



Congregational Assembly

May 13, 2025

Opening Worship

St. John's Music and Worship Team



Welcome & Agenda

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



Devotion & Opening Prayer

Pastor Tim Klinkenberg - Senior Pastor



Invitation to Sign Constitution

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



Approval of the Minutes

of Previous Meeting – May 21, 2024
Irene Frazier - Congregation Secretary



Elections

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



Senior Pastor's Report

Dr. Timothy Klinkenberg - Senior Pastor



- Culture Turning Toward Faith
- St. John's Getting Younger
- Staff Operating with High Morale
- Little Staff Turnover
- Unity of Spirit and Bond of Peace



Financial Report

Nick Villaseñor - Congregation Treasurer



2024-2025 Year End Report Highlights

- Contributions were lower but close to expected
- Tuition Income for K-8 was on budget
- Financial assistance and Staff, Partner and “multi-student” family discounts were higher than expected
- Tuition for Preschool was below budget - fewer students than anticipated
- Efficiencies - Increase in program, but little increase to expenses for program



2024-2025 Year End Report Highlights

Non Operating Funds

- Investments performed well
- Continued increase in designated giving - most notably to Missions & Outreach and Music & Worship
- Two new Endowments started - Bible and Vulnerable Children
- School Endowment currently at \$5.3M





St. John's Lutheran Church & School

Operating Budget: Projected Actual 2024-2025 vs. Approved 2024-2025

Revised May 2025

	Projected Actual 2024-2025	Budget 2024-2025	Variance
Contributions	\$ 3,939,600	\$ 3,951,200	\$ (11,600)
K-8 and Preschool Registration & Tuition	7,379,100	7,563,400	(184,300)
Fees / Rental / Interest / Other	860,500	868,800	(8,300)
School Endowment Payment	221,000	180,000	41,000
Designated Operating Contributions Rec'd & Expended	749,600	704,300	45,300
	\$13,149,800	\$13,267,700	\$(117,900)
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 9,270,300	\$ 9,154,000	\$ 116,300
Property & Campus Maintenance & Safety	908,900	993,500	(84,600)
Classroom Instructions & Technology	738,900	709,500	29,400
Legacy and M&R Reserve Payments	457,500	457,600	(100)
Missions & Outreach	331,800	366,800	(35,000)
Security	404,700	368,000	36,700
Insurance	140,400	115,500	24,900
Administration & Other Expenses	1,157,700	1,102,800	54,900
	\$13,410,200	\$13,267,700	\$142,500
Net Operations	\$(260,400)	\$0	

Operational Budget 2025-2026 Highlights

- Overall budget increase of 3.4% over 24-25 budget.
- Net salary and benefit increase of 3%
- Offering Income set as same as 24-25's budgeted amount
- Tuition Rate Increase average of 6%
 - 720 K-8 students
 - 115 preschool students
- Rental Income Increase - 5 houses instead of 3
- Four new positions: TK Teacher and Aide, Elementary Counselor, Prayer and Care Ministry Coordinator
- Increased Tuition Assistance Budget





St. John's Lutheran Church & School

Operating Budget: Projected Actual 2024-2025 vs. Proposed 2025-2026

Revised May 2021

	Projected Actual 2024-2025	Proposed Budget 2025-2026	Variance
Contributions	\$ 3,939,600	\$ 3,959,100	\$ 19,500
K-8 and Preschool Registration & Tuition	7,379,100	7,887,200	508,100
Fees / Rental / Interest / Other	860,500	883,400	22,900
School Endowment Payment	221,000	225,000	4,000
Designated Operating Contributions Rec'd & Expended	749,600	779,800	30,200
	\$13,149,800	\$13,734,500	\$584,700
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 9,270,300	\$ 9,624,000	\$ 353,700
Property & Campus Maintenance & Safety	908,900	978,500	69,600
Classroom Instructions & Technology	738,900	655,900	(83,000)
Legacy and M&R Reserve Payments	457,700	568,700	111,000
Missions & Outreach	331,800	305,600	(26,200)
Security	404,700	400,000	(4,700)
Insurance	140,400	150,000	9,600
Administration & Other Expenses	1,157,700	1,051,800	(105,900)
	\$13,410,200	\$13,734,500	\$324,300
Net Operations	\$(260,400)	\$0	

