

KNOWING<sup>†</sup> GROWING<sup>✎</sup> SERVING<sup>♥</sup>

# Christ's Way



*Ministry  
Expansion  
Campaign*



KNOWING † GROWING † SERVING †

# Christ's Way

Zion's Ministry  
Expansion Campaign

## To Christ's Family at Zion,



Pastor Bryan  
Meadows

There's only one way for Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool... **Christ's Way**. And Christ's Way is all about *Knowing Jesus, Growing in Faith, and Serving in Love*.

How do we know Jesus? We know Him through our love. Christ tells us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" (Luke 10:27). We are to love God with all that we are and all that we have! Ours is not a Sunday-morning-only Savior, and neither is our worship of Him. We know, because it's hard to find a quiet corner of our building during any given week. Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool is continuously engaged in our love of Christ, day-in and day-out. That's **Christ's Way**.

From baptismal birth to earthly death, we are focused on growing in our faith. The Apostle Paul reminds us to "continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed ... and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:14-15). So how do we teach our children in our Sunday school and day school? We train up our children in the way they should go, so that even when they are old they will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6). We teach them as we ourselves continue to grow in our faith and understanding of our Savior. That's **Christ's Way**.

Along the way, we learn that "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). So we, too, devote ourselves to lives of service to others. We freely give of our time, our talents, our treasures. For we know that all these things were given to us as gifts from a kind, loving, and merciful Father. We merely give back to Him what is His own. But we return our gifts to Him so that He might grow His Kingdom through our hands. That's **Christ's Way**.

Throughout this campaign I prayerfully ask you to commit to "*Knowing Jesus*" as you and I gather in worship; to "*Growing in Faith*" as we learn about Christ in our day school, adult Bible Studies, and Sunday school; and to "*Serving in Love*" as it will take all of us to support this growth in His ministry at Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool.

Let us pray together that Holy Spirit shows us the way...**Christ's Way!**

**In Him,**  
Pastor Bryan Meadows

**About the Campaign Design:** In the forefront of the cover design, the narrow path to follow Christ beckons us along a landscape similar to that which Christ Himself may have observed during His time on earth. The woodgrain background is similar to dogwood, the kind of wood thought to be used for Jesus' cross. It reminds us of Christ's most symbolic "way"—the cross. Deep rusty orange used throughout the campaign is warm, welcoming, energizing, optimistic, and signifies abundance. Greens in the foliage convey health, balance, growth, harmony, and new beginnings.

I am the way, the truth, and the life.  
 No one comes to the Father  
 except through Me. ~ JOHN 14:6

## Our Mission

### *Knowing Jesus, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love*

On August 21, 1910, Rev. Oscar Heilman held the first Lutheran worship service in Rapid City, with 33 worshippers packed into the old City Hall. Lutherans throughout the Black Hills did what they could to gather regularly for worship and fellowship—meeting in the city hall, renting the Methodist Church, and finally purchasing land and a partly dismantled Baptist church to use as a worship space. One strong commonality kept the people meeting together and worshipping regularly: resolve. Resolve of knowing Jesus more and resolve of growing in faith.

More than a century later, Zion's mission has not changed so much as it has expanded. Now from its perch on the hill overlooking Rapid City, Zion is a place where common people—young and old—come to know Jesus, grow in faith and serve in love. In the sanctuary, families come to know Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve. In the classrooms, students grow in faith by learning God's Word and marveling at His creation. In the community and in each other's presence, recognizing who Jesus is and what He has done for us, we—young and old alike—serve in love.

**Knowing Jesus, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love—Christ's Way** is a tireless mission of love and service. Throughout its century-plus history, Zion has met numerous crossroads presenting both the need and the opportunity to grow. We are at a crossroads again. The Jesus our Lutheran brothers and sisters worshipped in the rented Methodist Church in the early 1900s is the same Jesus we worship today on the hill just off Highway 16. Now, being led by the Holy Spirit, we ask: How can we share **Christ's Way** with more people?

## CAMPAIGN EVENTS

Inform  
Weekend ..... Oct. 1-2

Prayer Over  
Construction  
Site..... Sun., Nov. 6

Inspire  
Sunday #1 .....Sun., Nov. 13

Inspire  
Sunday #2.....Sun., Nov. 20

Inspire  
Sunday #3..... Sun., Nov. 27

Leadership  
Commitment  
Dinner .....Sat., Dec. 4

Inspire  
Sunday #4..... Sun., Dec 4

Commitment  
Celebration ... Sun., Dec. 11

First Gifts  
Dedication  
Sunday ..... Sun., Jan. 1, 2023



## OUR CURRENT MINISTRIES

### KNOWING

- Acolytes
- Altar Guild
- Coffee-Hour Servers
- Greeters & Ushers
- Music  
Choir, Handbells, Praise Team & Organ
- Offering Counters
- Technology  
Sound Board, Video Production  
& Slide Operation

