

Executive Report

July 2024



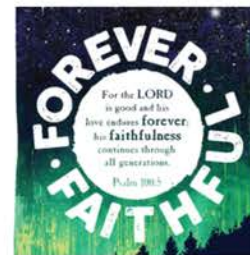
Brian Shult, Executive Director

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I'm always amazed how quickly the school year goes by. By God's grace, we enjoyed countless blessings in the classroom, athletics, arts, and much more in 23-24. Enrollment saw a record-high, and we were able to complete (and begin) many campus improvement projects. The community student population continues to grow, and the international student population is nearing pre-pandemic levels. We are thankful for all of these blessings and the opportunity to share Jesus every day. Please continue to pray for our ministry, that we may continue to reach out to those that need the gospel message and provide a high quality Christian education that prepares our students for life after high school.

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR THEME

Our chapel theme for the 2024-2025 school year is "Forever Faithful" based on Psalm 100:5: "For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through generations." We bear witness to God's faithfulness through the generations.



NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Through the Lord's blessing, SCLA is **fully staffed** for the 2024-25 school year! We praise God for blessing us with a full complement of teachers and staff. Join us at our opening service and installation on Sunday, August 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the SCLA chapel.

CALLED WORKERS

- James Bohn** - Social Studies instructor
- Kinkaid Diersen** - Biology instructor
- Andrew Grady** - Dorm Supervisor and Social Studies instructor
- Dave Liebhard** - Physics and STEM instructor
- Emily Mantz** - English instructor
- Samantha Schoch** - Dorm Supervisor and Phy-ed instructor
- Pastor Brad Snyder** - Campus Pastor, international ministry emphasis
- Lori Unke** - Dorm Supervisor and Activities Office Administrative Assistant
- Abby Zuberbier** - Learning Resources Center coordinator

NON-CALLED WORKERS

- Riley Hillstrom** - Dorm Supervisor and instructor
- Jill Kock** - ASL instructor
- Phil Sunblad** - Applied Technology instructor
- Isaac Stellick** - Dorm Supervisor
- Summer Xu** - Dorm Supervisor and instructor

STAFF

- Dennis Palmberg** - Director of Planned and Major Gifts
- Mark Tjelta** - Data Analyst, Business Office
- Carmen Tomfohrde** - Mission Advancement

CELEBRATE

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Years of God's Grace








CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

With unanimous support from the Board of Regents, we are investing significantly in our facility and grounds over the next two and a half years. Some projects are funded through donations, while the most significant portion will be, by God's amazing provision, self-funded.

Through the Lord's blessing and the foresight of school leadership, our financial position has both stabilized and improved, despite navigating the impact of the global pandemic. For the past ten years, we have been accruing funds to replace depleted assets, and now, **because of our strong cash position, we are able to complete the capital improvements listed below.** If all goes to plan and with God's guidance, we estimate that cash reserves will be fully replenished in 3.5 years.

The stadium track and main building HVAC (heating/ventilation/air conditioning) will require the most substantial investment. The track replacement and HVAC boilers, chiller, controls, and more, come with a combined total cost of nearly \$1.4 million.

Summary of the upcoming capital projects:

- 
2023-24
 HVAC controls
- 
2024-25
 HVAC boiler, controls, track, gym sound system (donor funded), outdoor scoreboard (donor funded), brick room remodel for drama (donor funded), outer/switch/access point replacement, Chromebooks, computers for new programming class, website overhaul, and more.
- 
2025-26
 HVAC chiller, controls, dorm upgrades, classroom upgrades, and more.

STRONG TO SERVE PHASE 3*

Our long-range capital plan, Strong to Serve, defines Phase 3 as an auxiliary gymnasium. Given our growing enrollment and breadth of extracurricular activities, it would indeed be a blessing to have additional space to better accommodate the needs of our growing middle school and high school athletic programs.

