

# ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

720 Orchard Hills Drive, Norwalk, IA 50211



**Guided by Grace**  
GATHERING • GROWING • GIVING

## CAMPAIGN THEME & LOGO INTRODUCED

by Judy Corcoran

The Communications Team is pleased to introduce the theme and logo that will be used for our capital campaign. This creation was our first charge when we began meeting in May.

We began by sharing words to describe St. John the Apostle Church and what the campaign means to the parish. There were several recurring words, most frequently “growth” or “growing.” Gathering and grace were related themes.

We recalled that St. John’s was founded nearly 130 years ago by a small group who were guided to create a place of faith for farming families. We reflected on the devotion and dedication parishioners displayed 113 years later in building the church in Norwalk, moving from the small church in Cumming where many held beautiful, personal memories.

In our conversations, we realized that we wanted to assure our theme is shared in words and actions that preserve our history, continue our focus on the present and demonstrate that we are preparing for the future. The team chose:

### **Guided by Grace: Gathering, Growing, Giving**

Our simple logo combines the cross with a beautiful tree, which represents our growing parish family and the grace, given by God, which has guided our journey. With His guidance and grace, we will continue to grow together, gather in His name and give of ourselves both to St. John the Apostle and to our Norwalk community.

## **YOUR CAMPAIGN COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**

**Co-Chairs:** Judy Corcoran, Tracy Webb

**Team:** Christie Beving, Dave Campbell, Pat Dunn, Jeramy Landauer, Pat Scholer, Leone Shepherd, Greg Swanson and Rob Wetzeler

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### FROM FR. DAN

Dear Parishioners,

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”**  
—Jeremiah 29:11



Dear parishioners,

God is always faithful to us, and we are called to be faithful to God.

This mutual faithfulness extends to our efforts to update our parish facilities. We are now being challenged to be good stewards by planning for the future of our parish.

This project is a great task. It takes faith in God as we progress with the planning and the fundraising. It will take faith in each other.

Our Commitment Weekend will be in August. Prior to that, I ask that you prayerfully consider a commitment to the campaign and to the future of St. John the Apostle.

Personal discernment will be part of this process and has two components: First, gathering information is necessary to making informed decisions.

Our events team is planning a handful of get-togethers, each including refreshments and a brief presentation. At these socials, our vision will be shared, the projects explained, and your questions will be answered.

Please review the upcoming event list in this newsletter and choose a date compatible with your schedule. Bring a parish friend or neighbor and join us in fellowship. It will only take one hour.

Second, prayer is a valuable guide in any discernment process. Printed in this newsletter is our campaign prayer and prayer cards are available in the gathering space and at the parish office. Consider praying this on a daily basis; maybe with your family before the evening meal or at night prayer. As you pray for this parish family, know that you are in my prayers!

As always, I welcome your questions, concerns and thoughts about our parish and this capital campaign process.

God Bless You,

  
Fr. Dan Kirby

## OUR CAMPAIGN PRAYER

by Barb Casey

As members of the St. John the Apostle Campaign Prayer Team, we are hopeful that all parishioners will be united in prayer during this process. To aid in creating this unity, we focused on writing a prayer to promote the tenets of our campaign theme: Guided by Grace: Gathering, Growing, Giving.

Toward that objective, we went through a two-week discernment process inspired by Lectio Divina - a tradition of listening and contemplation to be in union with God.

Influenced first through prayer and silence, we shared parish experiences and collaborated on core values that make our parish special: Family, Love, Growth, Supportive, Faith and Caring. In developing prayer stanzas, we revisited those four themes in groups and a first draft was created. After rewording, rearranging, edits and additions by the Steering Committee, the prayer is complete.

This process included a great mixture of individual and group participation, truly inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Prayer cards are available in the church entrance, the pews and the parish office. We invite our entire parish family to join us, in reciting this prayer on a daily basis, as we seek the Lord's guidance in the weeks ahead.

### YOUR CAMPAIGN PRAYER TEAM

**Co-Chairs:** Barb Casey, Maureen Stone, Geri McGonegle

**Team:** Lori Celsi, Marge Comer, Phyllis Desenberg, Bud & Sharon Ewell, Ricky Harkin, Joan Harkin, Mark Huegerich, Carol Knoblauch, Julie Kordick, Ron & Karen Krebs, Janet Mapel, Dennis McLaughlin, Lewis McLaughlin, Jeff Morrissey, Ted & Barb Moser, Barb Norton, Linda Packard, Joanie Phillips, Sarah Settle, Mary Sorenson, Kelly Stone, Ana & Mitchell Woods and Deb Workman.

# You're Invited ...

## TEA AND CAKES

Tuesday, July 2 9:00 am

After morning Mass  
Social Hall



## POKER WITH PADRE

Wednesday, July 10 6:00 pm

Social Hall



## INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Saturday, July 13 6:00 pm

After evening Mass  
Social Hall



## ROCK N ROLL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Thursday, July 18 6:30 pm

Social Hall

CHILDCARE PROVIDED



## COLLEGE CHALLENGE

(wear your college colors)

Sunday, July 21 10:00 am

After morning Mass

Social Hall

CHILDCARE PROVIDED



## RSVP TO

Email to [lizwalderbach.eventsignup@gmail.com](mailto:lizwalderbach.eventsignup@gmail.com) or call Alayne in the parish office at 515-981-4855.

## CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we praise You  
as one family seeking to do your will.

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your loving grace  
and abundant blessings of  
strong faith, open hearts and caring spirits.

Holy Spirit, our parish family looks to You  
for guidance, vision and clarity  
as we build for our future.

Through the intercession of Mary, our mother,  
and St. John the Apostle,  
may we continue to gather and grow  
in faith, hope and love.

Amen

