



Press Release **Ascension Lutheran Church planning \$1.5 million addition, remodel**

Owner / Client:
Ascension Lutheran Church

Project Location:
**Ascension Lutheran Church
2030 Third St
Brookings, SD 57006**

Projected Completion Date:
December 2006

Architect of Record:
**KOCH HAZARD ARCHITECTS
Beth Guenther
Project Manager
(605) 336-3718**

Design Architect:
VIVUS Architecture & Design

Contractor:
TBD

BROOKINGS, SD, OCTOBER 7, 2005 - Changes are in store for Ascension Lutheran Church in Brookings. Plans for construction of Phase 1 of a multi-phase expansion are being completed at this time. Due to growth in attendance and program offerings since the last addition in 1990, a new worship space is being planned. This addition, coupled with other remodeling work, will provide generous space for worship and enhance existing programs and educational opportunities within the church.

The \$1.5 million addition to Ascension Lutheran Church will include a 5,600 square foot worship space addition, remodeling of the existing worship space into a gathering space, remodeling of administrative offices, nursery, and the existing fellowship hall. The improvements are designed to enhance worship, support youth and family ministry, support small group ministry, and centralize administrative offices.

Seating capacity will be increased 50% from the existing facility, totaling approximately 426 seats. "We have continued to grow since 1990 and continue to have a congregation with many young families. It is time to provide space for the present congregation and for the future," said Les Olive, Building Task Force member of the church.

"I'm looking forward to having improved facilities for worship," he said. "Remodeling the existing worship space into a gathering area will be a wonderful improvement for fellowship and an excellent hub from which all the other activities (Sunday School, the WAVE, education, fellowship before and after services) in this church can radiate from. The staff will no longer be scattered throughout the building, but centralized to foster their collaboration. The fellowship hall will be changed to serve many uses well. All of these changes will be advantages for the congregation and everyone who uses these facilities."

Olive says that the congregation has been wonderfully supportive of the project, and the decision making process is going smoothly. He anticipates bidding to take place in mid-November and the project to be awarded toward the end of December. Construction will begin next spring.

Koch Hazard Architects is an architecture, planning and interiors firm providing services within the region to produce innovative design and effective delivery of quality projects. Koch Hazard is the Architect of Record for Ascension Lutheran Church.

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