

## HOW MUCH ARE WE EXPECTED TO GIVE?

This question needs to be answered by each individual or household in prayer and conversation as a family unit. Our Stewardship Key Leader, Pastor Kathy Hauelsen, will help us with the program. She will develop giving charts that will guide our thinking about the number and the size of gifts we'll need to reach our goals. Using the ELCA's Stewardship Key Leader program, she will see that everyone is given a chance to be informed, involved, inspired and invited to be part of the program in a way that is good for the giver and pleasing to the God who provides us the resource to give in the first place.

Our must-goal of \$500,000 and our challenge-goal of \$750,000 are substantial. This will require significant participation from everyone – including the youngest and the oldest among us. No one will be pressured to do more than they feel called to do, but all will be asked to prayerfully reflect on what is possible for them.



## HOW WILL THE PROGRAM BE CONDUCTED?

Information will be provided in a variety of ways to help people decide their part in the process. This will include Bible readings, suggestions for reflection and prayer, and opportunities to learn about various ways of giving. Everyone in the congregation will be encouraged to participate. Generally, those who do fully participate find that their personal stewardship grows. It is impossible to out-give God.

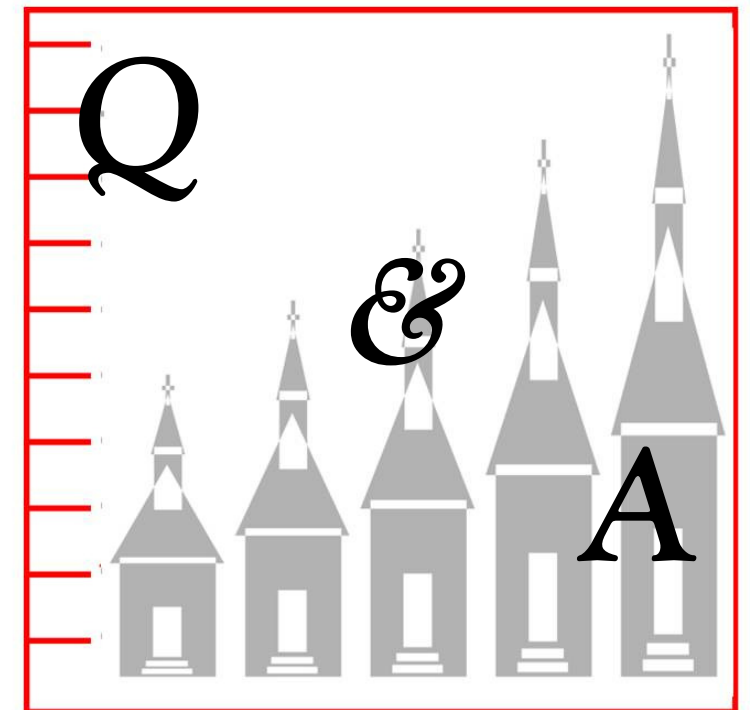


## WHAT OTHER RESULTS CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE FULFILLING THE VISION CAMPAIGN?

Working together on a major project like this draws people together. New or deeper friendships are formed. People get excited as goals are set and reached. The time of prayer and reflection touches people in ways they couldn't imagine before the campaign begins. Growth in congregational stewardship stimulates faith as well as expresses it. This will be at a time of personal and congregational renewal. Please join us – starting today – in praying that our congregation be renewed and re-vitalized through this Fulfilling the Vision Campaign.

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# Fulfilling the Vision



SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
HOUSTON, TEXAS



*We continue to fulfill the vision that brought us into the new worship space we are enjoying and sharing with our community. Here we celebrate the Word and Sacraments. Here we live out our passion to be God's people in this place. Here we discern God's word and way to empower and challenge us for ministry in places far beyond our community. This has been an exciting journey. We know God continues to travel with us. Knowing this, we move forward in faith and by working together to secure the funding needed to manage the cost of our new facilities.*

*The **Fulfilling the Vision Campaign** is our next significant step on this faith journey. This campaign will enable us to continue serving our congregation and reaching out to our neighbors. Our new worship space has given our people and our community a visible sign of the love of Christ we share as a called and gathered people.*



#### WHAT IS THE GOAL FOR THE FULFILLING THE VISION CAMPAIGN?

Our must-achieve-goal is \$500,000.

However, we believe we can do more than this, so we've also set a challenge-goal of \$750,000. Members of Salem Evangelical Lutheran will be asked to make commitments to be paid over a three-year period that begins **April 2011** and continues to **April 2014**.

#### HOW HAS OUR NEW WORSHIP SPACE BENEFITED OUR MINISTRY?

Though we all know the church is not a building, but rather a gathering of believers, it is most effective to gather in up-to-date facilities. The upgraded Salem worship space has been a blessing to our own congregation. It has also been a highly visible sign of faith and hope for the future as people drive by and see the new facilities on West Bellfort and visit us for various events.

It takes many years to finance the cost of a home for our families. So too it takes many years to finance the cost of our expanded worship home. The Fulfilling the Vision Campaign is necessary to ensure there are sufficient funds available to cover both the cost of the mortgage for the new facilities and the many programs and ministries that make up Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church.



#### WILL WE BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE A COMMITMENT?

Absolutely! Everyone will be asked to make a commitment to the three-year campaign. A stated plan for giving is the most effective method to maintain the discipline needed to honor intentions made at the start of a capital campaign. It is good financial discipline for those who commit and valuable information for those in leadership who must plan for the future of the congregation. Those who are not used to this form of discipline are urged to try it.



#### WHEN WILL WE BE INVITED TO MAKE OUR COMMITMENT?

First things first. First we will journey together through a period of prayer, study and reflection on what God has been doing among us recently and longs to continue to do for us and through us. This period of the journey will take place from now through early-April. Then on Commitment Sunday – April 10 – members will be asked to make their commitments during worship that day.