Debt Free, to be ...

Debt Elimination Campaign - 2013
Knowing Jesus …

And Making Jesus Known

Our Saviour’s is a disciple making church where people share their life, faith, and generous hearts to impact the world around them.

Live it out
generous disciples impacting the world

Our Saviour’s Mission and Vision statements
God, you are a generous God.

Everything we have comes from you. The love and power of Jesus is your greatest gift to us, and we are so blessed because of him. We ask for your Spirit of generosity to flow through Our Saviour’s in this debt elimination campaign. Grant each person an open and wise heart that looks to you for direction as we are invited to contribute. Unite us as a church, so that every gift will deepen our mission to Know Jesus and Make Him Known.

It is in the name of Jesus, the greatest gift we have ever known, that we pray,

Amen.
Dear members of Our Saviour’s,

Scripture paints a picture of the early church that still makes my heart beat fast.

_They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved._

- Acts 2:42-47

Note the very specific language used to describe this new community of faithful people.

- The text does not say “some people,” but rather “EVERYONE was filled with awe …”
- The text does not say, “some days,” but rather “EVERY DAY they continued to meet …”
- The text does not say, “some people,” but rather “They gave to ANYONE who was in need …”
- The text does not say, “a few people,” but rather “Enjoyed the favor of ALL the people.”

For me, there are no better words to describe what the church is called to be; a place where Christ-followers give together, serve together, and deal with life’s challenges together.

This campaign is an opportunity for Our Saviour’s to be the church God has in mind … eliminating debt together!

I am inviting everyone to be “all in!” Yes, it is important that we eliminate the debt, AND it is equally important that everyone “share what they have.” With the spirit of the early church leading us and an overwhelming desire to be the church God has in mind, let’s do it together.

On behalf of the entire pastoral staff of Our Saviour’s,

Grace and Peace,

_Pastor Mark_
Dear Friends, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After 20 years of belonging to Our Saviour’s it is a privilege to serve as the campaign Chair of this significant capital appeal to ELIMINATE our DEBT enabling complete focus on our mission of Knowing Jesus and Making Jesus Known!!!

To be debt free we will have to do something that has never been done before at Our Saviour’s and that is to raise $7 million to cover principal and interest during the fulfillment period. What is different about this appeal is that 100% of donations will go solely to debt elimination. What is different is the challenge to be all in. And together, with everyone’s participation, we can achieve something really special! Together, with sacrificial commitments we will glorify Jesus!

Johanna and I will be making the biggest donation of our lives. This will be a challenge and a commitment of faith as we stretch ourselves amongst life’s uncertainties and major events. I just changed jobs in January, our oldest daughter is a freshman in college, our second daughter will join her in two years and it’s conceivable we could have a wedding thrown in before the fulfillment period is over… but God is good and we have been blessed and we have faith!

Please join us in finishing what we’ve started in the ministries of Our Saviour’s... a Christian Pre-school, a PADS shelter, a community outreach through the Mega Garage Sale, the Feed My Starving Children Foodpacks, and so much more. Thank you for being a part of this community of faith that has so richly impacted our lives… together, with Christ as our foundation and a spirit of all in, we can do what has not been done before and no one can do individually!!!

God Bless,

Lane & Johanna Lewis and Family
Our Saviour’s History

Our buildings

1958

Our Saviour’s started rather humbly when a group of people met in 1956 to explore the possibility of starting a new Lutheran church in Naperville. This idea quickly took shape and by 1957 services were already being held. By later that year funding was secured, a site was purchased and construction began on our first building. The dedication was in 1958.

1968

In 1965 membership had grown to 1,300 and plans were developed to build a new sanctuary. By 1968 a new 5,800 square foot sanctuary and administrative wing was dedicated.

With new space and an expanded sanctuary, Our Saviour’s continued to grow. By 1978, ten years after the sanctuary was dedicated, membership grew by another 500 to reach 1,900 members.

1985

By the mid 80’s continued growth prompted Our Saviour’s to expand the space for Christian education. A new, 3 floor Christian education wing was added in 1985 for use by over 400 children. At the same time, the existing facilities were renovated to provide a music room, a nursery and offices for the staff.

1990

By 1990, with membership over 3,000, Our Saviour’s dedicated a building addition including an expansion of the sanctuary to include the existing narthex, a new entrance, a fellowship hall, kitchen, a new church office, and four staff offices.
A step of faith … Celebration!

- In 1996, Our Saviour’s next step in expansion was to acquire the building of Bethany Lutheran Church two blocks south of the Our Saviour’s campus.
- After a few years it was clear that this structure was outdated and did not serve the needs of our ministries particularly well. Plans were made to demolish this building and replace it with a new facility called Celebration! Community Life Center.
- This brand new building was dedicated in October of 2005 and is the location for many of our outreach and mission activities including:
  - The Children’s Center pre-school—serving over 250 children
  - The 10:00 am non-traditional Sunday morning worship service
  - P.A.D.S.—weekend homeless shelter
  - The Celebration Clinic—offering medical, dental and other needed services
  - OSLC Youth activities
  - Feed My Starving Children events
  - Team sports and other recreation
  - Receptions, meals and other rentals
  - Career Transitions Ministry and other adult learning opportunities
  - Mega Garage Sale
  - And many, many more...
The Need: Eliminate $6.5 million in debt.

