



2009 Fund Appeal

An Opportunity to Keep Our Vision Growing

June 7, 2009

Sunday ~ June 14
Commitment Sunday

On June 14, at all worship services, we will celebrate God's faithfulness as we receive the commitment responses from all our members. Please plan on joining us for Commitment Weekend!

We thank you for your faithful prayers, participation and financial support as we continue doing God's work through our *Keep Our Vision Growing Appeal*.

Faith Focus

We have asked members of our Appeal Team to share their faith and commitment to our congregation and our Appeal. This faith focus was written by Sharon Thies. Sharon is serving on the Telephone Group for our Appeal Team.

"I am currently the Senior Choir director here at St. Peters. My husband, John, and I have been members here since 1971 when Pastor Stensberg called and asked me if I would be the choir director of both the Senior & Junior choirs at the time.

In those past 38 years I have had the opportunity to watch and participate in the amazing growth of this congregation. Back in 1971, we had one pastor, a very small narthex which inhibited fellowship, no Christian Day School and no Key to Life Daycare and Outreach Center. We have come a long way since then.

In my years here at St. Peter, I have taught Sunday School, been a Lutheran Girl Pioneer leader, been on many boards and committees, written several Day School and Youth Group Advent and Easter services and coached the girl's basketball team for the Day School. I have three sons, each of whom attended St. Peter Lutheran School, grades K-8; two of which have gone on to be Christian Day School teachers themselves. I had the humbling privilege to be part of the Mission Vision team which explored the purpose and ministry of St. Peter and helped to set a vision for growth and outreach making use of lay leaders like each of you; and grow we have. We have gone from one Sunday morning Bible Class to at least four choices of studying God's Word on a weekly basis. We have a wonderful new addition which promotes fellowship and loving Christian service to one another. We have a terrific Christian Day School with a dedicated staff of teachers working in harmony with our now three team pastors, we have a beautiful new Daycare and Outreach Center in Weston which has allowed us to offer even more opportunities for worship in the surrounding community, and so much more.

These projects did not come into existence magically. It took the foresight and dedication of the members of this congregation to support the visions that now are realities. In our *Growing Forward* and *Go and Work* appeals of the past, we as disciples of our Lord and Savior accomplished much, but there still is work to be done. There still are souls out there who need the news of their Savior. There still are children who need care and education. There still are members who need our compassion and assistance. We must keep our Vision Growing, which by the way, happens to be the title of the appeal now before us.

For me, it has been an amazing 38 years of watching God continue to bless the work of this congregation. It has also been a labor of love; for which one of us has ever been able to out-give the Lord. After all, He gave up His one and only Son to die for our sins on the tree of the cross so that you and I might be able to live with Him in His kingdom forever."