

We are the church... We ...make a difference!



A CAMPAIGN UPDATE ON THE BELIEVE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. PAUL'S, BRIGHTON MI

MAY 2013

We are the church... *TOGETHER!*

This short phrase captures simply and beautifully who we are at St. Paul's. We have stated as a community many times over that it is the people of St. Paul's that draws us and continues to engage us as we gather each week. We believe that God works through people and that people make a difference!

We are called to build the kingdom of God on earth. While this is a calling to spiritual growth and community, it is clear that our physical structure is in need of update and expansion to better help the people of St. Paul carry out our mission. After a long, thoughtful and prayerful visioning,

listening, and planning process the Vestry and Building Committee are confident that the revised plan for our building expansion reflects the needs and desires shared by our parish family.

We are now at the point where our planning and prayers are months away from becoming a reality. We are excited and optimistic about the future of our parish community, and we invite each of you to join us in making a reality of our dreams and visions by participating in our capital campaign.

Even the smallest gift makes the biggest difference...



By the Numbers...

TOTAL CAMPAIGN BUDGET \$1,700,000.00

GRANTS & AWARDS:

Lasko Foundation \$300,000.00

Diocese of Michigan \$600,000.00

Parish Pledges \$330,000.00

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED \$1,230,000.00

**PENDING GRANTS/AWARDS

DioMichigan Trustees \$100,000.00

...YOU make all the difference!



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Dream a little dream...

"We can do all things through Christ..."

Do you remember way back in 2010? Remember the parish gatherings, surveys and the Annual Parish Meeting that featured stories from our "future" St. Paul's? It seems like time has flown by, but the ideas, suggestions and dreams from back then are still alive and well as we round the corner to breaking ground on making our dreams a reality.

As a community we dreamed of...

- A unified worship space
- Preservation of the original structure
- A gathering space
- Parish Offices
- Enlarged Parish Hall
- Classroom/Meeting space
- Active outreach to our wider community

Let us pray...

O God, our loving Creator and Giver of all good gifts, bless our parish and those who lead it, strengthen our faith, and grant us, as we plan for our future, a bright spirit with which to dream dreams, fresh words with which to proclaim your Christ, bold energy with which to build a community of Faith. Be with us as we seek to live more fully into your calling, but most of all give us open hearts with which to reflect the love of your Son Jesus the Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

St. Paul the Apostle, for whom our community is named, traveled throughout the world telling others about the life and ministry of Jesus but he always made his way back home. We have been blessed to call St. Paul's our home and we, like our Patron saint, continually return to a place of spiritual grounding to be renewed, refreshed and revitalized to once again travel out into the world.

We continue this great undertaking together in order to strengthen and expand our programming areas around children and youth, fellowship and education, outreach and social justice issues along with music and spirituality all of which are constantly growing and integral parts of our DNA.

We ask your prayers for our success, that we may have the strength and confidence necessary to succeed in this journey of faith.



YOU make a difference...

An old man walked up a shore littered with thousands of starfish, beached and dying after a storm. A young man was picking them up and flinging them back into the ocean. "Why do you bother?" the old man scoffed. "You're not saving enough to make a difference." The young man picked up another starfish and sent it spinning back into the water. "It made a difference to that one," he said...