*How did we get here? - The Numbers.*

Q. What has the debt paid for?
A. At its high point, Our Saviour’s had accumulated $8.4 million in debt. It paid for Celebration! construction, Our Saviour’s campus remodeling, and roll-over debt from previous projects.

Q. How much was raised in previous campaigns and what did it pay for?
A. A total of $7.9 million has been collected from previous capital campaigns as of the end of 2012. The majority of these funds have been used to make the loan payments on the debt.

Q. How much is left to pay off?
A. Our Saviour’s has paid down the debt by paying about $1.9 million in principal and $3.5 million in interest and loan costs. The balance is $6.5 million.

Q. What is the payment?
A. Our Saviour’s holds a commercial loan financed at 5.5%. $12,000 is scheduled for principal each month while $30,000 goes to interest. An additional $5,000 is paid each month to accelerate the payment of principal. Funds come from contributions to previous capital campaigns and not from the operating budget.

Q. How long will it take to pay this off on our current schedule?
A. At the current schedule the debt will not be paid off until 2031 (18 more years) which will require that Our Saviour’s continue making the $5,000 extra principal payment every month. In that time Our Saviour’s will have paid another $4.4 million in interest to the bank for a total of $7.7 million over the entire length of the loan.

*Other capital includes various projects on both campuses funded by previous campaigns including: Lower level build-out and furnishing of Celebration! ($820,000), Repairs to roof, parking lot, etc… ($450,000), Home purchase on Robin Hill ($378,000), Start up costs at the Children’s Center ($228,000), Missions, and other campaign projects.*
A successful campaign will allow Our Saviour’s to be...

Set Free from...
- $30,000 in monthly interest payments
- Continued frequent capital campaign appeals
- Ministry limitations from a lack of resources
- Donor fatigue

Set Free for...
- Expanded ministry and mission
- Maximizing the potential of Celebration! for mission and outreach
- Accomplishment
- A dynamic period of intentional outreach
- Service

Why debt free?

In the words of Our Saviour’s members...*
- It will free time, energy, and money for the mission of the church.
- Without the debt we can focus on the needs of our congregation and community which are more immense than I believe our church recognizes.
- It will reduce stress on members and programs from constant attempts to pay off debt and continue to fund programs.
- Freedom from debt means freedom to pursue people, community, and mission.
- Eliminate negativity caused by debt hanging over us allowing new adventures into mission projects by energized individuals and small groups.
- It will mean freedom to be able to use incoming funds to minister to our congregation, community and mission field. Freedom to be good stewards of what the Lord has given and will give to Our Saviour’s.

* quotes taken from member comments at Debt Retirement Information Meetings – Jan/Feb 2013
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church has invested a tremendous amount of time, energy and financial resources in its buildings and infrastructure since 2003. The building of the Celebration! campus fulfilled a dream for many as it has become a “front-porch” ministry to the Naperville community. During this time the Our Saviour’s campus has also undergone a facelift and expansion. Both offer far more in the way of community outreach and mission than was even thought possible ten years ago. Without these investments Our Saviour’s would not be accomplishing much of the mission it achieves today.

Two things remain:

1. Finish paying for these projects
2. Maximize the potential of both the Our Saviour’s and Celebration! campuses to fulfill our mission of Knowing Jesus … and Making Jesus Known

Paying off the remaining debt of $6.5 million will allow Our Saviour’s to accomplish both. Being debt free is good stewardship. We have already financed our building efforts for ten years. It’s time to finish paying them off over the next three to five years.

Paying off the debt is also a vital step in order to maximize the mission capacity of both campuses. Frequent capital campaigns to pay a mortgage are taking away our valuable time, energy and resources. A church set free from debt will also be set free for a dynamic future of growth and service.

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<th>Total amount of debt</th>
<th>$6.5 million</th>
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<tr>
<td>Interest costs</td>
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TOTAL NEED

$7 million
A debt elimination campaign has certain features distinguishing it from annual giving.

- It is in response to a matter of SIGNIFICANT need.
- It seeks much LARGER AMOUNTS of money than a planned budget can meet.
- It is OVER AND ABOVE annual giving
- It schedules payments over a LONGER PERIOD of time; donors select a giving plan convenient for them.
- It requires a PLANNED and INSPIRATIONAL effort, often involving gifts of annuities, real estate, trusts, life insurance, IRAs, securities, or other assets. Through it, many individuals come to realize the joy of deepening their faith and commitment to the church.
- It multiplies your gift by almost 70% due to saved interest. (eg. a $100,000 gift saves approximately $70,000 in interest charges to the church)
- Proceeds will ONLY be used to eliminate the debt.

### A Case for Action

**Unique opportunity**

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Church Leadership

Pastoral Staff
Rev. Robert Shaner - Interim Senior Pastor
Rev. Mark Borgetti
Rev. Al Creighton
Rev. Jon Dumpys

Executive Director
Lynda DeVore

Campaign Steering Committee
Lane Lewis—Chair
Seth Aigner
Graham Brenna
Mark Goetz
Peter Harvey
Karen Leets
Greg Nasman
Jim Panosh
Steve Robinson
Lee Selander
Kim Spayer
Don Swanson

OSLC Church Council
John Endrud—Chair
Lane Lewis
Julie Michael
Greg Nasman
Christine Robinson
Jennifer Schuler
Lee Selander
Christine Stephens
Bill Tadevich