

PLANTING SEEDS FOR OUR FUTURE 2019 BENEFIT DINNER RECAP



After a long delay (and with patient waiting), we have a recap of the 2019 Benefit Dinner night, the results of the Planting Seeds for Our Future fundraising effort, and also an outline of the handicap access and security improvements for which the funds will be used.

AN EVENING OF COMMUNITY

The evening started with a social hour, checking out the many events planned for the evening, catching up with old friends, and meeting new ones. Steve Roudebush could be heard encouraging attendees to purchase 50/50 raffle tickets and there was a flurry of onlookers at the dessert dash table. After welcoming everyone, Fr. Chris blessed the food and we began serving the meal. Having ate well, we heard from Vern Meier, son of Carrie Meier, who was honored for her lifetime of service to our parish.



The evening continued with a spirited Live Auction, and there were many who also won door prizes. Possibly the most entertaining portion of the evening was the Dessert Dash – a new addition this year. This was the most athletic portion of the evening (although dessert and exercise are hardly complimentary) where each table pitched in to have the highest contribution and gain the first trip to the dessert bar to have first pick of the desserts; the highest contributing table got their choice of homemade tortes and cakes, and the lowest got to pick their favorite Oreo cookies. The evening concluded with an opportunity to contribute directly to this year’s project (handicap access and security improvements) and while some had to head home after dessert, many stayed into the evening for conversation and camaraderie with fellow parishioners and supporters alike.

BENEFIT TO THE PARISH

The fundraising campaign and event were a huge success, surpassing our goal of \$30,000. Thank you to all of the supporters for their contributions, and for everyone who chipped in big and small to make the event happen. We have some much to be thankful for at our parish, especially all who support the good works of our parish community from its founding in 1861 to the present day, and beyond.

Ticket Sales	\$	5,050
Sponsorships	\$	7,050
Events (Live Auction, 50/50, etc.)	\$	10,542
Donations	\$	16,635
Event Expenses	\$	(4,113)
TOTAL PROFIT	\$	35,164

THE PROJECT

The proceeds from the Benefit Dinner will go to improve handicap access to the Church, and to make security upgrades to our parish School and Church buildings. Outlined below are some aspects of the project.



Doors

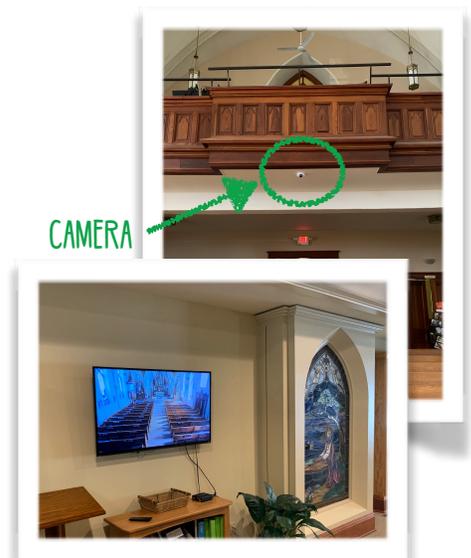
Some of our doors and hardware are beginning to show wear, so we will be putting new doors on a few of the doorways. Included are the Connector entry, Connector back door, Church basement doors, school main entryway (both north and south), School interior secure entry, and the school rear door. The school side entry to the lower level will receive updated hardware. Pictured is a stock photo of a the connector doors that will be installed. The finish will be different than pictured as to match the respective interior and exterior trim.

Handicap Access

The front Connector doors and the Connector door to the Church will both be power opening and have lower thresholds (the metal strip under the door) to allow easier handicap access. These will allow those with wheelchairs and walkers easy entry to these buildings.

Security Improvements

In the Connector and School we will be adding electronic key fobs for parishioner access. These are more convenient than a key, and can be tracked or turned off in case they are misplaced. These can be used by staff and parishioners alike. The school will receive a video doorbell system to make visitor access to the building easier, while keeping the school secure during the day. We have also already installed security cameras to help monitor after hours activity. The camera in the church also provides a dedicated video feed to the Connector TV for parents who might need to take little ones out of the church during Mass.



Timeline and Project Cost

The security camera portion of the project is nearly finished, and we are waiting for two additional cameras to arrive. The proposal for entryway work was selected in May and we are in the final approval process for choosing hardware and picking out the finish on the doors to match existing trim and decor. We are working with Hellenbrand Glass for the doors and hardware, Tom Ripp with Waunakey for security keying and programming, and John Meinholz is helping with the necessary electrical connections. In the next weeks our order should be placed for the doors, and if fabrication timelines are accurate, the school should be finished before the kids come back for the new school year and the connector will be finished in October. While we are waiting on a couple of finalized costs, the estimated totals are listed in the chart to the left.

<i>Security Cameras</i>	<i>\$ 6,000</i>
<i>Entryway Hardware and Installation</i>	<i>\$ 65,000</i>
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$ 71,000
<i>Benefit Dinner Profit</i>	<i>\$ 35,164</i>
<i>ACA Grant</i>	<i>\$ 8,000</i>
<i>Wisconsin School Security Grant</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>
<i>Other Grant Money (Various Sources)</i>	<i>\$ 18,000</i>
TOTAL FUNDS RAISED	\$ 71,164