Projects and Initiatives 25-26

Maintenance and Replacements

Ongoing HVAC: Offices, Classrooms, & Meeting Spaces

Landscaping

Playground Repairs

Improvements and Initiatives

Fire, Smoke and Light Safety Improvements

Accessibility Improvements

Keyless Entry - Phase II (classroom & Meeting Spaces)

Upgrade to A/V in Great Room and Auditorium

Special Projects

Campus Strategic Planning

Sanctuary Roof Initial Steps



Projects and Initiatives 2024-2025

Total Program**

\$1,265,000*

* Funding through wise fiscal stewardship of Trustee Restricted amounts: Special gifts and allocations from the General Fund (Maintenance and Legacy Funds)

** Program based on project or initiative amounts, not annual expenditures



Financial Year 2025-2026 Summary

- Operational Budget: **\$13,734,500**
- Projects and Initiatives Program:
\$1,265,000



Building A Remodel Update

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



"BUILDING A" RENOVATION



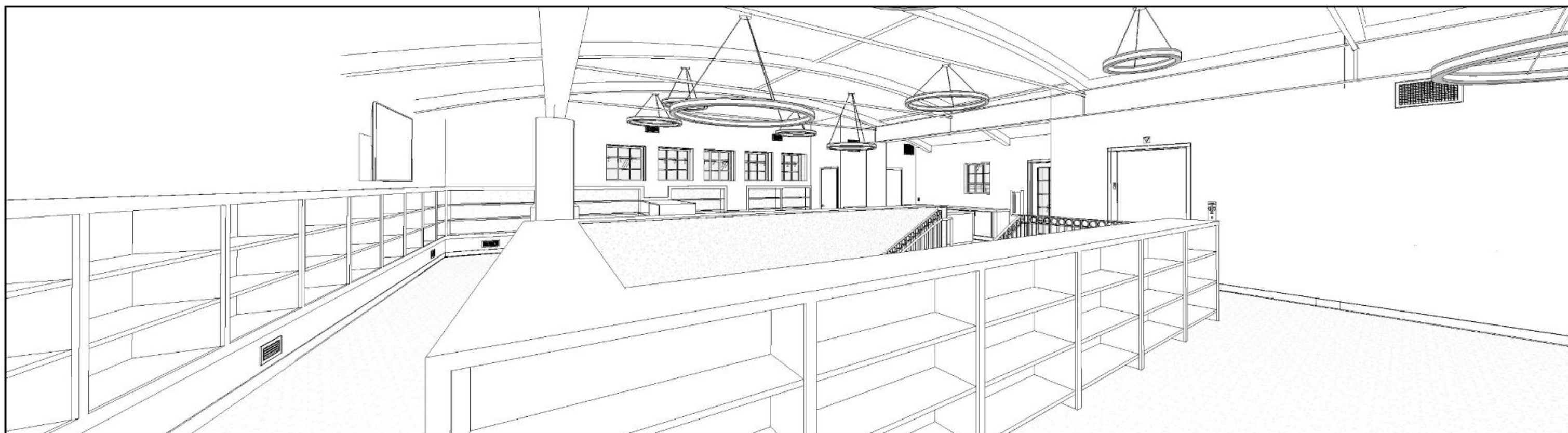
Building A Highlights

- Safety - Ballistic Proof Walls
- Mezzanine Level - Library & Terrace (2,345 add'l sq ft)
- HVAC Reposition & Efficiency
- Classroom Technology
- Art Gallery - Almond Street Foyer
- Elevator
- Updated ramp entrance off playground



