. The voters would make that decision upon seeing proposals from the Sanctuary Beautification Committee.

10. Q. Can the vacant property that the church currently owns (located north of the fence in our backyard and in New Mexico) be sold to help raise funds?

A. Possibly. However, the voters made it clear that they do not endorse selling any property at this time.

11. Q. Can lessons learned and techniques utilized during the Ministry Expansion Campaign be used later for the long-term sustainability of our church and school?

A. Absolutely! Once we have succeeded in accomplishing our Ministry Expansion objectives during this project, we should, in fact, utilize these same techniques and processes for our church and school well into the future. What we are using now for our Ministry Expansion Campaign is a time proven process that works!

12. Q. Why are we using LCEF's Ministry Solutions and what is the cost?

A. Ministry Solutions has been used by many LCMS congregations over the years with proven results. Ministry Solutions has a

dedicated organization with years of expertise that has helped many congregations achieve their ministry expansion objectives. The cost to Hope is \$40,000. On the average, congregations that utilize Ministry Solutions over-achieve to the tune of 106% on the financial side.

13. Q. Is Ministry Solutions only about raising money?

A. No! That is only part of the mission. Ministry Solutions also brings congregations together in the common goal of increasing opportunities to spread the Gospel. This can include brick and mortar facilities, program review and enhancement, team-building and much more. Bringing Ministry Solutions onboard to assist us in this project is a long-term investment for the overall health and enhancement of our church and school outreach efforts.

14.Q. If one decides to contribute financially to the Ministry Expansion Campaign, how long does one have to fulfil one's commitment?

A. One has up to three years to fulfil one's commitment. One can do this incrementally on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis; or, a single lump sum.

15. Q. Who do I contact if I have questions about the modernization of the existing building and the new classroom building?

A. Any Building Committee member (Nancy Carlson, Matthew Rose, Kurt Pavlat) will be able to answer your questions.

16. Q. Who do I contact if I have questions about the Ministry Expansion Campaign?

A. The Campaign Team will be publishing a Campaign Booklet that provides a general overview of the project and ministry expansion campaign plus a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document will be published and available. If one has additional questions, any campaign team member will be able to respond to questions. The FAQ document is a living document that will be updated as additional questions are asked.

17. Q. Of the \$340,000 currently in the bank allocated for the project, where did those monies come from?

A. \$240,000 is from the Phyllis Berry bequest and \$80,000 from the sale of the modulars plus interest.

18. Q. In question #1, it is mentioned that \$300,000 may be available for construction costs for the project. Where do these funds come from?

A. These monies that may potentially be available for this project would be from the Stephen and Ann James estate bequeathed to the church. This is an estimate and still must be approved by the church voters. It is estimated that the estate may total around \$500,000 once the estate is probated. The \$300,000 estimate is speculative and could vary from \$0 to the full \$500,000, depending on the voters' wishes.

19. Q. If one contributes digitally via our website, is there a surcharge?

A. Yes. 1% if funds are transferred from a checking account and 2.9% if funds are transferred from a credit card.

20. Q. When the construction contract is signed, will there be a clause that accounts for the volatility of the materials cost or is it a fixed cost contract?

A. There is a clause that accounts for changes in materials costs. We are responsible for increases in costs of materials.

21. Q. Will sweat labor provided by the congregation be used during the building process.

A. No, except congregational members may be asked to help clean up, move playground equipment, do landscaping, etc. All trades work will be performed by licensed, bonded and insured contractors to code.

22. Q. Will there be enough storage?

A. There should be quite a bit more. It is the building committee's recommendation that the voters appoint a "space allocation committee" to determine how our church spaces are utilized best after the modernization.

23. Q. What is the status of obtaining the building permit?

A. The process is still ongoing. All permits should be in place by July.

24. Q. Can a portico be added to the front doors?

A. This would require additional permitting since this would be added to our current footprint. We are too far into the process of permitting to make further changes.

25. Q. How much was collected by the matching funds offer prior to the New Year?

A. Approximately \$185,000 was collected prior to January 1st, 2025.

26. Q. Where are the various church and school funds housed?

A. Great question! Our church and school funds are located at Bank of Idaho, Thrivent, Westmark Credit Union and at LCEF. The Board of Directors through direction provided by the voters over the years, attempts to maximize interest earned using these different accounts. The financial report provided to the voters at regular voters meetings typically provides this information.

27. Q. Will a public address (PA) system be installed throughout the new and existing buildings?

A. The building committee is working with our architect and builder to determine the feasibility of retrofitting such a system into the existing building. This will be requested for the new classroom building.

28. Q. For our school, are children of all faiths or no faith accepted as students?

A. Yes! All children are accepted without regard to faith. Our school makes it clear that every child will hear the Gospel message in addition to receiving an excellent classical education.