Subject: Parish Center Update

Date: January 29, 2016

Parish Center Architectual Plans

The Village of Kewaskum Planning Commission reviewed our Plans on December 22nd. Our plans have been submitted to the State of Wisconsin for approval of State Building Permits. We have also submitted a request to the Village of Kewaskum Board of Appeals for a variance set-back request on Prospect Street. We anticipate receiving an approval for this request.

Secondly, we've had 425 contractors view or take out bid requests on the various aspects of our project. These are due in late January. Working with CD Smith, we will sort through these bids to ensure we get the best value in cost, quality and service that is available in construction practices for our Parish Center. As Joel Fleischman, Co-Chair of Holy Trinity Building Committee stated, "We look forward to working with many local contractors and parish members. We continue to pray to have the Lord's help in the building process."

WE BELIEVE Campaign

We had four wonderful Advance Commitment events last week. About 180 parishioners came to these events. Father spoke with passion about his years here at Holy Trinity & St. Michael. Tony Fleischman spoke about the future generations that will benefit from our Parish Center. Mark Filips asked all of us to make a sacrificial gift. Our Building Committee, Architect and Builder representatives reviewed plans and answered questions. The events had great food/drink and wonderful networking. We sincerely thank Tony & Chris Fleischman and members of our Advanced Commitment planning team, all of whom worked so diligently and graciously to put on these events. They were titled:

- Tasty Tuesday – January 19th – 41 attendees
- Coffee & Conversation – January 20th -- 37 attendees
- Tea & Truffles – January 21st -- 20 attendees
- An Old Fashioned Gathering – January 21st -- 81 attendees

Goals for Our Campaign

We have **reached 73%** of our Goal of $2.5 million (pledges & cash). We have much work to do as we want to be at 100% of our goal when we meet with the Archdiocesan Building Commission on Feb. 11th. Please consider making a sacrificial pledge or donation by February 6 & 7th. These are 3-year pledges. We sincerely thank those who have already donated or made a pledge to our WE BELIEVE campaign. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

WE BELIEVE Donations are Tax Deductible

In case you are wondering, all WE BELIEVE donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Also, the Archdiocese does not charge any assessments on restricted accounts and WE BELIEVE is a restricted account, so all money donated will remain here in our parishes.

Holy Trinity Parish

Question: Why is the Parish Center being planned when Holy Trinity has debt?

Answer: Holy Trinity is ***debt-free.***

*T*ithing Update

Question: Will Holy Trinity tithing decline when we kick off our We Believe Capital Campaign?

Answer: Holy Trinity tithing (weekly giving) has increased during the time that we've been working on our We Believe campaign. We started this project in June, 2015 with our Feasibility Study. For the time period below, Holy Trinity tithing has <u>increased 14%</u>:

$232,781   Tithing Totals   July 1, 2014 – January 11, 2015

$265,781   Tithing Totals   July 1, 2015 – January 10, 2016 or **$33,000 Increase**

Yearly Upkeep Costs

Question: We have a commitment for $25,000 annually, for 10 years, for on-going costs for the Parish Center. Do we have any expectations regarding the expected annual costs?

Answer: For 2014, total heating and electric costs for HT School were roughly $26,750. We expect that additional utility costs for the new facilities will not be as much as that of the entire school. For instance, most gyms are not air conditioned, so AC costs for the gym would be minimal, also gym temperatures are held at a lower level than the rest of the school. Rental charges would be priced to cover any expected facilities costs for rented events. Increased student enrollment will provide additional revenue to help cover overall parish/school costs.

Holy Trinity & St. Michael Case Statement

Question: We think the Parish should continue as is, so why should we donate to We Believe?

Answer: Our WE BELIEVE campaign is for many necessary & delayed needs: These include:

- Upgrading school bathrooms that are more than 50 years old and constantly leak.
- Upgrading technology, curriculum & textbooks for our Holy Trinity School and our CCD and CYE religious education programs that continue to add more students.
- Tuck pointing and painting the exterior of Holy Trinity Church.
- Creating an Angel Fund for tuition support for families that need financial help.
- Creating an Emergency Reserve Fund to take care of major failures as they occur.
- Resurfacing Holy Trinity parking lot and creating additional parking.
- Creating a modern kitchen and seating areas for large gatherings such as funerals.
- Creating parish offices to handle our increasing traffic due to our growing parish.
- Collecting funds to offer to our Nicaraguan sister parish and local needs in our area.

As We All Know It's A Matter of Priority

As Mother Teresa said so many times, "No one is so rich that they can't receive, nor so poor they can't give." Every rich person can use a few more friends, a few more hugs, a few more stress-free days….And every financially challenged person has something they can give up!

A Benedictine priest friend was visiting their missions in Africa. He visited churches that were on poles with thatched roofs. At offertory time, to make a gift to his Benedictine parishes in the USA to assist them, they took up a collection of coins & chickens & goats. Even these people in African missions had gifts they could find to give. So, most people have something to give. Even if it's a small gift per month or a small gift per year, most of us have gifts to share.