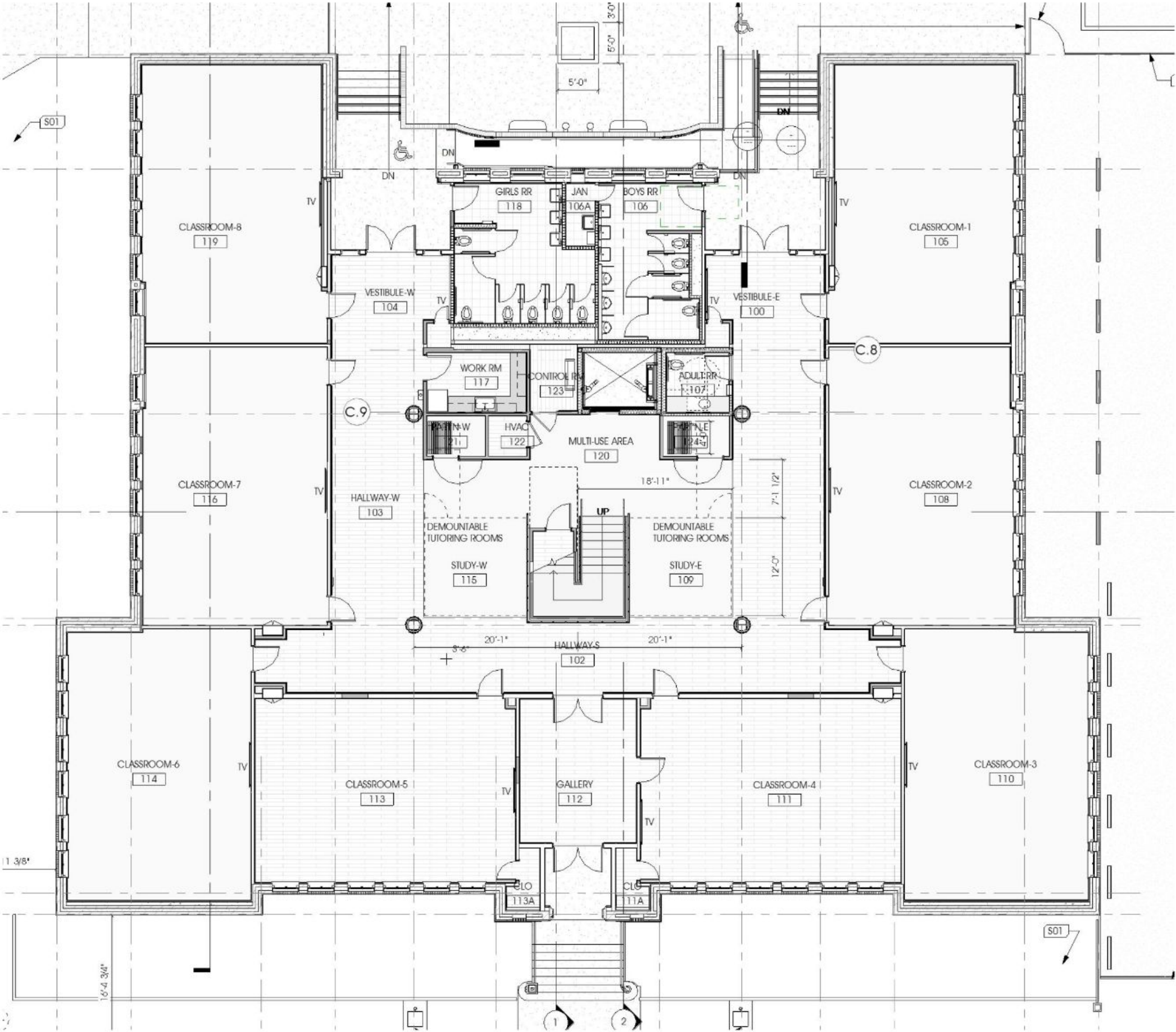
*Proposed
Library*

"BUILDING A" RENOVATION



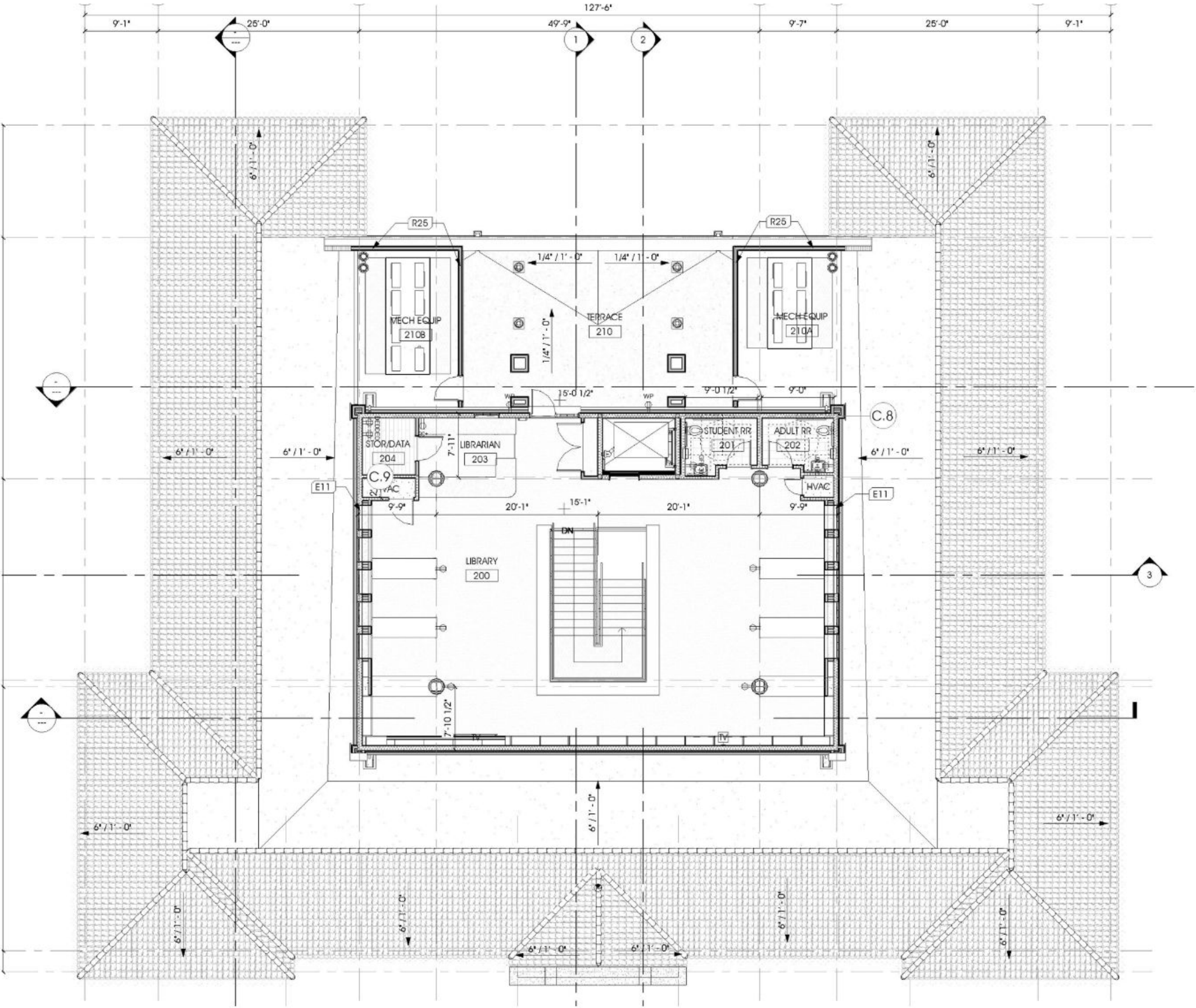
Proposed
Floor Plans
First Floor

"BUILDING A" RENOVATION



Proposed
Floor Plans
Second Floor

"BUILDING A" RENOVATION



Real Estate Resolution

Boe Boezinger - Congregation Treasurer



RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Council of Trustees has advised the congregation that St. John's has a need for additional real property in the vicinity of St. John's campus to serve the needs of the congregation for additional physical space, such as for ministry offices, additional administrative office space, staff housing, and other ministry needs; and

WHEREAS, the availability of suitable real estate in the vicinity of St. John's campus is limited, and when properties are listed for sale, the Trustee's experience has shown that the property immediately attracts a number of offers and quickly sells; and

WHEREAS, St. John's Constitution and Bylaws require that the purchase of real property be approved by a Congregational Assembly, and that advance notice be given to the congregation for a valid Congregational Assembly to meet; and

WHEREAS, if the congregation waits until a suitable property is first listed for sale before calling a Congregational Assembly to authorize an offer, those procedural requirements effectively preclude St. John's from acting quickly enough to make an offer on real property, before it is sold to another buyer; and



RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the congregation could instead act in advance and authorize the Council of Trustees to make an offer when a suitable parcel becomes available, without having to wait for further action by a Congregational Assembly, and thereby enable the Trustees to act quickly to make an offer, engage in negotiations if necessary, and consummate a transaction;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Congregational Assembly hereby adopts the following

RESOLUTION

The congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church of Orange, meeting in the Annual Congregational Assembly on May 13, 2025, hereby resolves as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, in its capacity as the legal representative of the congregation, is authorized to make a binding offer to purchase real property in the vicinity of St. John's campus, subject to the following conditions:



RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

(1) The Trustees determine that the particular piece of real property would serve a ministry purpose of St. John's;

(2) The Trustees determine that the price to be offered is appropriate in the existing market conditions, and within the financial means of St. John's; and

(3) The resolution by the Trustees to make a binding offer is approved by a unanimous vote of the Trustees at a duly called meeting, with a majority of Trustees participating;

AND FURTHER, if the offer is accepted, the Council of Trustees is authorized to execute the appropriate documents to consummate the purchase of the property pursuant to that offer, by the signatures of any two of the congregation's officers; and

FURTHER, the Council of Trustees is authorized to negotiate appropriate terms for the financing of the purchase, and to execute documents necessary to secure that financing; and



RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

FURTHER, the Trustees are directed to promptly give notice to the congregation when an offer they have made is accepted by the seller and contingencies have been satisfied, and include the location of the property, the terms of the accepted offer, and the terms of financing, if any; and

FURTHER, this authorization will automatically expire at the adjournment of the next Annual Congregational Assembly unless it is renewed by the congregation at that meeting.

Adopted: May 13, 2025



Called Worker Resolution

Boe Boezinger - Congregation Treasurer



RESOLUTION FOR CALLED WORKERS

Whereas, the mission of St. John's Lutheran Church Orange is to deliver the restorative hope of Jesus; and

Whereas, the Lord has blessed St. John's Lutheran Church with the people, facilities, and resources necessary to accomplish this mission; and

Whereas, the Lord has blessed St. John's Lutheran Church with staff members who are committed to the ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church and working to accomplish its goals and purpose; and

Whereas, our Constitution and Bylaws provides for uniformity of our called workers and Divinely Calling them by the congregation; and

Whereas, the Council of Trustees and by extension, the Council of Schools, is to lead the congregational ministry decently and in good order; and

Whereas, our commissioned employees have successfully completed all educational requirements to serve in a called ministry capacity and completed all necessary requirements of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to receive a Divine Call,

RESOLUTION FOR CALLED WORKERS

Whereas, the Council of Schools has developed and executed a comprehensive selection process for teacher candidates including prayerful consideration of all candidate education and experience information derived from application, phone screening, multiple interviews and reference checks,

Whereas, the Constitution directs the Congregation to Call our commissioned ministers; therefore be it

RESOLVED

that the Congregational Assembly formally issue Divine Calls to the following teachers who were vetted by the Council of Schools Call Committee interview and selection process:

Kristin Fink

Debbie Scott

RESOLVED

that St. John's give thanks for all our faculty and staff, and be it further

RESOLUTION FOR CALLED WORKERS

RESOLVED

that we continue to work together in peace to achieve our mission, and be it

Finally, RESOLVED

that each year the Trustees bring forward the names of our new commissioned ministers to be Divinely Called by the Congregation.

Adopted: May 13, 2025

President Emeritus Resolution

Pastor Tim Klinkenberg - Senior Pastor



President Emeritus Resolution

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Larry Stoterau and the Reverend Dr. Loren Kramer provided our District with faithful pastoral leadership as District President for eighteen years and fifteen years, respectively; and

WHEREAS, these former District Presidents provided invaluable pastoral leadership for the congregations and professional church workers of the District, in his visitations and preaching in many congregations for special occasions, and in his presence and participation in many District functions; and

WHEREAS, these District Presidents retired prior to the installation of our current District President; therefore be it

Resolved: That we thank the Reverend Dr. Larry Stoterau and the Reverend Dr. Loren Kramer for their faithful pastoral leadership; and be it further

Resolved: That this convention confer upon the Reverend Dr. Larry Stoterau and Rev. Dr. Loren Kramer the title of “President Emeritus of The Pacific Southwest District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod”; and be it further

President Emeritus Resolution

Resolved: That we give thanks to God for His servants, the Reverend Dr. Larry Stoterau and the Reverend Dr. Loren Kramer; and be it finally

Resolved: That following the adoption of this Resolution the assembly will rise and sing the last verse of the hymn, “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” (LSB#563)

“Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.”

