



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TEAM

Chairs:
Brad and Sara Solberg

Advance Giving Chairs:
Roger Bengtson
and Mike Bishop

Communication Chairs:
Jodi Barnhart
and Mary Jo Brummet

Follow Up Chair:
Todd Buechler

Hospitality Chairs:
Nancy Lang
and Mary Williamsen

Spiritual Emphasis Chair:
Lynn Shaw, Jim Shaw
and Marie Stenzel

Administrative Assistant:
Lynn Lindell

Pastor:
Rev. Dr. Arthur Bergren

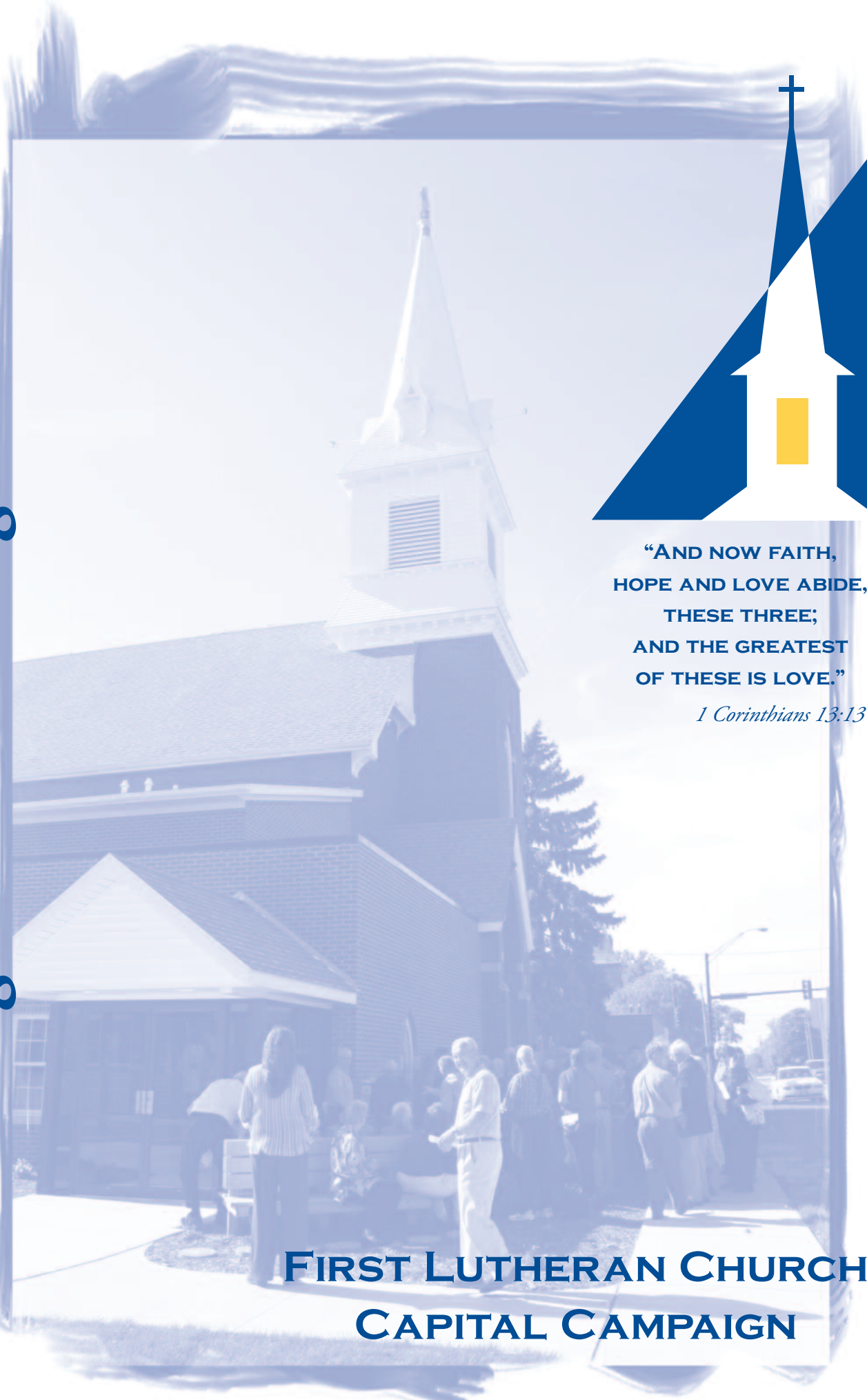
Consultant:
Rev. Kurt Nordby

“Celebrating First: Sharing Christ’s Love”



“AND NOW FAITH,
HOPE AND LOVE ABIDE,
THESE THREE;
AND THE GREATEST
OF THESE IS LOVE.”

1 Corinthians 13:13



**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**



Gathering together to sing.

