



Grateful Hearts Capital campaign

Pilgrim Lutheran church, Puyallup, Washington

November 2008

Volume 1

upcoming events:

November 16
Sunday School art day

January 18
All-church Bible Study

January 30-31
24-hour prayer vigil

February 1
Prayer vigil testimony

February 15
All-Church banquet
and children's party

A Message from Co-Chair Jim Wilkerson

Greetings all – And now our journey on the Grateful Hearts capital campaign begins. Thanks to all of you for your welcome and support during the consecration services on October 12th. I realize that there is some concern about beginning a campaign like this during times of economic uncertainty. I would offer you several thoughts:

The US Army's General George Patton had a famous saying that went something like "Take not the counsel of your fears." George Patton, despite his faults, was a believing and practicing Christian. His inspiration for this statement probably came from Luke's Gospel. In Luke, Chapter 12, Jesus says to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"

Second, in difficult times, the church needs to be a strong and comforting place. To fulfill our ministry, we need to expand. This is not to say we will wantonly push forth with unsustainable plans, but rather make a conscious and concerted effort to find the right balance of needs and affordability. The Building Committee is working hard to achieve that balance, and you will hear more from them in the coming weeks. Ephesians Chapter 6, Verse 10 says "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Lastly, I ask you to consider your lives in the church and how often God has provided for you when times looked bleak. God rewards our faithful stewardship by ensuring that we always have enough. If you have concerns, suggestions, or you'd simply like to find out how to serve in the campaign, please contact one of the committee or a member of the church board.

In Christ,
Jim

Genesis of the Grateful Hearts Campaign

In January 2007, the Long Range Planning Committee under the leadership of Chair, Bruce Severeid, reported the results of a two-year effort to set forth a vision and objectives for the future of Pilgrim Lutheran. The report anticipated that within 10 years the average weekly worship attendance would double to 600. To meet this projected growth in our numbers, the congregation agreed to commit additional resources to include facilities. This approval activated a Building Committee and a Construction Finance Committee.

The Building Committee, under the leadership of Dave Severeid and Elaine Jacobs, hired the Architectural Firm, James Guerrero, Inc., which has been developing plans for enlarging the facilities. The priorities for new construction include instructional rooms, a large multi-purpose room to be used for preschool and youth activities, enhancement of the narthex, and administrative spaces.

The Building Finance Committee, under the direction of Lisa Wilson and Jerry Halverson, recommended the congregation hire Enrichment Group to guide a capital campaign. In June 2008, the congregation agreed, and Marc Rieke of Enrichment Group is now guiding the campaign leadership committee.

The exact dollar figure the campaign will seek has not yet been determined, but processes are being put in place to challenge the congregation to meet the goals set by the Building Committee. We ask that you begin to prayerfully consider what your contribution toward this important effort will be as we move through the enrichment gatherings, special Bible study sessions, and fellowship opportunities. Commitment to the three-year campaign will occur on Sunday, February 22, 2009.



CAMPAIGN TEAM

Pictured Front row (left to right)

Sandy Fielder, Ruth Anderson (Promotions Director), Catherine Warr (Bible Studies Co-director), Lonna Groce (Banquet Co-director), Judy Root (Banquet Co-director), Roxy Larson (Hospitality Co-director), Sharlene Parker (Prayer Vigil Director), Doug Willrich (Commitment visits director)

Pictured back Row (left to right)

Jim Wilkerson (Campaign co-chair), Steve Lessard (Campaign co-chair), Mike Warr (Bible Studies Co-chair), Phil Steves (Enrichments Gathering Director), Barb Griswold (Hospitality Co-Director), Julie Halpin (Hospitality Co-Director)

Not Pictured: Phil & Linda Yates (Continuation Co-Directors), Kimberly Klein (Advanced Commitments Director), Rob Haugen (Children & Youth Director), Jonathon Jepson (Planned Giving Director), Mark Reiman (Resource Director), Mark Zenor (Audio Visual Director)

Called to Serve – Campaign Team Leaders



Jim Wilkerson, Co-Chair

Jim is a retired Air Force pilot and a current Instructor Pilot for The Boeing Company. He and his family joined Pilgrim in 2001, and he is in his second year of a three-year term on the Church Board. His wife, Heidi, has served with MOPS, the Church Board and is the current Sunday School Superintendent. Their kids, Nicholas and Amy, are in 6th and 3rd grade, and they are enthusiastic participants in Sunday School and the church youth activities.

