



Atrium

Christ:

- The atrium would be a space for spiritual dialogue which we anticipate would include conversations about personal faith walk, processing the message from sermons, etc.
- The atrium would be a place where resources are made available (e.g. books, CDs) and opportunities for personal and group growth in Christ would be made accessible and attractive

Community:

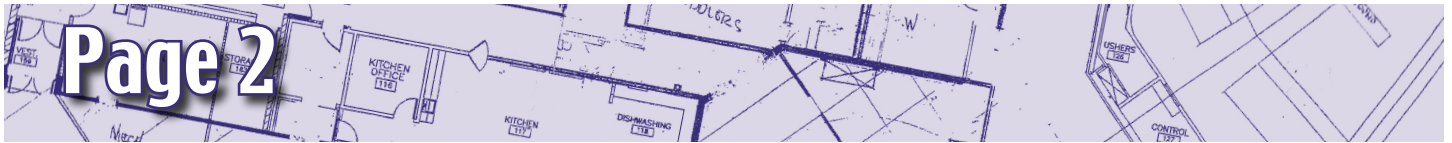
- The atrium will be our church family's 'living room' — a place for creating, strengthening, and celebrating community.
- The atrium will provide an important place for the unity of our church to be expressed and deepened, with opportunities for people worshiping at differing hours to meet.
- The atrium will provide an ideal space for a welcoming ministry
- The atrium will have multi-purpose use as a fellowship hall space for refreshments or meals.
- The atrium would be designed to create space for conversations, caring, and prayer for each other, on Sundays as well as a meeting place during the week.
- The atrium would be large enough to allow for people to linger — a place to gather and talk without feeling crowded or rushed.
- The atrium will include spaces designed for Bible studies and other groups to meet.

Cause:

- The atrium is intended to be a place where we can celebrate and motivate people for the vision and ministry of our church, including artful display of our ministry in the community and throughout the world in mission.
- The atrium will make an important first impression, welcoming new people and inviting them to remain, seek and connect.
- The atrium will be an obvious landmark visible from the street identifying a welcoming entry to the church building.
- The building project is anticipated to include some sort of "steeple effect" which would identify our building as a church building and invite people in.

Children's Ministry

- All classrooms and the nurseries would be located in one central area, for better coordination of parents, volunteers, and staff.
- This area would be located between the sanctuary and the gym, making it easily accessible to both worship service venues.
- This area would be accessed through one main entrance, which will provide greater security and safety for the children and allow for a more streamlined check-in/out process.
- A welcome counter to the Children's Ministry area will be visible from the atrium for families who are new to Bethesda.
- Additional space for children's ministry growth is included in this area.



Kitchen

- This plan allows for the kitchen to be expanded with additional storage and access to the atrium, which will allow the atrium to function as Bethesda's living room, fellowship hall, and reception area.
- The design maximizes the use of our kitchen, while minimizing remodeling costs.

Adult Education Space

- This expansion plan increases the number of permanent rooms available for adult education space.

Office Redesign

- By expanding the building slightly to the East, we can create a more efficient and collegial office area, allowing for the staff to be in one centralized location.
- Moving the offices opens up existing office space to be used as the library or as adult education space to make up for spaces in the gym or fellowship hall that would no longer be available.
- The plans currently include a prayer chapel in the redesign of the office space, close to the sanctuary, and accessible from the hall.

Passenger Drop Off

- These plans include a double-lane, covered, drive-up entrance to the church, especially valuable during inclement weather.

FAQ drafts

How much will this cost?

Our current estimates are around \$2.5 million.

What percentage of the project are we planning on mortgaging?

This will be discussed and decided on by the congregation in the future. We are currently researching fundraising plans and options.

How much have we saved so far?

We currently have just over \$300,000 in our Vision Expansion Fund.

What are the next steps?

- *First, the congregation will vote on whether to proceed at the annual meeting, Sunday, January 29th.*
- *If the expansion plan is approved, we would then begin the design phase. The design phase could cost about \$150,000. Through the design phase, we will gain more accurate cost estimates and refine the plans.*
- *After the design phase is complete and approved, we could move into a fundraising campaign perhaps by this fall.*

When would construction begin?

We do not know. If the congregation approves this plan and things move forward quickly, we anticipate that it would be possible to begin work

Why do we need a sprinkler system?

Current building codes will require us to include a sprinkler system throughout the entire building for fire protection.



**Bethesda Lutheran Brethren Church
Conceptual Plan**

- *Atrium Addition*
- *Secure Children's Wing*
- *Office Expansion*

Area Legend

- Atrium Addition
- Office Expansion
- Secure Children's Wing

Covered Passenger Drop-Off / Pick-Up Zone

