



**30 Years of living, sharing, and celebrating God's love!  
Lord of Life Lutheran Church 1988 - 2018**



Happy New Year!

Lord of Life is a thriving, growing hub of mission. Every day of the week, our entire campus is bustling with adults, teens, and little ones who are involved in moments of worship, learning, and serving. For 30 years, Lord of Life has had a clear and focused mission of living, sharing, and celebrating, with all people, God's love in Jesus Christ. Together, we live out God's call to love God and neighbor with our whole being, to share our spaces, talents, and finances generously, and celebrate in large and small occasions the many ways that God is leading us into ministry moments. We are out of room and many of our existing spaces need updating and maintenance. As we dream about our next 30 years of ministry, how is God leading us to grow in faith and continue spreading light and hope to West Chester and beyond?

Last winter, over a hundred adults and youth gathered for a full day with consultant Luke Bouman to set priorities for our future, believing that "God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to God's power at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20). We celebrated the central place of worship, music, and education here. We talked about staffing and facility. We discussed fiscal stability and outreach. We wrestled with the growing reality of poverty and hunger issues in our neighborhoods and how we might address them in coordination with ministry and community partners.

Since then, our leadership has been prayerfully exploring priorities for renovating our existing worship and learning spaces, updating infrastructure, and paying down our debt for long-term ministry and mission. We are excited to share a tentative plan for our next 10 years.

2018-2020 Phase 1: Chapel & Narthex Expansion  
Parking Lot Improvements  
Fire Protection Installation  
Existing Mortgage Debt Elimination

2021-2024 Phase 2: New Worship Space  
Adding Ministry Staff  
Renovate existing Worship Space for gathering and fellowship  
Renovate current Fellowship Hall for our adapting needs  
Update Security Infrastructure  
Parking Lot expansion

2025-2028 Phase 3: Multi-purpose Gymnasium with Restrooms & Showers  
Industrial Kitchen  
Two-story Education Spaces  
Musical Rehearsal spaces  
Additional Offices and Gathering Spaces

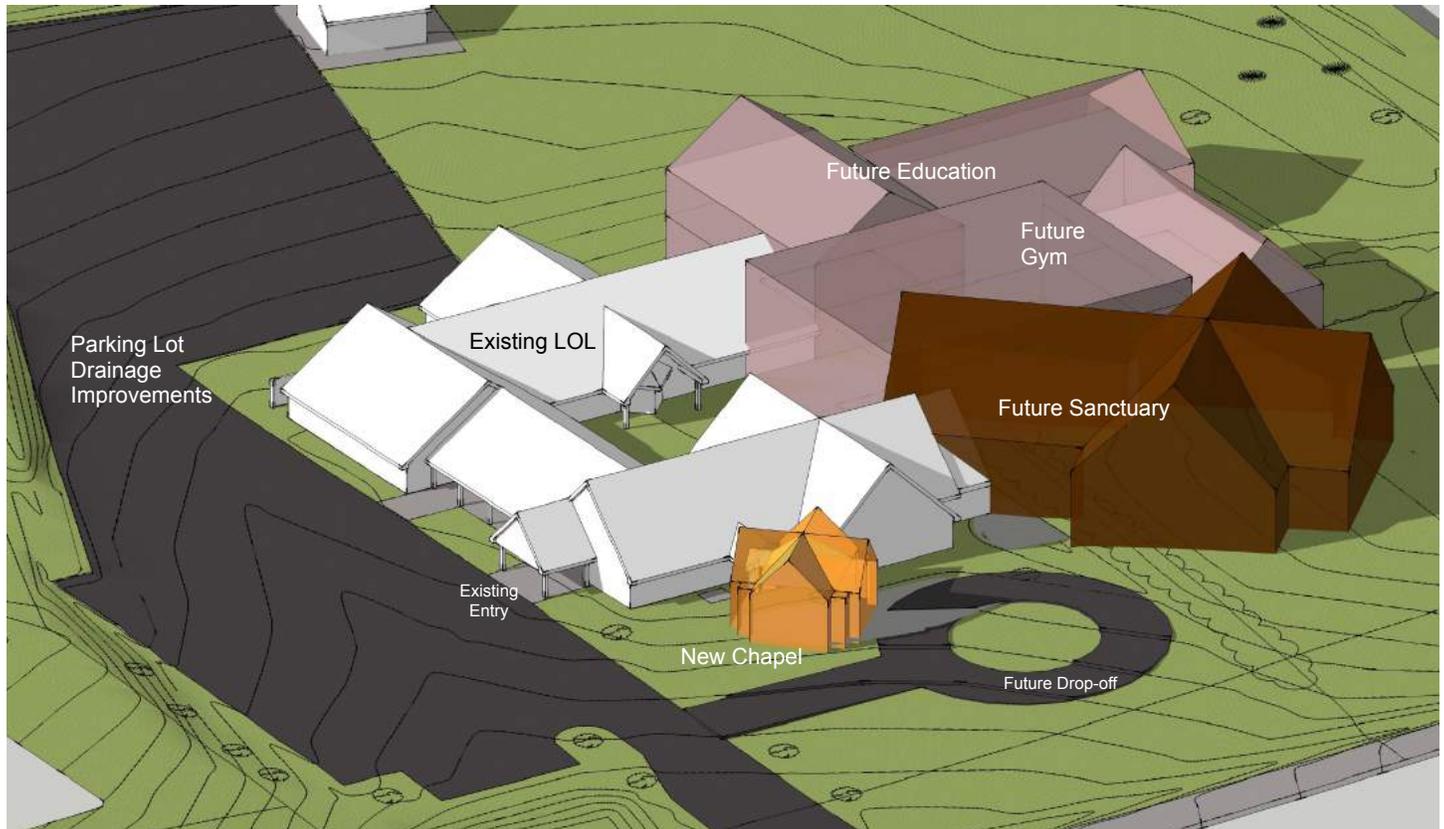
As we continue to discern where God is leading us and how we might take coordinated steps forward into ministry, our church council has enlisted the expertise of consultant Pastor Craig Miller from Horizons Stewardship to help focus our efforts. In the early days of this new year, he will guide us in conversations where we can share hopes and dreams about our future together. How do we prepare for the ministry opportunities of tomorrow, today? What steps are we ready to take? Whatever they are, we'll take them together.