Steve Lessard, Co-Chair

Steve has been in the heavy construction machinery business for 32 years. He and his wife, Rachelle, have been married for 19 years and have an eight-year old daughter, Ally. At the invitation of Debbie Rouse, Steve and his family attended Easter services in March of 2007 and immediately knew they had found their church home! They became members of Pilgrim in December 2007. In his spare time, Steve loves to roast coffee, build anything with wood, and drive his 1966 Chevelle Malibu.

Mike and Catherine Warr, Bible Study Co-Directors

Mike and Catherine are long-time, active members of Pilgrim. They enjoy singing in the choir, and have led Bible studies both inside and outside of the Pilgrim community. Mike, a retired Puyallup School District administrator, is currently Executive Director of Human Resources for the Franklin Pierce School District; Catherine is an Instructional Coach for junior high and senior high school teachers for the Puyallup School District. The couple is planning several **Bible Study Opportunities**. First will be a three-part series of small group Bible studies facilitated by Pilgrim members. The second opportunity will be an all-church Bible study on January 18 led by our consultant, Marc Rieke. The aims of the Bible studies series are that we would grow spiritually, gain a richer relationship with the Lord, develop a fuller understanding of Christian stewardship, and deepen our commitment to Pilgrim.

Phil Steves, Enrichment Gatherings Director

Phil is a retired Computer Operations Manager who joined Pilgrim early in the life of the congregation. He enjoys reading and volunteering in the public school where his wife Virginia substitutes after retiring from full time teaching. They have nine grandchildren and enjoy being involved in their many activities. The **Enrichment Gatherings Committee** will offer the entire congregation the latest exciting information on the building planning through small group meetings hosted in members' homes.

Kim Klein, Advance Commitments Director

Kim has her "dream job" working as a junior high school teacher and coach at Stahl Junior High School in the Puyallup School District. She is married to Ben Klein, who has been a member of Pilgrim since his birth. This is Kim's fourth year as a member of the Pilgrim Lutheran family. Both Kim and Ben currently help out with Sunday school music. Ben also plays music with the worship team for the eleven o'clock service. The **Advance Commitments Committee** will solicit early contributions to the campaign.

Jonathan Jepsen, Planned Giving Director

Jonathan is a financial consultant for a major retirement services company. He is married and has two small children; chasing them around takes up most of his free time. Jonathan has been a part of the Pilgrim family since 2000 but his wife, Janet Jepsen (formerly Boze), was confirmed at Pilgrim. The **Planned Giving Committee** is a resource to Pilgrim's members who are in the process of estate planning, or are looking into making other large gifts to the church.

Doug Willrich, Commitment Visits Director

Doug, his wife Maile and their two young-adult children have been at Pilgrim for about 10 years. In 2004 Doug retired from Alaska Airlines. In retirement he teaches aviation academics to aspiring aviators, polishes his Corvette and he and Maile enjoy the waters of Puget Sound on their sailboat. As **Commitment Visits Director**, Doug will facilitate a team of visitors who will connect with church members and verify their opportunity to respond to the campaign.

Rob Haugen, Children and Youth Director

Rob is the assistant principal at Camas Prairie Elementary School in the Bethel School District. He has been a member of Pilgrim since 2001 and was recently elected to serve as our congregational board's vice president. Rob works with Pilgrim's junior and senior high youth, is involved with the Kingdom Weekend ministry, and participates in Bible Study Fellowship. The **Children and Youth Committee** will focus on communicating the message of Christian stewardship to all of Pilgrim's youth so they will understand why they should give, what can be accomplished from their giving, and how they can help. Our team will involve the youth through Bible study, prayer, a Sunday School Art Day, junior and senior high mentoring, and a presentation at the All-Church Banquet in February.

Ruth Anderson, Promotion Director

Ruth is a retired Air Force officer who joined Pilgrim in 2001. She serves as the volunteer training supervisor for the Tacoma Area Literacy Council, and is looking forward to meeting more of Pilgrim's family through work on the campaign. Ruth's husband, Andy, is Pilgrim's Business Manager, and they enjoy being Max's grandparents. The **Promotion Committee** will communicate the activities of the campaign to the congregation.

Mark Zenor, Audio Visual Director

Leave sp

ace—I have a call into Janet Zenor and Mark.

Mark Reiman, Resource Director

Mark is a life-long Lutheran, having been baptized, confirmed, and married to Lori DeCamp of Wenatchee at Luther Memorial Church in Seattle. He attended Luther Seminary for one year before settling on a career in teaching. He is an Associate Professor in the Economics Department at Pacific Lutheran University, where he attended as an undergraduate. He and Lori have two daughters, Stephanie (Gonzaga) and Anna (Emerald Ridge), and a son, David (Emerald Ridge). The **Resource Committee** will coordinate the campaign's mailing and meeting schedules.

