

#8

.... From Generation to Generation!

There's an old saying that goes, "We always stand on the shoulders of those who went before us." And it's true – whether you're talking about the field of medicine, science, technology, and aeronautics or whether you're talking about St. Michael ministry – we build on the sacrifices and advancements of others.

If you retrace the history of St. Michael you can see how people of vision seized opportunities that served to lay a foundation and then added on to that layer by layer. Let me share just a couple of examples to show you what I mean:

- Rev. Hugo Hartmann of Delray Beach along with 38 young adults (Walther Leaguers) from Tampa, Lakeland, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale & Delray Beach canvassed Ft. Myers making 800 calls to breathe life into this mission.
- 14 families joined together in 1941 to purchase the NW lot on Lafayette and Grand where a small church was built for \$5,500. A loan of \$4,000 was secured and a small parsonage was built the following year.
- 12 years later 6 lots were purchased on McGregor Blvd & Coconut for \$7,500 and a chapel & parish hall built for \$31,000. (A \$15,000 loan, \$10,000 grant, and \$6,000 from member gifts and pledges covered the construction costs).
- In 1956 St. Michael Lutheran School began with a kindergarten class with 20 children and 2 teachers. A monetary gift from one family made this opportunity financially possible.
- In 1958 and 1961 the education building was expanded. The 1st phase cost of \$14,000 was completely paid for by gifts and pledges. The 2nd phase cost of \$23,000 was made possible with a loan from Aid Association for Lutherans.
- In 1965 5 acres were purchased on Broadway and Carrell for \$25,000. The sanctuary was built in 1968 and the education building in 1978 (again using a combination of gifts, pledges and loans).
- In 1994 146 donors contributed \$1,937,109 and \$1,800,000 construction loan was secured to build the Anderson/Eichler athletic/fine arts building, renovate the science & computer labs, create an art room, and buy 5 lots on Spanish court to provide for our athletic field.

Now we stand at another cross road! An opportunity called "**Imagine**" is before us. Now our generation can complete this campus, build another layer, and provide for future generations:

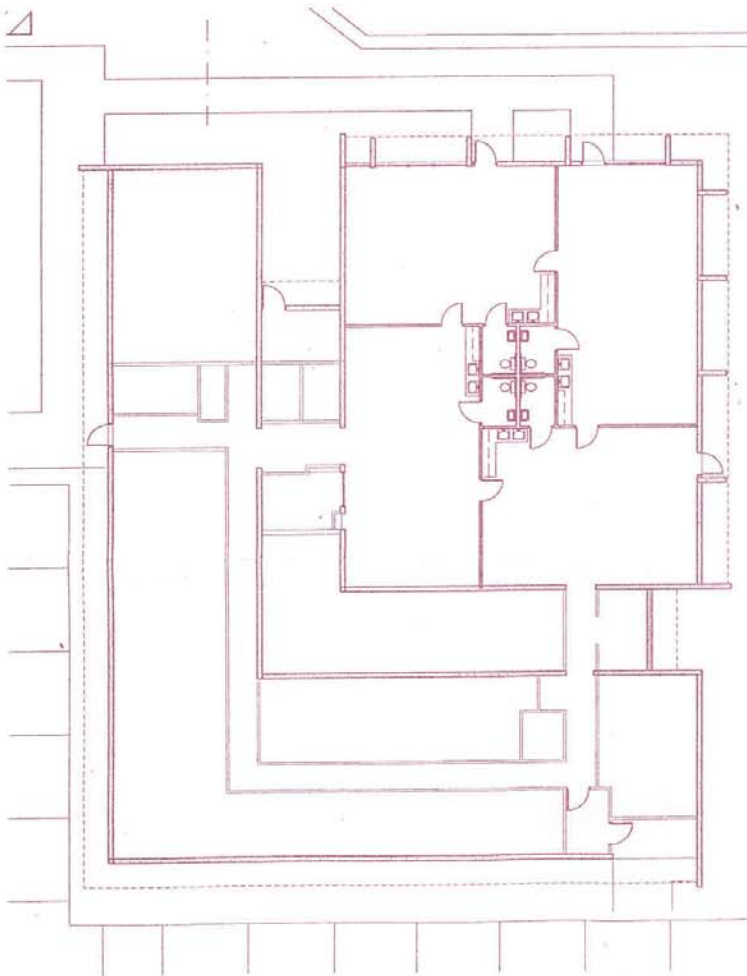
- (1) An early child education building for Pk3 & 4's (formally known as the Kidney Center – it's land, facility, and Spanish Court as our private drive).
- (2) An information center providing a bookstore, library/media center space, production studio, distance learning center, and 2 large halls for children, youth, and adult ministries.
- (3) Sanctuary renovation that will brighten the interior of God's house – new carpet, upholstery, stain glass windows, & a copula.
- (4) Debt reduction and the purchase of the final 2 lots on Spanish Court.

Like those who have gone before us, who have blessed us by their sacrifice, vision and dedication – let us seize the day! For God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or **imagine**, according to **His power** at work within **us!** To Him be glory forever and ever!

Thanks to Pastor Jon for those thoughts and the challenge!



Draft #1 View of Information Center



1. Remodel open area to provide 4 equal classrooms.
2. Center the classrooms around 4 restrooms and sink areas.
3. Utilize the large areas in the "L" portion of the building for E.C. indoor play, lunch, center activities.
4. Utilize smaller office areas for ICVP, visitation Pastors, Counseling offices, Small group gatherings and Bible Classes.

**Early Childhood (PK3 & 4's /
Youth and Adult Learning Center.
(Old Kidney Center)**