

A G E N D A

April 25, 2021

Progress Meeting on Redeemer Rebuild  
Planning to Launch "Fearless and Faithful" Capital Campaign

- I. Welcome and Introductions--Pastor Lisa (5 min)
- II. Song: "Build Us Up, Lord" (Red Book 670)--Jeff Bray (2 min)
- III. Opening Prayer--Rev. Jon Jacobs (2 min)
- IV. Consultant Presentation: Monique Charlier, Rivet LLC (10 min)
- V. Architect Presentation: Scott Ramlow, Ramlow/Stein (15 min)
- VI. Builder Presentation: Matt Burow or Eric Williams, Catalyst Construction (15 min)
- VII. Finance/Fundraising Presentation: Solomon Tesfai (10 min)
- VIII. Steps toward High Impact Giver Launch--Pastor Lisa (3 min)
- IX. Question/Answer Time (12 minutes)

Leaving with One Word (*write on paper and leave in basket as you exit*)

"Build Us Up, Lord" reprise

Lord's Prayer



## **Redeemer Fearless for the Future Campaign Update**

April 2021

Jeff Hensley, Senior Strategist and Managing Director

### **Funding Strategy to Reach the Overall Goal**

1. Fundraising from the congregation (34%)
2. Grant funding from foundations donors outside the congregation (33%)
3. Possible financing (33%)

### **Congregation Campaign**

With today's congregation meeting, we are beginning our outreach to the congregation. Over the coming months, church members will be invited to discuss the details of this exciting project, share their hopes and dreams for the future of Redeemer, and explore how they might participate in this campaign financially. While the intensive work of the campaign will be over the remainder of 2021, church members will be able to pledge their support over a multi-year period.

*Can Redeemer raise \$1.5M to \$2M to support this initiative? Absolutely.* God has clearly given the church a vision for its future, and, as the Psalmist reminds us, God "will give us the desires of our heart" (Ps. 37:4).

*Will it be challenging? Again, absolutely.* This is by far the largest undertaking for the church financially in decades. It will require our best efforts, our most generous spirits, and continual prayer. But other churches approximately Redeemer's size have been successful in raising this level of funding, but it will take the efforts and participation of all.

*Will it be transformative? Yes!* Through this campaign, Redeemer will change, not only in its physical structures and building renovations, but in the generosity of its people. We will begin to think anew about the gifts that God has given us and how we commit those gifts back to God for the work of God's church.

### **What can I do?**

*Pray.* Pray for the success of this campaign so that Redeemer can expand its mission and impact in our community.

*Listen and learn.* Invest yourself in the upcoming discussions with your fellow church members about the future of Redeemer. A member of the Redeemer community will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks to schedule a meeting.

*Give.* Prayerfully consider making a pledge commitment to the campaign over the coming months.

# Redeemer—Fearless and Faithful

## A RARE TREASURE

What does it mean for Redeemer Lutheran Church to be a people of God planted at 19th and Wisconsin Avenue, in the center of Milwaukee? What does it mean to be the Church, doing the work of God, in a community touched by poverty—where every day the afflictions of racism, economic disparities, and illness can be seen?

Redeemer is a city congregation called to a *ministry* of service, advocacy, and healing. It is a *sanctuary* for its neighbors. It is a place for food, companionship, and words of comfort, a place for unconditional love and support, no matter what.

Redeemer provides safe, spiritual spaces that foster dialogue, deep listening, and collaborative problem-solving. The need for these spaces is especially great because systemic social breakdowns keep too many people from participating in the abundance of our society.

At Redeemer, people are welcoming and inclusive—our doors are open and so are our hearts. Redeemer is a *rare treasure*—a congregation that invites people who fully represent the diversity of its neighborhood into fellowship and leadership. Redeemer defies the racial segregation of Milwaukee and is one of very few significantly diverse congregations in the ELCA (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). In the same way, people from all walks of life converge and collaborate at Redeemer, using their spiritual gifts *“for the common good”* (I Corinthians 12:7).

## SEEKING PARTNERS-FOR-CHANGE

The neighborhood—Redeemer’s beloved community—needs a place that is welcoming, inclusive, and caring. Redeemer has been that place, but the wear to its buildings from time and use has prompted an imagining of how transformed buildings can better enable Redeemer’s calling in its neighborhood.

Redeemer invites your support—and the support of other congregants, community members, interfaith partners, and friends. Together we will serve neighbors-in-need. For the good of all, we will build bridges of understanding and compassion.



## TRANSFORMING THE BUILDINGS, EMPOWERING THE MISSION

Redeemer's 100-year-old Gothic Revival sanctuary, burnished from loving use, is significant historically and architecturally but in need of significant repair. The 70-year-old Fellowship Wing, after decades of intensive use, is worn beyond economic repair, save for its sturdy brick walls. Redeemer plans to transform its buildings—and more greatly empower its mission—in two phases.