**“JESUS CHRIST IS
THE SAME YESTERDAY
AND TODAY AND FOREVER.”**

Hebrews 13:8

On October 20 and 21, First Lutheran Church kicked off its new Capital Campaign. The theme of this new campaign is **“Celebrating First: Sharing Christ’s Love.”** The kick-off weekend was a great opportunity for us to reflect on the past and to look ahead to the opportunities that lie ahead in our mission and ministry.

We celebrated with Pr. Kurt Nordby who preached at all four services. We celebrated as we installed the Capital Campaign team at the 9:15 service. We celebrated as we enjoyed a pulled-pork feast with all the trimmings. We celebrated as we blessed the cornerstone of our new building.

As we reflect upon First Lutheran Church, we have many reasons to celebrate. On any given day at First, there is much activity throughout the building. Everyone can see that we are experiencing growth. Baptized membership, worship attendance, confirmation registrations and congregational giving are all up. We can say with confidence that we are *Sharing Christ’s Love*.

What is the source of our growth? Ultimately, it is God who is blessing and leading us. Our new building is certainly one of our blessings. When First Lutheran Church added on to its building in 2006, we added a fellowship room, an administrative wing, Sunday school classrooms, a professional kitchen, additional space for the youth room, two elevators and new bathrooms. Our new building has provided us with the space needed to grow our ministry.

This new Capital Campaign is a way for us to celebrate our growth at First Lutheran Church. This campaign will allow us to address our debt and to renovate our sanctuary. Please join us as we begin this new Capital Campaign, **“Celebrating First: Sharing Christ’s Love.”**



A sign of love.



Welcoming smiles.

**“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE,
JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS,
GENEROSITY, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS
AND SELF - CONTROL.”**

Galatians 5:22



Warm friendly greeters meeting you.

GIVING OPTIONS

Many people have assets that they haven’t thought of using for the work and ministry of the church. Because all that we are, and have, comes from God, we encourage you to prayerfully consider ways you can contribute to the church’s future good works. Following are some suggestions of how individuals and families can creatively contribute to First Lutheran Church’s future.

CASH RESERVES

While most of us give a portion of our income for regular offerings, some people are spiritually ready and financially able to give a special gift from their cash reserves. Contributions can include certificates of deposit, money market funds or other “rainy day” savings.

PRIORITY BUDGETING

Many families will choose to rearrange their priorities and give up something currently in their budget in order to contribute to a Capital Campaign. Priority budgeting may lead to postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation or home remodeling.

GIFTS OF UNEXPECTED CASH

Perhaps you have received an unexpected windfall, such as a bonus, inheritance, government rebate check or tax refund that could be used to further God’s work. Also, many people choose to direct a portion of an annual salary increase to charitable causes.

LIFE INSURANCE

There are special ways you can use life insurance as a gift-giving device. Some examples include:

- Give a gift using the cash value accumulated in a policy.
- Give the annual dividends of a policy.
- Designate the church as the beneficiary of the policy.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers offer a matching gifts program in which your gift to the campaign might be matched in whole or in part. Check with your employer’s benefits department.

RETIREMENTS ACCOUNTS

Many people have an IRA or pension account which can be used to create a legacy to the church. A donor can name First Lutheran Church as the survivor beneficiary. The retirement account would continue to provide income to the donor during his or her lifetime. Upon the donor’s death, the remaining funds would pass tax-free to the church.

APPRECIATED ASSETS

First Lutheran Church can accept gifts of land or other real estate, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, works of art or other types of personal property. For example, stock purchased in 1990 for \$5,000 could have a market value of \$20,000. Rather than selling the stock and paying income tax on the \$15,000 capital gain, you could give the stock to the church and take a tax deduction based on the market value of the stock at the time of the gift. In this way you would maximize your gift, maximize your tax deduction and, at the same time, minimize your tax liability.

DEFERRED GIFTS

There are a variety of ways to give through trust funds, which have advantages for short-term and long-term giving, as well as tax planning. A financial advisor can detail the plans available for giving to the church through various trusts.

BEQUESTS OR PLANNED GIVING

Giving through a will or trust is another significant expression of stewardship. This allows a person to make a significant contribution that may not have been possible during life. Such an estate gift will have a lasting impact on First’s ministry.

ASSISTANCE WITH GIVING OPTIONS

Consideration to the special ways of giving described in this brochure can lead to action that will greatly benefit the congregation’s work and ministry and be of personal benefit as well. If you need more information or assistance feel free to converse with any of our Capital Campaign team members. As with any financial decision, we encourage you to be in consultation with your personal tax attorney, accountant or financial advisor to maximize the benefits of your gift.



Jumping for joy for Jesus!

“LET THIS BE WRITTEN FOR A FUTURE GENERATION, THAT A PEOPLE NOT YET CREATED MAY PRAISE THE LORD.”

