

St. Joseph Messenger

Volume 1: Issue 1
October 2020

Building on Faith

A publication of the St. Joseph Facilities Planning Team

Welcome to the first edition of the *St. Joseph Messenger*, a monthly newsletter providing updates on the New Church Building project. This newsletter is produced by the Communications Team, a subgroup of the Facilities Planning Team. In addition to providing updates on the new church building project, the newsletter will include information about project teams, the parish, and the parishioners. While this is all being done on a volunteer basis, we hope to publish the *St. Joseph Messenger* monthly. Maybe you want to help? Contact any member of the Communications Team to get involved.

New Church Project Update

After a brief pandemic hiatus, the Facilities Planning Team (FPT) has resumed meeting to move the new church building process forward. The following is the current status of the process.

Feasibility Study and Results. During the pandemic break, the Feasibility Study was completed and available for parishioner review. Based on the parishioner responses, the FPT has taken a few steps:

- 1) An engineering firm completed a comprehensive study of the current Crosby campus. The results projected over \$2 million to fix and maintain the existing structures over the next 20 years. (It did not include costs to expand/update space.) Based on the results, the FPT feels building a new church campus is prudent. See page 4 for more about the report.
- 2) The architect is adjusting the conceptual design including changes to the office area, adding interior colors, alternatives for the nave ceiling and a covered entry. Changes are also being made to the sanctuary along with the addition of side altars.
- 3) A cost estimator is working to determine the following costs: a vaulted/arched ceiling, choir loft variations, one-level vs. utilizing a basement for classrooms, and the cost for a one-phase vs. multi-phase approach.

New Teams Created. As we move toward a capital campaign, the FPT created three new teams: Communications Team, Events Team, and General Contractor Selection Team. Co-Chairs for each of these teams will be seeking additional volunteers. In addition, the formation of the Capital Campaign Team will be coming soon. If you have an interest in joining one or more of these teams, contact one of the Co-Chairs listed on page 3 of this newsletter.

Capital Campaign. With the current uncertainty, we will delay starting a capital campaign; however, the St. Joseph Finance Council approved hiring Hal Johnson & Associates to assist the FPT with the capital campaign. While the timing is not set in stone, the FPT hopes the campaign will begin in late spring 2021.

If anyone has questions about the status or would like to volunteer, feel free to talk with any of the Facilities Planning Team.

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

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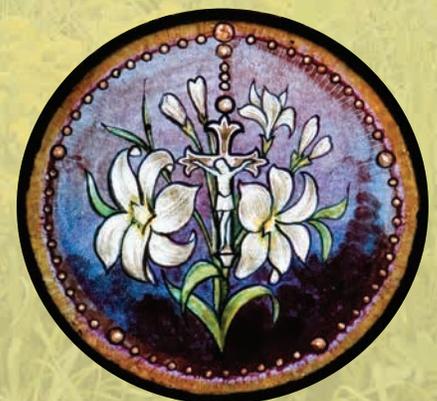
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Q & A

Want to learn more about the new church campus building project? The following questions might have crossed your mind, here are the answers.

Q: Will not having a bishop delay the building project?

A: While we were waiting for a bishop to be appointed, Fr. Eli had asked Fr. Jim Bissonette, our administrator, what our process would look like. Fr. Bissonette said we should continue our project as normal. Things that normally require diocesan approval are now reviewed/approved by the College of Consultors. So, if there is not a Bishop when we are ready to start the capital campaign, we will ask the College of Consultors.

Q: At what point/s will the Diocese review and/or approve our plans?

A: There are two points in the process that we must have diocesan approval: 1) for permission to start a capital campaign, and 2) we will need approval for building plans before we can start construction.

Q: When will the capital campaign start?

A: We are hoping to start the campaign in late Spring

2021, however there are a lot of factors that could alter the timeframe. Two big factors are the pandemic and the economy. The best we can say is stay tuned.

Q: Do we have finalized architectural plans yet?

A: The plans provided at the Presentation and Dialogue meetings were conceptual designs. Based on the reactions from the feasibility study, we are making adjustments to those plans. As we move forward with the capital campaign, the plans may be adjusted, and there will likely be two more architectural phases: Design Development and Construction Documents.

Q: Has the Deerwood church property sold?

A: Yes. It closed in September. The Finance Council has designated the money to go toward the building project.

If you have question about the new church building project for an upcoming issue of the St. Joseph Messenger, send a note to Joan Hasskamp at joankid@embarqmail.com.

Gloria Bordwell and the Willow Tree



Parishioner Spotlight by Joan Hasskamp

On the east side of the new church property stands a willow tree. In 2004 Gloria Bordwell had it planted in memory of her husband, Elmer, who died on May 29 of that year.

Gloria had always wanted a willow tree. While Elmer wasn't enthusiastic about a willow in the yard, he agreed it would be a good addition to the pasture. Sadly, Elmer died before starting the project. Two months after his death, Gloria asked her son Bruce to plant a willow tree as a memorial to Elmer.

When Gloria first looked at the newly planted willow, she said it resembled a twig, and a sad looking one at that. She doubted it would ever grow. But grow it did, and now it stands wide, tall, and hardy.

