

Background:

The Church Council is seeking congregational approval to move forward on installing an elevator between the fellowship hall and the new basement. Before we vote as a congregation on this proposal, here is some of the information on the elevator.

Why do we need an elevator?

Right now, the lower level of the newer half of the church is not accessible to anyone in a wheelchair or with impaired mobility. This is a problem because the space downstairs is used for Sunday School, confirmation, adult education, and community events. We have multiple members in our church who are not welcome to participate in events in this space because they can't get down the staircase.

It's also not a stretch to imagine a wedding party unable to come to our church because a bridal party member uses a wheelchair and our bridal dressing space is downstairs. Or what about a Sunday School teacher with a broken ankle?

We are hosting many community kids for Vacation Bible School this month, but we can't use our best classroom areas because they're not accessible. An elevator solves all these problems, allowing us to use our space as intended.

Why now?

When the new addition was built 19 years ago, space was put in for an elevator, but the money wasn't available at the time. In short, we can afford it now. As we've explored the possibility of moving ahead and installing the elevator, each estimate has increased by about \$3,000 - \$5,000 per year! We see no benefit to waiting and paying more later.

Timeline:

If approved today, construction would **begin in early November**. The project will probably take about three weeks, hopefully being **completed by Advent** in early December.

Finances

There's no getting around it: Elevators are expensive! We do, however, have a couple of advantages.

First, the building already includes the elevator shaft and pit, saving us substantial construction and costs.

Second, we've been raising money for years. The elevator fund already contains over \$10,000!

So what will it cost?

\$90,000 estimated total cost, including construction, electrical, engineering, alarm system, elevator, and contingency allowance.

- \$10,000 already in elevator fund.

- \$20,000 from existing memorial funds.

\$60,000 for us as a congregation to raise.

We plan to raise this money over a two year period by asking for pledges separately from the congregation's general operating fund. We don't want to "rob Peter to pay Paul" by just using general offerings for building projects! In the meantime, we can self-finance by borrowing from other church funds to avoid interest from a bank loan.

Where will the elevator go?

Upstairs, the elevator will go near the bathrooms where the current cleaning supply closet is in the fellowship hall. (We're exploring options on where to put a new custodian's closet.) Doors will open southeast towards the kitchen.

In the basement, it will come out near the bathrooms. The elevator mechanical room will go inside the existing door to the Sunday School resource room, and we'll add a new door to that room at the base of the stairs.

Specifications:

Type: Schumacher 800 Series Cab

Capacity: 2,000 pounds

Speed: 100 feet per minute

Total Travel: 11'0"

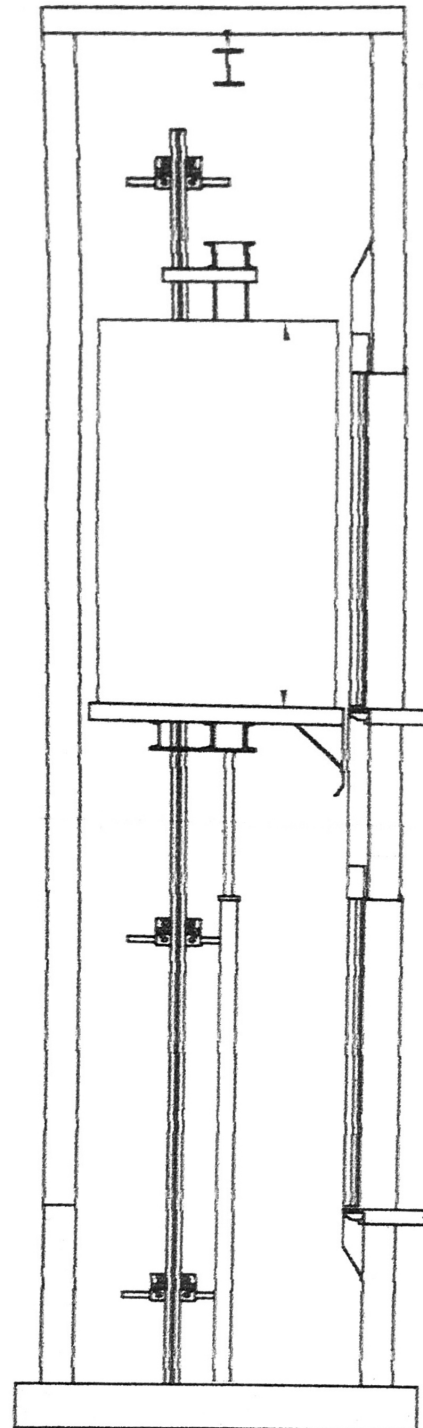
Inside Dimensions: 5'8" wide by 4'3" deep by 8'0" high



St. Peter Lutheran Church

ELCA

WELCOMES people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church,
EQUIPS people with a faith that works in daily life, and
SERVES in the world to make a difference in Jesus' Name.



Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, July 2, 2017

Proposal: Authorize St. Peter Lutheran Church to install an elevator between the fellowship hall and the Sunday School basement at an estimated cost of \$90,000.



Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
—Romans 15:7