



50 YEARS in HOPE and GRACE



OUR STORY

Grace Lutheran Church has been a cornerstone of our Palo Alto community, Silicon Valley, and the broader Lutheran communion for more than 65 years. Grace is an inviting and diverse Christian community, embracing our Lutheran tradition in ways that are faithful and innovative. Drawing on the 500 years of Lutheran tradition since the Reformation, Grace continues to grow, to change, and to develop. Our church is blessed with incredible people who lead meaningful worship, make beautiful music, mentor and nurture our children, and serve all of God's people far and near.

While our spiritual body has grown and changed each year, our physical campus has not entirely kept up with our energy and vitality. Fortunately, through the generosity of the Grace community, we are able to complete the much-anticipated projects to expand our narthex, renovate the parking lot, repair the steeple, and replace the sanctuary roof. However, there is still more work to do to ensure that our physical facilities are as vibrant as our community. In addition, we plan to use this opportunity to generously broaden God's work in our world above and beyond our efforts to be good stewards of our properties and finances.

"Everything that has been done in the world has been done by hope."

- MARTIN LUTHER



INVESTING IN GOD'S MISSION THROUGH GRACE

Soon, when construction is finished, we will have an open, inviting narthex where we can gather as a community, welcome new faces, and connect with old friends. The next phase of capital stewardship builds on that renewed energy to continue to improve our physical facilities (without any new debt!), service and pay down our existing debt, and tithe in support of God's work beyond Grace's campus.



1 Improvements to Our Campus

The *500 Years in Hope and Grace* capital campaign will allow the church to continue to be good stewards of our campus and parsonages by tackling a number of projects without any new debt! Particular focus will be paid to Brown Hall, the kitchen, the courtyard between the office and Brown Hall, and the doors and windows that separate those spaces. Additional items, as funds are available, include deferred maintenance on campus such as walkways, plumbing, the Towle Way Parsonage (more plumbing!) as well as updates to spaces adjacent to our current construction that will need improvement (the alley, floors in the Education Wing, etc.) This much needed attention to some of our most used program and fellowship spaces will make positive improvements to how these spaces are used and experienced by Grace and the wider community.

The stronger the campaign response, the more we will be able to accomplish!

2 Servicing Existing Debt

We also seek to be responsible stewards of our financial resources. The *500 Years in Hope and Grace* capital campaign includes an intentional effort to service and reduce our existing debt. This intentionality will allow our Operating Budget to be freed to pursue its purpose, namely the doing of ministry! Missional questions about staffing and programs are then less encumbered by mortgage concerns.

The stronger the campaign response, the more our debt is reduced!

3 Giving Generously to Others

Part of what makes Grace Lutheran Church an exciting, fulfilling faith community is our commitment to supporting God's work in the world. *500 Years in Hope and Grace* brings that same spirit by committing 10% of the financial resources raised to continue to support the the South Sudan Clinic of the Campaign for the ELCA. This trade school, ministry center, and medical clinic for women and children is being completed due to gifts like ours from our last campaign. It now needs to be outfitted with all of the supplies and equipment necessary for their mission. What would our tithe support? Exam tables, desks, chairs, blood pressure cuffs, cabinets, mechanical operating tables, defibrillators, and more! Perhaps our response will be strong enough to supply them with anesthesia machines and a portable ultrasound! Think of the difference this gift could make!

The stronger the response to *500 Years in Hope and Grace*, the more good we do!