Psalm 102:18



CELEBRATING FIRST: SHARING CHRIST’S LOVE

As we move ahead as a church family, we have many reasons to celebrate. When we consider our past, we see a record of perseverance, hard work and faithfulness. We stand on the shoulders of giants and thank the Lord for those who shared Christ’s love long before we were born.

Today we share Christ’s love in exciting ways. On any given day at First, there is bustling activity throughout our building. First is growing and our growth is exciting! We can say with confidence that we are *Sharing Christ’s Love* today.

What will our legacy be in the Geneseo area, and in the world beyond, 150 years from now? What will First members say about us in 2156 as they celebrate First’s 300th anniversary? As our resources are shared in this Capital Campaign and our capacity to fulfill our mission is strengthened, our faith will be remembered with gratitude, admiration and respect.

This Capital Campaign is about *Sharing Christ’s Love*. This campaign will allow us to strengthen our financial position and to care for our sanctuary. You are invited to claim your church’s legacy as we launch the next 150 years of *Sharing Christ’s Love*.



Hearts on Fire Praise Team.



OUR MISSION

Sharing Christ’s Love

As members of First Lutheran Church, we gather to share Christ’s love with each other, our community, and through our church body with the world as we bear witness to God’s love for all people. The ministries at First — from preschool to senior ministry, from worship to communications, from youth ministry to social ministry — all exist on the foundation of Sharing God’s Grace.

We respond to Christ’s love in worship through the breaking of bread, proclaiming of God’s word, and in songs of thanksgiving and praise. Our members invite others to come and learn about God’s love. Like Jesus, we minister to people around us who are in need. By practicing discipleship and enriching our spiritual lives, we deepen our understanding of God’s love. We engage our spiritual gifts and raise up leaders both in the congregation and in our community. Through teaching and modeling the life of Jesus, our children and youth experience the fullness of a life formed and grounded in Christian faith.

In 2006, First Lutheran Church celebrated its 150th anniversary. Those 150 years have been deeply rooted in the ministry of Jesus Christ to Geneseo and beyond. Indeed, we have much to celebrate.



Strong and courageous children of God.



Cover Girls quilting.



4 year olds enjoying VBS in new Fellowship Room.

**“AND GOD IS ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH EVERY BLESSING
IN ABUNDANCE SO THAT BY ALWAYS HAVING ENOUGH OF EVERYTHING
YOU MAY SHARE ABUNDANTLY IN EVERYTHING.”**
2 Corinthians 9:8



OUR GOALS

Our three-year Capital Campaign will run from January 2008 through December 2010. We ask that our members make a three year, above-and-beyond pledge to *“Celebrating First: Sharing Christ’s Love.”* We have two goals for this campaign. The first goal is to raise \$750,000 with a challenge goal of reaching \$1,000,000. If we reach the challenge goal, the funds will be used in the following way:

\$900,000 At the end of December 2007, the finance committee projects a \$2.03 million debt with our new building. The current debt service is \$15,200 a month. This works out to be \$182,400 a year or \$547,200 over the 3 year Capital Campaign. The majority of this payment is interest. If we are able to allocate \$900,000 towards the debt, the finance committee projects the debt will be reduced to \$1.5 million by December of 2010. If we allocate \$750,000, our debt will be reduced to \$1.7 million by December of 2010.

\$100,000 Our sanctuary has many needs. Who among us hasn’t notice the scratched pews, the chipped tile and the ripped carpet seams? With a \$100,000 budget, the appearance of our sanctuary would be greatly enhanced. If we reach the challenge goal, a team of First Lutheran Church members would be assembled to address sanctuary renovations.

Any monies received above \$1,000,000 will be allocated equally between debt reduction and sanctuary renovations.



Children making unleavened bread for Passover Feast.



Special moments happen in Sunday school.



Confirmation students enjoy TableTalk.



Confirmation students enjoy Fear Factor fun at First.

**CONSIDER
THIS GIVING GUIDE**

To reach our challenge goal we will need the following gifts that may be given over a three year period.

- 1 gift of \$100,000 (\$33,333 per year)
- 1 gift of \$75,000 (\$25,000 per year)
- 1 gift of \$50,000 (\$16,666 per year)
- 2 gifts of \$30,000 (\$10,000 per year)
- 2 gifts of \$24,000 (\$8,000 per year)
- 3 gifts of \$18,000 (\$6,000 per year)
- 4 gifts of \$15,000 (\$5,000 per year)
- 5 gifts of \$12,000 (\$4,000 per year)

- 7 gifts of \$9,000 (\$3,000 per year)
- 10 gifts of \$7,800 (\$2,600 per year)
- 15 gifts of \$6,000 (\$2,000 per year)
- 24 gifts of \$3,900 (\$1,300 per year)
- 48 gifts of \$1,500 (\$500 per year)
- 55 gifts of \$900 (\$300 per year)
- 63 gifts of \$780 (\$260 per year)



Volunteers come in all ages.



Senior high youth go camping.