

“Encourage one another and build each other up” 1 Thess. 5:11

God blessed us through these words all through Build Life, and they will continue to direct our next steps. With them in mind, please rejoice with me over God’s gifts to us, and pray with me for grace to continue following Him!

1. Build Life! campaign results

- Over 200 people offered commitments to the Lord to share His care with the St. Paul/Summit Family, and a similar number likewise offered commitments to take His love to the community and world beyond our fellowship. The “Faith in Action” experience we will share this fall will help us all take effective new steps.
- 230 financial commitments were made, totaling nearly \$3.5 Million! Praise God! With our construction obligations at \$4.8M, the Council worked through the allocations for each of our campaign goals as follows:

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Construction	\$4.8M	\$3.3M
Summit Mission (Aledo and new)	\$300,000	\$250,000
Fan into Flame (Synod mission campaign)	\$200,000	\$10,000
Debt to finance	0	(\$1.5M)

- The voting to “name that building” on March 30 resulted in the new worship/concert/conference/fellowship building becoming the “New Life Center.” (We will now call the house “The House.” Clever, huh?)
- Dedication of all the new facilities to God’s use and glory is now scheduled for Sunday afternoon, August 24.

2. New Staff Calls

- Martin Danner graduated from the seminary last Friday, and has now officially accepted our call! His ordination/installation will be in a combined Sanctuary/Fellowship service at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary on June 22. Come, join the blessing and fellowship with Pastor Danner and our St. Paul Family!

→ Last Sunday our congregation forum extended a call to Mr. Bob Williams of Saginaw, Michigan, to serve as our Director of Worship. Please pray for Bob and his family as they now pray for God's guidance.

3. **Finally...**

Sharon and I were overwhelmed with your expressions of encouragement throughout our anniversary celebration. Your presence, your prayers, your gifts and kind words will remain with us always. What a joy to be Family with all of you!

Although by the count, it was our years as a ministry couple being recognized yesterday, we truly have been part of an awesome team during the years at St. Paul. All of them deserve at least as much appreciation: Those still at St. Paul include Doug Widger, Peter Couser, Bud Beverly, Chuck Wendt, Larry Hoffschneider, Sue Davis and Bobby Walston, and their spouses; my Ministry Assistant Judy Kieschnick, and all the Ministry Assistants, Worship and Music staff, wonderful Teachers, Office, Food and Facility staff. Wow—and so many more!

Please walk slowly through these buildings the next time you are here—take time to thank these people for serving and giving to the Lord. All our lives are richer because of them.

THANK YOU!

Pastor John Messmann