### GROWING

- Confirmation Classes
- Jesus & Me (JAM)
- New Member Classes
- Small-Group Bible Studies  
Leaders, Participants, Hosts
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Group

### SERVING

- Annual Craft Fair
- Church Beautification
- Community Outreach  
Opportunities
- Hospitality & Funeral  
Luncheons
- Lutheran Women's Missionary  
League (LWML)
- Semi-Annual Blood Drives

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. ~ PROVERBS 22:6

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# The Project

## *Zion's Opportunity*

According to the US Census Bureau, Rapid City is the fastest growing city in the Midwest. This, along with the anticipated expansion to the nearby Ellsworth Air Force base, will grow the area by an estimated 30,000 to 40,000 people over the next ten years. At the same time, public schools across the country—including those in the Rapid City area—are struggling with teacher shortages, infrastructure, curriculum development and safety, turning more and more families to private education.

## *The Ministry Need*

From 33 worshippers in 1910 to 880 baptized members in 2021; and from 21 students in 1957 to 162 students in 2022, Zion has through the decades charted a story of growth, both in church membership and school enrollment. Time and again, God has filled our sanctuary and classrooms with people who want to know Jesus, grow in faith and serve together in love. Today, multiple classrooms are full, and when families call to inquire about enrollment, staff often must turn them away or add their names to a waiting list.

## *The Physical Need*

Christ has richly blessed His ministry in this place. In 1999, spurred by a need for more space, Zion moved from downtown to its current location on Highway 16 overlooking Rapid City. Now, there is more to be done, but there is no more space to be had. Zion's narthex is also the lunchroom. Zion's sanctuary doubles as the gym. Multiple classrooms are at capacity. Simply put, Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool needs more space to fulfill Christ's mission in this place.

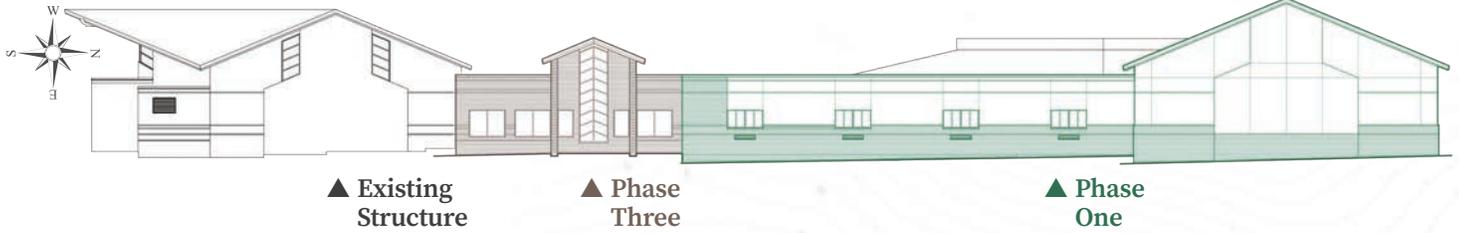


The **Christ's Way** campaign is Zion's response to the growing need within our community where an ever-increasing number of our neighbors are seeking a safe and loving place to belong. We believe God is leading us to expand Christ's ministry in this place to connect more of God's children to the love, the truth, and the way of Christ Jesus.

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH (WATER TOWER)



VIEW FROM THE EAST (BACK)



