

**Subject:** Parish Center Update

**Date:** July 23, 2016

We have lots of updates regarding items needed for our new Parish Center. At a meeting of HT Building Committee on July 13<sup>th</sup>, about 25-30 parishioners were in attendance. Many were members of sub-committees, plus others were heavy users of the Parish Center. Decisions were made regarding items that we need to purchase now, due to timing of installation.

Some items will now be purchased using WE BELIEVE funds. Also, many parishioners have come forward and donated items. Enclosed is a summary. We've also marked these on the boards in the Narthex. There's still many items that we're seeking donations. We sincerely thank our parishioners who donated items listed below.

**Wish List Items:**

- Stained Glass Window Over Entrance – Donated by parishioner in memory of his wife.
- Cherry Wood for Ceiling in Entrance – Donated by family in memory of husband/father.
- Crucifix in Café – Donated by parishioner in memory of her mother.
- Commercial-Grade Garbage Disposal – Donated by Sister's Convent, Campbellsport
- High-Temperature Dishwasher – Donated by Convent and will require about \$1,000 from our WE BELIEVE account to modify for our new kitchen.
- Upright Freezer, Stainless Steel – Donated
- 6-Burner Gas Stove – Purchase new stove with funds from WE BELIEVE account.
- All-Terrain Ball Cart – Located in storage at HT School.
- Dodgeballs, 2 Sets of Six – Donated
- Changing Table – Purchase new changing table using WE BELIEVE funds.
- Trees & Some Shrubs – Donated
- Small Signage Parish Center – Purchase new signs using WE BELIEVE funds.
- Benches in Front of Parish Center – Donated
- Parish Office Desks & Chairs – Donated
- New Telephone System – Purchase a new system using WE BELIEVE funds.

**Question:** Would it be possible to update the towel dispensers in HT Church bathrooms?

**Answer:** Our newly formed Building & Grounds Committee will take a look at these and provide recommendations. We'll keep you updated regarding their decision. Thanks

**Question:** When are we going to start thinking about getting a Full-Time Janitor?

**Answer:** Once HT School is back in session, plus after our HT Parish Center is open and operating, we'll listen to recommendations from our part-time janitorial staff regarding work-loads. We'll keep you updated regarding this question.

**Question:** How are we doing with WE BELIEVE cash and do we have enough to pay our contractors?

**Answer:** Yes. Please see enclosed cash reconciliation as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to make pledge payments, as these will help keep any borrowing to a minimum. We sincerely thank our WE BELIEVE supporters. Your support & generosity is very much appreciated.

**Question:** What is HT School's enrollment for this year? **Answer:** Currently it's at **157** students, up from last year's **115**. Families are still touring and deciding, so it could possibly grow a few more.

**Smart Boards & Laptops**

Since enrollment for our kindergartens has grown, Jodi, our Principal has decided to separate them and create a kindergarten wing upstairs in HT School. The 4K and 5K will have Smart Boards in their new

rooms. So, we need new Smart Boards for the new 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade rooms (where 4K and 5K used to be). New teachers have been hired for 3K, K, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. We want to use these new technologies and interactive devices as everyday teaching tools in our classrooms.

**Question:** What is a Smart Board? **Answer:** These are interactive white boards that encourage students to solve problems in front of, or jointly with their classmates. This approach accelerates the learning process. The cost for these 2 Smart Boards is approximately \$4,500.

Our upper classes are going to be using a new software this year called Google School. We have excellent people installing this software, which includes training for our teachers. We'll be using laptops with charging stations for our upper classes. We'll need 40 laptops & chargers for a total cost of \$10,000.

We're also buying from St. Mary's 20 uno-books at \$50/each. This is at a substantially reduced cost and are excellent teaching tools for our kindergarten. Total cost of \$1,000.

So, you can see that HT School is continuing to invest in new teaching tools, all to help maintain our strong academic curriculum. We're seeking donations for these new tools. Please do so now, so that we can get these purchased and installed in next several weeks. Thank you.

### **West Steps Holy Trinity Church**

HT Building Committee voted & approved the removal of HT Church west steps. These have been troublesome over the years, including leaking and door problems. Since the Narthex was constructed, the primary entrance into HT Church basement by school children and religious education youth has been our main south entrance. The west entrance is no longer used.

We also have exits out of the basement to the north, and through the boiler room. So currently, we have 4 separate exits from HT church basement. So removal of west steps still leaves 3 exits left. Both the State Fire Marshal and Kewaskum Fire Chief approved the removal of these steps, as did Finance Committee, Buildings & Grounds and Father Ed.

The benefits are:

1. Improved driveway and traffic flow for the new parking lot that will be constructed in front of HT School.
2. Elimination of maintenance of these steps.
3. Removal of somewhat of an eyesore now that this will be very visible from Main Street.
4. Brings HT Church back to original architectural design.
5. No cost to HT Parish to have this done at this time.

Donors have come forward and offered to remove these steps and restore this small area on the west side of church back to original condition. We sincerely thank these generous donors.

### **Parish Center & HT School Construction Updates**

CD Smith reports that we are on schedule with our bathroom updates. Bathrooms were totally gutted. New water and sewer lines have been installed. New floors poured and leveled. Walls have been dry-walled & sanded. We'll now begin the cleaning process in school to prepare for the coming year. Our school will be ready to kick off our new school year, with new state-of-the-art bathrooms.

Parish Center dry-wall is being completed, same with our spray-foam insulation. Ductwork has been installed and mechanical units have been placed on our roof deck. Exterior 3" insulation panels have been installed and exterior is being prepped for final finishing. Interior sanding will commence shortly. Parish Center is still on schedule to be completed by Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the safety and well-being of our contractors in your prayers. They are completing a complicated project. Thank you.

**“Let us continue to wonder about the Purpose & Meaning of Everything”**