Sharlene Parker, Prayer Vigil Director

Sharlene and her husband, Amos, have been members of Pilgrim for eight years and have both served in many capacities. They both feel God gives each of us particular areas of service in His church. It is our responsibility to find where that is. The area of service He has for Sharlene at this time is the one of **Prayer Vigil** Director. This committee will establish a prayerful atmosphere concerning our capital campaign with the main focus on a 24-hour prayer vigil.

The **Banquet Committee** is planning for the All-Church Banquet to be held at Pioneer Park Pavilion in downtown Puyallup on February 15, 2009.

Lonna Groce, Banquet Committee Co-Chair

Lonna lives in Bonney Lake- Buckley area with her husband Tom. They have been married for 42 years and have three sons and five active grandchildren. They joined the family of Pilgrim in June of 2007, where Lonna is active in Living Way Bible study. She enjoys music, traveling, gardening, friends in Garden Club, and being active in politics.

Judy Root, Banquet Committee Co-Chair

Judy and Ed Root, who is self-employed at E.J. Poultry Co. Inc., have three daughters and four grandsons. Judy serves on the Good Samaritan Foundation and is a member of PEO Chapter EH, currently serving as chaplain. The couple joined Pilgrim in June of 2007 and Judy is involved in Living Way Bible Study.

The **Hospitality Committee** will help to organize participation for the campaign banquet and other events.

Julie Halpin, Hospitality Co-Director

Julie is a retired high school theatre teacher. She is currently directing plays with the local community theatres (Lakewood Playhouse and Tacoma Little Theatre). She is Director of Christian Education and a member of the Stewardship Committee at Pilgrim. Her husband, Jim, has served on the Pilgrim board in the past and is an avid bike rider and golfer.

Roxy Larson, Hospitality Co-Director

Roxy is a retired educator of 29 years and a retired small business owner of four years. The Larson family joined Pilgrim in 1978. Roxy enjoys traveling, reading, knitting, and grandparenting six lovely children. At Pilgrim she has served as Co-Director of Christian Education, a short term as Assistant to the Pastor, and is a Mops Mentor Mom. She serves on the board of the Puyallup Schools Foundation and is active in the community.

Barb Griswold, Hospitality Co-Director

Barb and Dwight, married for over 45 years, have been part of the Pilgrim family since 2003. Barb sings in the choir, helps with receptions, and enjoys participating in the MOPS program. Getting to know Sunday School children by being a sponsor has been a special blessing. When not busy at church, Barb can be found modeling at Vintage Fashion Shows to benefit Goodwill Industries.

Phil and Linda Yates, Continuation Co-Directors

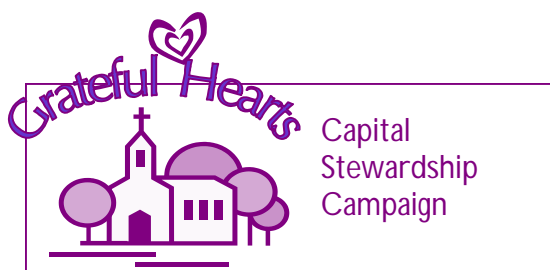
Phil and Linda have been members of Pilgrim for four years. Phil started the Pediatric Speech-Language program at Good Samaritan Hospital where he met Linda. In retirement he continues to be on the boards of several area art/music/literary organizations. Linda is the founder of the Children's Therapy Unit (CTU) at Good Samaritan Hospital. Prior to her retirement two years ago she had leadership roles in both the building project and the capital campaign for CTU. They enjoy traveling, cultural activities and gardening. The **Continuation Committee's** task is to keep the Campaign fresh in the life of the congregation, maximize the results of the Capital Stewardship Program over the three years during which gifts are made on commitments, and to institute appropriate follow-up procedures.

Lend Your Ears and Voices at Enrichment Gatherings

During the months of November and December, several small-group **Enrichment Gatherings** will offer excellent opportunities to become a special part of our “Grateful Hearts” campaign. The purpose of these meetings is to gather together to envision the future direction of our congregation through the building expansion plans to be seen in their latest form. How exciting is that?

The events are framed with time to gather for fellowship, to learn about the campaign and building proposals, and to get your questions answered. No financial commitments will be asked for or received. Your attendance at one of these meetings is highly recommended. Please watch for opportunities to sign up for a meeting of your choice after each worship service during the first three Sundays in November.

Thank you for your openness and willingness to support this campaign by your attendance at one of the small-group Enrichment Gatherings. To host or attend any of the meetings, please call Phil Steves at 253-845-0359.



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