## The expansion plan consists of:

### Phase One

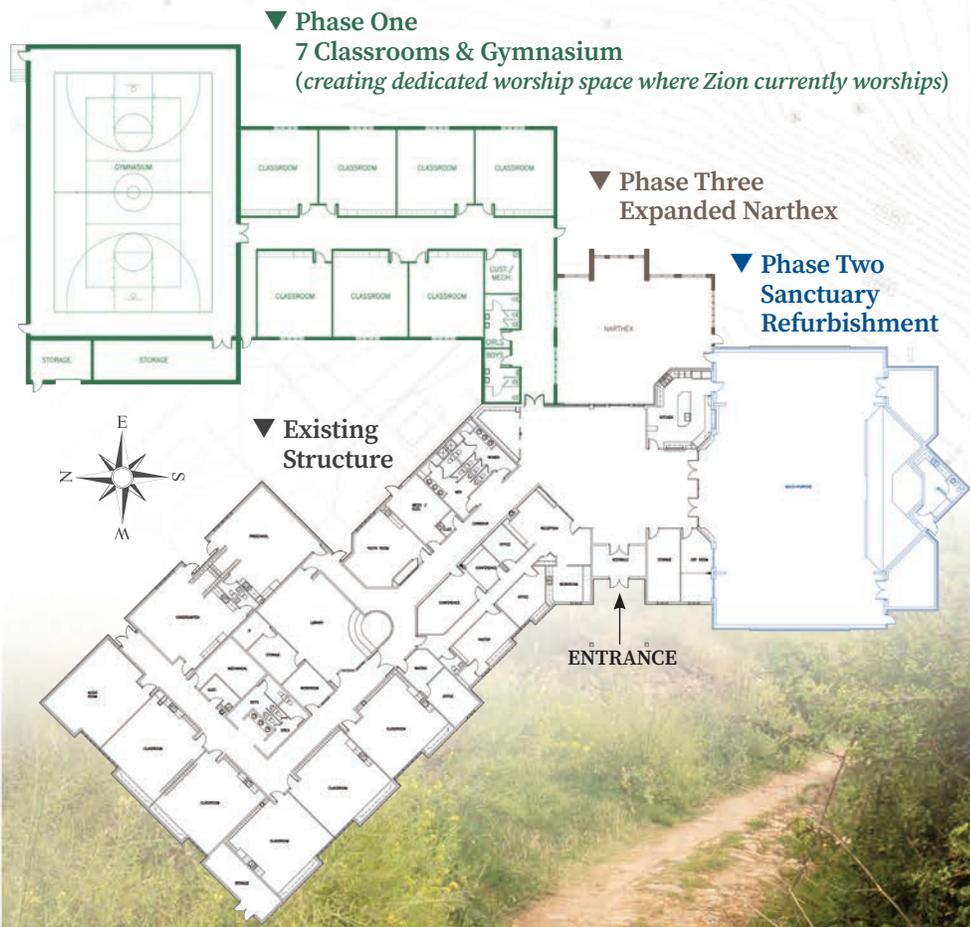
- ▶ Create a **dedicated worship space** in what is now the sanctuary/gym, by building a new **gymnasium with a new basketball court** and access to both indoor and outdoor storage spaces.
- ▶ Add **seven new classrooms** adjacent to new gymnasium, allowing Zion to increase its two Kindergarten class sizes, as well as add an additional classroom each for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades.
- ▶ Estimated cost for construction and material for Phase One is **\$4.5 million**

### Phase Two

- ▶ **Refurbish our current sanctuary**, treating it as our dedicated worship space, with improvements made as necessary.
- ▶ Estimated cost for construction and material for Phase Two is **\$1.1 million**

### Phase Three

- ▶ **Expand the narthex** to accommodate both the anticipated increase in student volume and a larger space for the family of Zion to gather in fellowship, host servant events and more.
- ▶ Estimated cost for construction and material for Phase Three is **\$1 million**



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*Note: The architectural drawings shown above are not final. Minor changes should be expected. All costs are according to 2022 estimates.*



# Financial Need

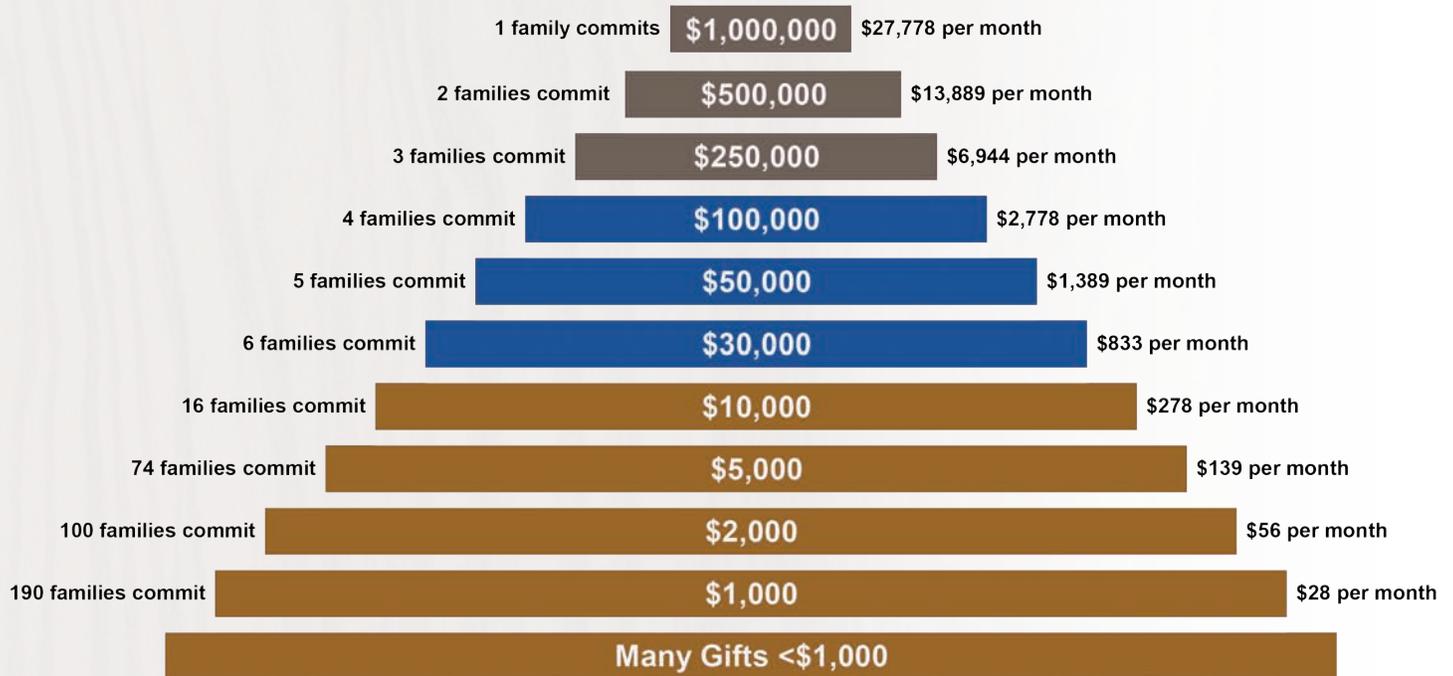
This campaign is all about **Christ's Way**. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have been working in this place, through thousands of individuals and families, for many years. We pray that He works through us now to grow **Christ's Way** and His ministry in this place.