It is our prayer that this community of faith will continue to embrace God's call and be a place for all people to experience the freedom that comes in Jesus Christ. Lord of Life is a beacon of hope, peace, and joy to a hurting world that longs for forgiveness, reconciliation, acceptance, and purpose.

Please take a few moments and read the details about our tentative Phase 1 plans on the next page.

## Proposed Facility Expansion

Existing facility (white), Phase 1 (orange), Phase 2 (brown), and Phase 3 (purple)



### 2018-2020 Phase 1

#### Chapel and Narthex Expansion

Creating a finished chapel structure would be another visible sign that we are a worshipping community. The chapel would be used initially for multipurpose meetings and extension of the narthex, then would be finished in the future as a chapel for small weddings, funerals, and other events. The space would be completely outfitted with audio-visual needs and include a Family Restroom.

Estimated cost: \$332,000

#### Parking Lot

Resolve drainage issues in the current parking lot with additional grading, drainage, and curbing, as well as upgraded lighting and landscaping.

Estimated cost: \$227,000

#### Fire Protection

Installing a sprinkler system throughout the existing building provides increased security, lower insurance costs, and is necessary for adding any new space.

Estimated cost: \$85,000

#### Retire Mortgage Debt

Eliminating our existing mortgage debt frees up \$75,000 per year for other ministries and better positions us for fiscal responsibility.

Estimated cost: \$456,000

So, what are our next steps? Please turn the page for information about the months ahead.

## Next Steps

Given our continued growth and the growth of our surrounding community, now is the time for Lord of Life to take a risk in faith that God is calling us to lead.

The next steps in this exciting process are as follows:

1. Participate in a pre-capital campaign feasibility study in early January, sharing feedback about the tentative plan and determining our church's readiness to bring the plan to reality.
2. Form a study team to work with consultant Craig Miller to receive congregational feedback and project the financial outcome of a capital campaign.
3. Organize a variety of teams to lead multiple aspects of the campaign.
4. Develop the project priorities based on the study feedback and ministry needs of the church.
5. Design detailed architectural drawings.
6. Development of cost estimates from the contractor.
7. Shape a leadership team to conduct a successful capital campaign in the Spring of 2018.
8. Begin renovations and construction as early as Summer 2018.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry! As we celebrate the birth of the Christ child, we give thanks for all the ways that God's love is made known here.

Please make time in these early days of 2018 to be part of the conversations around our shared future and continue to pray:

- Pray for our discussions.
- Pray for clarity of vision.
- Pray for open hearts and minds.
- Pray for generous lives.
- Pray for those who are seeking hope.
- Pray for God to lead us as we discern next steps.

We are called for such a time as this!

If you have questions, or would like to help be part of the leadership team for this campaign, please connect with a council member, Pastor Lowell, or Intern Lucas. All can be reached at [office@lol-lutheran.com](mailto:office@lol-lutheran.com)/513.777.8449.



**LORD OF LIFE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

6329 Tylersville Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069  
[www.lol-lutheran.com](http://www.lol-lutheran.com) | 513.777.8449  
[www.facebook.com/LordofLifeWestChester](https://www.facebook.com/LordofLifeWestChester)