"We moved to the property in 1969, and whenever I look at the tree, it brings comfort and reminds me of all the good times Elmer and I had together," Gloria said. She sold the property to the church with the contingency that the willow tree would remain, a beautiful reminder of Elmer and the love they shared.



Gloria Bordwell



Willow tree planted for Elmer

Planning and Building Process Committees

As we move through the planning and building process, committees will be added, dissolved, and adjusted. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact any team chair or Facilities Planning Team member listed below.

Prayer Guild

Pray for special intentions.

Mary Lee Dallman (Team Contact)

Gloria Bordwell	Linda Braynard
Kolly Hudrlik	Charles Lindberg
Lynn Maag	Renee and Bob Rodenborn
Carol Williams	Connie and Harold Zeitler
Sue Zgutowicz	

Facilities Planning Team

Oversees all other committees/teams.

Dcn. Dan Goshey (Chair)

Mike Aulie	Dr. Rachel Cady
Fr. Anthony Craig	Steve Freese
Joan Hasskamp	Kim Hutchison
Michelle LeMieur	Doreen Miller-Fish
Joanne Ruttger	Tommy Sablan
Justin Smith	

Events Team

Planning events for the parish.

Mike Aulie (Co-Chair)	Tommy Sablan (Co-Chair)
Nicole Bugnacki	Dr. Rachel Cady
Brian Franck	Joan Hasskamp
Michelle LeMieur	Joanne Ruttger
Justin Smith	

Communication Team

Develop communication tools to inform parishioners about current project status.

Joan Hasskamp (Co-Chair)	Doreen Miller-Fish (Co-Chair)
Theresa Backowski	Nicole Bugnacki
Brian Franck	Kim Hutchison
Michelle LeMieur	

Church Architecture Design Team

Working with architect to create initial rendering and changes based on Feasibility Study feedback.

Doreen Miller-Fish (Chair)

Fr. Anthony Craig	Steve Freese
Jan Boumeester	Michelle LeMieur
Tammy Ringhand	Tommy Sablan
Justin Smith	

General Contractor Selection Team

Identifying and selecting a General Contractor.

Steve Freese (Co-Chair)	Doreen Miller-Fish (Co-Chair)
Fr. Anthony Craig	Jim Goshey
Jay Hofmann	Mark Hudrlik
Jerry Hutchison	Jim Kirzeder
Tommy Sablan	Keith Schaeffbauer
Luke Wehseler	



Volunteer Focus

Kim Hutchison, Facilities Planning Team

Kim moved to the area in 1987 from Eastern Iowa where she grew up on a small farm. She is an Assessment Specialist at Crow Wing County Land Services in Brainerd. She also works in the family business with her husband, Jerry, who is a self-employed excavating contractor. Married 24 years, Kim and Jerry have two sons: Evan who is in 11th grade and Trevor who is a college freshman. The Hutchison family became members of St. Joseph in Deerwood around 2000.

Kim describes herself as detail-oriented and adept at absorbing a large number of facts. She enjoys planning and organizing, and takes commitments and obligations seriously. She likes writing, reading, proof-reading, math, and baking cookies. She considers herself an introvert rather than an extrovert, yet is comfortable visiting with different people. She finds it easier to listen to others than talk about herself. Kim believes everyone (else) has an interesting story!



Kim Hutchison



St. Joseph Prayer Guild

The St. Joseph Prayer Guild was the first team formed related to the building project and provides “intentional” prayer support to the Planning and Building Teams of the St. Joseph Parish ‘new church’ building process. The guild operates on the premise that prayer is foundational to any project, large or small. Organized in the Spring of 2019, the Prayer Guild has made individual commitments to saying intentional prayers towards the intentions requested by the Planning and Building Teams and always for God’s Will to be known and acted upon. Some of us say a daily rosary, make an extra trip to the adoration chapel, attend a daily Mass, recite daily prayers or novenas, fast, or some other sacrifice focusing on the special intentions that have been communicated. We make special attempts to pray during meeting times, usually in our St. Joseph chapel. Most recently we have begun to recite the Holy Rosary at the new church property at 10 AM on the First Saturday of the month (weather permitting).

Current Prayer Intentions:

- 1) We pray for additional members and leaders to step forward for various new and existing teams. We pray for their willingness to become involved and continued openness to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.
- 2) We pray that all who have expressed interest in the church building project are contacted; and that suitable tasks are assigned to each that has a desire to be involved, received in good fellowship and faith.

JOIN THE PRAYER GUILD

We need more intentional prayer warriors, an instrumental way in helping to build our new church, a place to worship the Lord.

If you are feeling called to assist in this ministry, please contact Mary Lee Dallman: 218-851-0193 or maryleedallman58@gmail.com.

- 3) We pray for inspiration and direction from the Holy Spirit as updates and desired changes are implemented into the church building design.
- 4) We pray for the newly formed Communication Team, that they will be transparent and easily understood by all parish members and that they will be able to answer the many questions and give guidance with compassion.
- 5) We pray that the Capital Campaign Team will be inspired with a theme and design that can clearly identify our goal and inspire parishioners.
- 6) We pray for our Pastor, Father Anthony, for his spiritual strength and guidance as he shepherds our parish through this exciting time.