How will God lead you to be a part of the **Christ's Way** campaign? This campaign will ask you for dollars. It will ask for your time, and it will ask for your talents.

*We ask you to prayerfully consider how God will lead and enable **you** to participate in this campaign. If it is God's will to grow His ministry at Zion, He will use **all of us** to do so.*

Will you commit to "*Knowing Jesus*" as we gather in worship? Will you commit to "*Growing in Faith*" as we spend time learning about Christ? Will you commit to "*Serving in Love*," as it will take all of us to support this growth in His ministry?

## Goal: \$4,500,000



**Giving is over 3 years, over and above our regular giving.**

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine..."

~ EPHESIANS 3:20-21



*Would you like to serve on the campaign team?*

For contact info please visit the campaign web page at [www.zionrc.org/ChristWay](http://www.zionrc.org/ChristWay)

**Campaign Directors**  
*Bill Aker & Don Valenti*

**Prayer Director**  
*Ken Anderson*

**Campaign Coordinator**  
*Natalie Graumann*

**Communications Director**  
*Lynette Epp*

**Inform Directors**  
*Bob & Marilyn Herz*

**Lead Gifts Director**  
*David Withee*

**Impact Phase Director**  
*Kevin Aker*

**Initial Commitments Director**  
*Amie Rose*

**Inspire Directors**  
*Roger & Ann Woidtke*

**Commitment Celebration Director**  
*Laure Anderson*

**Youth Emphasis Director**  
*Kasey Kirschenmann*

**Children's Emphasis Director**  
*Tiffany Warnke*

**Friends of the Congregation Director**  
Vacant

**Follow-Up Director**  
*Vern DeCastro*

**School Emphasis Director**  
*Becki Aker*

*"Seeds of the Christ's Way Campaign were already being planted..."*

## **Letter from the Congregation President**

Seeds of the **Christ's Way** campaign were already being planted within the Strategic Plan that Zion adopted in 2020. As part of the Strategic Plan, Zion approved a new Mission Statement:

**Knowing Jesus:** *Having a personal relationship with Jesus as Savior through Worship, God's Word, and the Sacraments*

**Growing in Faith:** *Connecting with God and each other through the study of His Word, fellowship, and prayer*

**Serving with Love:** *Showing Christ's love through giving of our time and talents in our church and school, the community, and the world*

Through its church, school and preschool, Zion fulfills these mission objectives every day. Now, we have a new and ambitious invitation before us. **Christ's Way** is our opportunity to grow our ministries at Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool by expanding our footprint of Christ's love. May our Risen Lord, Jesus, continue to bless us and empower us to carry out His will. May He grant us His strength, encouragement, and wisdom as we embark on *Knowing, Growing, and Serving Christ's Way* through this Capital Campaign.

God's peace,  
Patrick Fitzgerald  
Congregation President



*Your Christ's Way Leadership Team*



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LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, SCHOOL  
& PRESCHOOL

*Knowing<sup>†</sup> Growing<sup>↗</sup> Serving<sup>♥</sup>*

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