The **Fellowship Wing Renovation** will be a gut rehab, making refreshed spaces to gather, break bread, hold difficult conversations, and otherwise serve and convene Redeemer's beloved community.

- Dedicated space for a mental health assessment clinic, to provide walk-in, immediate care
- Commercial-grade kitchen, for Redeemer's everyday food ministry and on-site events
- Event and meeting space for Redeemer, its partner organizations, and the whole community
- Collaborative workspace for partner nonprofits
- ADA-compliant restrooms and access, including an elevator and a spacious passage to the sanctuary
- Continued use of existing brick walls promotes environmental stewardship and results in lower cost

The **Sanctuary Preservation** will make the 1917 structure ready for the next century of faithful use.

- Historical and architectural preservation
- Extensive repair, replacement, and rebuilding of brickwork and cap stones
- Replacement of flashings and other actions to correct leaks
- Upgrade HVAC to provide dependable, year-round comfort for all who come

Building on the legacy of prior generations, these projects will provide new tools, instill new hopes, and endow new energy for Redeemer's ministry.

## TIME TO BE BOLD

Inspired by a mighty God, Redeemer runs on grit and perseveres, despite facing obstacles common to city churches. Our ministry is too important to be hobbled by tired facilities. Instead, we will transform our buildings to empower our ministry. Redeemer is fearless about the future and ready to act in faith. That's who we are!

Now is the time for bold and faithful action. Here's how you can help:

*Pray for Redeemer, our Neighborhood, and this Project.* As often as you can.

*Open a door.* Do you know someone who might help? We enjoy making new friends!

*Make a meaningful financial contribution—right now or in a pledge.* Put your money to work for the common good.

## ESTIMATED COSTS

Fellowship Wing Renovation	\$ TBD million
Sanctuary Preservation	\$1.7 million

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST!

## BUZZING WITH ACTIVITY

An outside mural proclaims Redeemer to be “A Hive of Activity.” Inspired by our rooftop bee hives, the mural provides an apt metaphor for a congregational home that buzzes with activity every day. Even though we don’t see all the good being done by this activity, we hear the Spirit rustling.

The Spirit does a lot of rustling at Redeemer—not just on Sunday, but every day of the week. Whenever people walk into the building, they are likely to meet exciting, engaged, and caring people who are passionate about what they are doing and willing to share and include others, people who believe in the power of transformation, people who are unafraid of big problems.

Redeemer is willing to say “yes” to sharing space with other organizations, collaborating to achieve more. Redeemer’s passion to feed the hungry led Redeemer to share its kitchen—and space for walk-in freezers—with Just One More Ministry. The growth they realized during their time at Redeemer led them to move to a larger facility. For the past eight years Redeemer has partnered with the Marquette University Campus Ministry to host a no-questions-asked mid-day meal that typically serves 50 to 125 six days a week.

Redeemer created, and shares space with, the Zeidler Center for Public Discussion (now called the Zeidler Group), which hosts and guides civil dialogue about difficult subjects, among potentially antagonistic groups. Guided conversations now number in the hundreds each year. So too, Redeemer last year opened its space to the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee—a once and future collaborator.

#### Progress Toward Launch of High Impact Giver Phase of Campaign

- "White Paper" 4-page and 2-page version of case statement drafted
- List of potential High Impact Givers developed
- High Impact Giver Team trained
- Videographer Thomas Houting of Character D Films contracted to develop 12 minute, 3 minute, and 1 minute videos to promote Redeemer and the campaign; shooting underway.
- \$250k pre-pledged to date (**not** including gifts given specifically to the mental wellness space).

#### Items Needing Completion before Launch of High Impact Giver Phase

- Graphics and art added to "white paper" case statement
- Publication of pledge cards, stationery, etc.
- Readiness meeting of High Impact Giver Team
- Design/Budget alignment for Fellowship Wing

High Impact Giver Phase should be complete by end of summer; proposed launch of full Congregation Campaign September-December 2021 (concurrent with work on grant applications and securing financing agreements).

\*\*\* "RedeemerFest" 6/26 5-8pm and Requiem for a Homeless Man Premiere 6/27 10-1pm planning is underway to raise \$40K for buildout of resource center for mental wellness/mental health assessment clinic.\*\*\*

Mission of Redeemer: To show and tell the love of God through Jesus Christ.

Values of Redeemer: Caring, sharing, and keeping it real

Priorities of Redeemer's Rebuild: Responsibility, Accessibility, Hospitality

*Shepherd Us, O God*



# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH ADDITION/REMODEL LOWER LEVEL

EXTERIOR ENTRY VIEW



LOWER LEVEL PLAN





REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH ADDITION/REMODEL UPPER LEVEL

UPPER EVENT CENTER



UPPER LEVEL PLAN

