

Foundations for Faith: The Challenge December 2008 Update

Nearly \$3 million in cash and pledges received

As of December 1, 2008, commitments to Foundations for Faith: The Challenge campaign had reached nearly \$3 million. A total of \$1,391,799 has been raised in the congregational appeal. 53 congregations have conducted a campaign. To date 18 congregations have approved a campaign with starting dates of January and February. Another 52 other congregations have approved a campaign and have a trained congregational leader.

These are exciting and historic times for the ministry of Lutheridge, Lutherock, and Lutheranch, and the ministry of Southeastern Synod. And there is much excitement in congregations as campaigns are conducted.

As congregations participate in their campaign staff hear wonderful stories.

Lutheran Church of the Messiah, Decatur, Georgia

As the Lutheran Church of the Messiah began its campaign, the church leadership and its members decided to designate their gifts in memory of Rev. Cecil Carpenter, a former pastor. \$15,500 was given/pledged to The Challenge Campaign in memory of Pastor Carpenter. Average attendance at Messiah for worship is 112. Rev. Haco von Hacke, pastor, and Suzanne Brinker, congregational leader, led the campaign effort.

Holy Cross, Athens, Georgia

Members of Holy Cross decided to honor the ministry of their retiring pastor, Rev. David Hart. The congregation pledged/gave \$46,415 to The Challenge campaign in honor of Pastor Hart. Carolyn Roberts, the congregational leader, led this campaign effort.

Christ the King, Evans, Georgia

On pledge Sunday, Rev. David Keener, the pastor, encouraged congregational members to consider a gift to The Challenge campaign. He discussed the “big purchases” in our lives—a home, college education, and a car. He stated that we remember these because of cost, but make many, many other smaller purchases that we never remember. He shared that though smaller, this will be an expenditure that we will both make a difference and that we will remember for years to come. Christ the King pledged/gave \$22,000 to the campaign. Rick Mann led the effort as the congregational leader along with the pastors, Rev. David Keener and Rev. Alex Hoffner.



Grace, Carrolton, Georgia

Sylvia Negri, The Challenge campaign congregational leader, and Rev. Michelle Kuhlman, the pastor provided many opportunities for the members of Grace to be part of the campaign process. The members hosted an afternoon at Lutheranch for the surrounding churches, had a “noisy” offering each Sunday prior to their pledge process, and celebrated with an Ice Cream social. Their total reached \$19,879. The average worship attendance is 75. The members of Grace are very excited that they have been part of this historic process.

Below is a list of congregations that have participated so far and their total:

All Saints, Huntsville, Al.	\$12,500
All Saints, Lilburn, Ga	\$40,063
Ascension, Jackson, Ms.	\$13,600
Beth Eden, Louisville, Ms.	\$ 1,500
Christ Our Shepherd, Peachtree, Ga.	\$20,000
Christ the King, Cummings, Ga.	\$24,752
Christ the King, Dalton, Ga.	\$10,045
Christ the King, Evans, Ga.	\$22,000
Christ the King, Tupelo, Ms.	\$ 1,116
Christ the Lord, Lawrenceville, Ga	\$31,768
Christus Victor, ocean Springs, Ms.	\$23,985
Epiphany, Colliersville, Tn.	\$ 3,000
Epiphany, Conyers, Ga.	\$23,000
Faith, Clay, Al.	\$ 5,110
Faith, Knoxville, Tn.	Pending
LC Resurrection, Marietta, Ga.	\$90,050
Memorial, Nashville, Tn.	\$15,000
Messiah, Knoxville, Tn.	\$30,000
Messiah, Madison, Al.	\$37,385
Our Savior, Gatlinburg, Tn.	\$ 500
Prince of Peace, Alpharetta, Ga.	\$31,350
Prince of Peace, Fayetteville, Ga.	\$38,800
Reformation, Greeneville, Tn.	\$18,715
Shades Valley, Birmingham, Al.	\$120,585
St. James, Brunswick, Ga.	\$14,125
St. James, Norcross, Ga.	\$ 4,315
St. John, Griffin, Ga.	\$10,000
St. John's, Knoxville, Tn	\$ 3,000
St. Luke, Atlanta, Ga.	\$ 1,487
Faith, Savannah, Ga.	\$18,662
First Lutheran, Nashville, Tn.	\$ 5,015
First United Lutheran, Kennesaw, Ga	\$29,270
Good Shepherd, Woodstock, Ga	\$27, 265
Grace, Carrolton, Ga	\$19, 879
Grace, Long Beach, Ms.	\$17,525

Holy Cross, Athens, Ga.	\$46,415
Holy Cross, Hiram, Ga.	\$44,460
Holy Trinity, Marietta, Ga.	\$125,000
Holy Trinity, Fairhope, Al	\$17,000
Holy Trinity, Kingsport, Tn.	\$30,807
Holy Trinity, Nashville, Tn.	\$ 1,400
LC Good Shepherd, Garden City, Ga	\$10,000
LC Incarnation, Marietta, Ga.	\$ 2,630
LC Messiah, Atlanta, Ga.	\$15,500
LC of Nativity, Austell, Ga.	\$ 4,975
LC Redeemer, Savannah, Ga.	\$12,000
St. Mark's, East Point, Ga.	\$ 1,500
St. Mark's, Huntsville, Al.	\$78,230
St. Paul's, Maryville, Tn.	\$18,180
St. Stephen, Decatur, Ga.	\$ 1,540
St. Timothy, Forest Park, Ga	\$21,725
Trinity, Hixson, Tn.	\$ 6,000
Trinity, Lilburn, Ga.	\$92,540

\$1,391,799.

January begins the new round of congregational appeals. The appeal process is well-organized, easy to follow, and only takes five weeks to conduct. This campaign effort offers every member an opportunity to participate.

In order to fully fund the land acquisition at Lutheranch, the campaign total must reach \$4.9 million. Lutheranch is becoming a reality thanks to everyone doing their part.

If your congregation has not scheduled a date for The Challenge appeal for your congregation, please contact Libby Bedenbaugh, Senior Development Associate (lbwb@bellsouth.net) or 803-940-6523. OR Rev. Nancy Christensen, Development Associate (nants2@AOL.com) or 404-610-3908.