Engineer Study Results of Current Campus

In response to comments received from the Feasibility Study completed last Spring, Criterium Engineers (CE) was hired to conduct a Capital Needs Assessment for the current church campus. Their report identified improvement and maintenance requirements over the next 20 years, and estimated costs for the improvements in today’s dollar is \$1,749,994 and in excess of \$2,000,000 when expanded out over 20 years with inflation.

The report did not include any costs associated with remodeling to expand the church capacity. Costs for additional remodeling or renovation are unknown, but we can use other area church projects as a benchmark: St. Francis in Brainerd cost \$3.5 million, and St. Andrew in Brainerd cost \$2.2 million. Expanding the church creates challenges of its own because it is landlocked on three sides and thus offers limited options for adding parking at the current site.

CE used a non-invasive methodology and did not inspect underground utilities/drainage structures, underground foundation, site and roof features covered by snow,

spaces concealed by finishes, furnishings and equipment, mechanical and electrical enclosures, and certain equipment and furnishings. Any costs associated to fix problems in these areas are not included in their assessment. They also did not include costs to update the facilities for ADA and Building Code compliance. It is unknown if any of these areas could increase maintenance costs to the current site.

Add the CE improvements to potential renovation costs, and the total cost could exceed \$5.5 million, even before including ADA and Building Code Compliance. Based on the combined expense to fix/expand the current campus, limited expansion options, growing parish needs, and positive support from the feasibility study, the Facilities Planning Team feels confident that building a new church, in a phased approach if necessary, is the best solution for our church community.

If you would like to read the full report of improvements identified by CE, you may check out a copy at the church office. You may also check out a copy of the final Feasibility Study by HJA.

A Farewell Brings New Beginnings

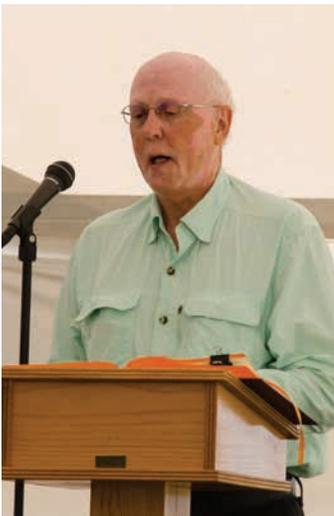
St. Joseph parish celebrated our last Sunday Mass with Fr. Eli Gieske at the new church property on July 12, 2020.



Fr. Elias Gieske Consecrated the property before Mass



Dcn. Dan Goshey in the Processional



Steve Freese



Fr. George Zeck



Chris Ruttger



Schola choir and various musicians provided music



CCW provided refreshments

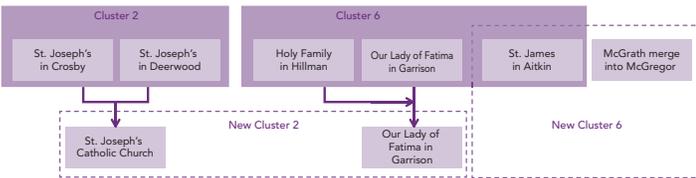
Where are we in the process?



Diocesan Strategic Plan



- ✓ Diocesan Strategic Plan requests that the two St. Joseph's parishes merge and build new.



Planning Commission



- ✓ Assemble Future Planning Commission to guide the process of assessing the viability of the two current locations.
- ✓ Tour/consult with other churches, asking how they decided to build new, their building process, and what criteria they used to pick locations.
- ✓ Examine the viability of existing properties vs. a new location. *The decision to look for a new location was made.*
- ✓ Search for a new location for the new church.
- ✓ Review and select a location for the new church.
- ✓ Purchase new property.
- ✓ Visit and discuss with other parishes doing building projects to learn their process and discern what our process should look like.



Building Plan & Fundraising



- ✓ Assemble a Facilities Planning Team with members from both parishes.
- ✓ Talk with representatives from all groups and employees to determine needs. Prioritize all needs.
- ✓ Seek input from parishioners on general needs/hopes for the parish.
- ✓ Reassess priorities based on parish feedback.
- ✓ Establish Fundraising Committee.
- ✓ Select a company to lead feasibility study/capital campaign.
- ✓ Seek RFP's and select an architect
- ✓ Create an initial church design based on prioritized needs.
- ✓ Initiate and complete a feasibility study.
- ✓ Share feasibility study with parishioners.
- ✓ Adjust plans based on feasibility study and parishioner feedback.
- Seek RFP's and select a General Contractor
- Develop detailed building plans and building costs with the Architect and General Contractor.
- Submit plans to Presbyteral Council for approval to start capital campaign.
- Start the capital campaign.



Build New Church



- Create construction documents for new campus
- Once we raise 75% of the cost of the total project, we can begin building.
 - Uncollected pledges are counted as 75% of their full value toward the goal.
- Groundbreaking at new site.
- Build church campus.
- Move into new location.
- First mass in new church.
- Closing of Crosby Church