

# St. John the Baptist Church

## Report to Commissions Mark Dittman, Parish Business Administrator

May 18, 2016

---

1. **Close the Gap.** Our Close the Gap appeal, kicked off last week with a letter to parishioner's homes and on May 14/15 with Mass announcements, has already brought in more than \$50,000! We have a parishioner ready to match up to that amount, so we have now raised in excess of \$100,000 in additional operating revenue in one weekend! **Thank you** to our many generous parishioners!

OSMG Capital. Parishioner gifts in April will enable us to pay \$3,048 in additional principle in May. (Our monthly principle & interest payment is \$20,700.) Our debt balance at the end of April was \$1.489 million. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

2. **Legacy Wall.** The idea of constructing a feature in our St. Paul Plaza memorializing estate and other legacy gifts to St. John the Baptist is being considered tonight by the Finance Commission. This has been discussed for some time now among parish leaders. Other commissions with input on this topic, please contact me.

3. **Capital projects.** Below are updates on the capital projects being planned or under way.

Church & St. Joseph Hall lighting. Work in St. Joseph's Hall is nearing completion. The wood panels will be replaced soon and the dimming and control systems will soon be programmed. Some preparatory work has taken place in the church, with the project to begin in earnest soon.

Cemetery columbarium. The design of a "plaza" in our cemetery with columbaria is being reviewed and refined now. We will soon be at a stage of reviewing materials and exploring cost factors. The Bethel MBA team has presented its business plan, which will help guide our analysis. We are still on track to break ground in this year's construction season.

School security. Both the Administrative Services and Finance Commissions will be reviewing a simplified and less costly plan to secure the lower level of the Parish Center during school hours, and to secure the north stairwell and both elevators. This will require relocating several parish ministries that presently use the Parish Center's lower level for storage and ministry activity during the school day. The security and safety of our school children is a high priority, and must be addressed this summer.

Elevator repair. The Administrative Services Commission is considering a lower cost option to keep water out of our elevator pits. They are reviewing a proposal and have received input from several professionals, including the state elevator inspector.

Parking lot. The cracks and other flaws in our aging parking lot will be addressed this summer. We will also likely stripe the west lot.

4. **FallFest 2016: September 24/25.** Our next planning meeting is May 24. Assistance in planning is needed; please contact Mark Dittman or our co-chairs Deb and Brad Kuglin (763-786-1448) if you are interested.

Thank you for your generous service to St. John the Baptist!

Mark Dittman

Parish Business Administrator, [dittmanm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:dittmanm@stjohnnyb.org), 651-633-8333, ext. 1215