Adopted: May 13, 2025

Lutheran Identity Resolution

Pastor Tim Klinkenberg - Senior Pastor



Lutheran Identity Resolution

This resolution is proposed in response to a movement from some members of our Synod to impose standards or requirements beyond those in our Lutheran confession on our institutions, including our universities and churches. By this resolution, we state our position, in advance of our approaching District convention, where we expect more discussion of this issue.

Lutheran Identity Resolution

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod states in Article II of its constitution:

Article II Confession

The Synod, and every member of the Synod, accepts without reservation:

1. The Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice;

Lutheran Identity Resolution

2. All the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God, to wit: the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Large Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord.

Lutheran Identity Resolution

therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined solely by the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined not in a manner that adds moral, ethical, cultural, legal, or political requirements or preferences to the Evangelical Lutheran confession, but first and foremost according to article IV of the Augsburg Confession: “Our churches teach that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or words.

Lutheran Identity Resolution

People are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By His death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight (Romans 3 and 4)"; and be it further

Lutheran Identity Resolution

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined not in a manner that uses traditions and rites as the primary foundation of the Evangelical Lutheran confession, but according to article VII of the Augsburg Confession: “The Church is the congregation of the saints in which the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are correctly administered.”

Lutheran Identity Resolution

For the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree about the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments. It is not necessary that human traditions, that is, rites or ceremonies instituted by men, should be the same everywhere. As Paul says, 'One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all' (Ephesians 4:5-6)"; and be it further

Lutheran Identity Resolution

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined not in a manner that venerates Martin Luther or places Lutheranism in a particular ethnic category, but according to the Large Catechism: “This we ask [Thy Kingdom come], both in order that we who have accepted it may remain faithful and grow daily in it and in order that it may gain recognition and followers among other people and advance with power throughout the world. So we pray that, led by the Holy Spirit, many may come into the kingdom of grace and become partakers of salvation...” (LC, The Lord’s Prayer, 52); and be it further

Lutheran Identity Resolution

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined not in a manner that limits Christian freedom in matters of organization and practices, but according to article XXVIII of the Augsburg Confession: “It is necessary that the doctrine of Christian freedom be preserved in the churches. In other words, the bondage of the Law is not necessary in order to be justified, as it is written in the Epistle to the Galatians, ‘do not submit again to a yoke of slavery’ (5:1). It is necessary for the chief article of the Gospel to be preserved, namely that we obtain grace freely by faith in Christ,

Lutheran Identity Resolution

and not by certain observances or acts of worship devised by people...It is proper to keep such ordinances just so long as consciences are not burdened to think that they are necessary to salvation, or to regard it as sin if they are changed without offending others” (51, 52, 56), and according to article X of the Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration: “As soon as Christian freedom is weakened and human traditions are forced on the Church with coercion, as though it were wrong and a sin to omit them, the way is already prepared for idolatry. In this way, human traditions are multiplied and regarded as divine worship, not only equal to God’s ordinances, but even placed above them” (15); and be it finally

Lutheran Identity Resolution

RESOLVED, that the term “Lutheran Identity” be defined and affirmed as adherence to the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions alone, understanding that “the churches will not condemn one another because of differences in ceremonies when, in Christian liberty, one has less or more of them” (FC SD X 31), and rejoicing in the Evangelical Lutheran foundation of grace alone, faith alone, Scripture alone, and Christ alone as the foundation of the Lutheran confession.

Adopted: May 13, 2025

Cemetery Columbarium

Chris Victoria - Cemetery Committee Trustee











Election Results

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



Adjournment

Mark Bogh - Congregation President



Closing Prayer

Pastor Trevor Van Blarcom - Associate Pastor