The gym plan will likely start with a **renovation of the old boys dorm (OBD)** to create space for an applied tech classroom and shop, multi-purpose athletic space, athletic storage, and general storage. The OBD would need to be finished before **demolition of the old girls dorm (OGD)**, which is the tentative location of the auxiliary gymnasium. The timeline, start to finish, is about two years, with the start date dependent on our ability to engage volunteers for the OBD demo and renovation, as well as fundraising efforts to minimize debt impact, and General Board approval.

As faithful stewards of our resources, facility upgrades are a higher priority than the auxiliary gym project. That being said, significant progress has been made to determine the location for a second gym, general cost estimate, and the timeline for completion. This fall, **we will begin evaluating financial impact** including fundraising needs, borrowing needs, and the impact on operational cash flow, volunteer labor impact, etc. When we come up with a feasible plan, we will seek the board's approval to engage the architect to develop plans to bring to the city for approval.

Praise God for the blessings He continues to shower on our ministry!

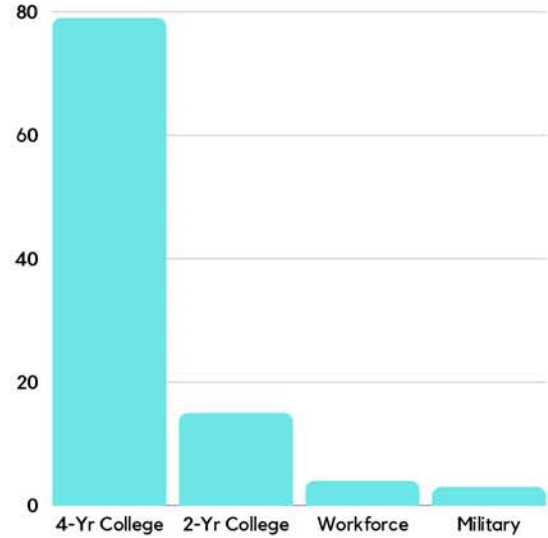
*Phase 1 was the dormitory (2015) and Phase 2 was the fine arts addition (2021).

2024 GRADUATION

Middle school graduation was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. We graduated 43 eighth graders, our largest eighth grade class to date. Of the 43 graduates, 37 will return to SCLA for their freshman year of high school.

High school graduation was held on Sunday, May 27, 2024. The graduating class was composed of 102 students (75 domestic and 27 international) from 15 different countries.

Of the graduates, 79 will attend a four-year college or university, 15 will attend a two-year college or trade school, four will enter the workforce, three will join the military, and two were undecided.



MISSION TRIPS

Pastor Jon Enter arranged seven domestic mission trips over spring break. 46 students and six chaperones participated in sharing Jesus in Las Vegas, Phoenix, Tucson (two teams), Covington, GA, and Milwaukee.

In June, Pastor Enter and his wife led a service trip to Vietnam, in partnership with Friends Network. They traveled with ten students to Ho Chi Minh City, where they met up with 12 current SCLA students and their families. They were immersed in the Vietnamese culture and worked with Friends Network missionaries.

In addition, Lucas Boehm led a trip to Logan, Utah, in June ministering to the Mormons in partnership with Truth in Love Ministries.



FALL DRAMA PERFORMANCES

SCLA drama students will present a children's theatre production of "The Princess and the Pea" by Andy Beck and Brian Fisher AND the fall play "Little Women" by Marisha Chamberlain the weekend of October 11-13. Tickets will be available soon at StCroixLutheran.org/tickets \$5 child/student; \$6 seniors; \$8 adults. General seating. Tickets online and at the door. No cash sales.

RUN THE RAVINE 5K

The 3rd Annual SCLA Run the Ravine 5K is Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on a route that begins at SCLA, winds through Thompson and Kaposia Parks through Simon's Ravine, and ends at SCLA.

Kids will race on the newly resurfaced track at SCLA for 1/2 Mile Fun Run on at 10:00 a.m. (registration required). Medals for top boy and girl finishes. Commemorative ribbon for all kids.

Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome. All participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt and car sticker. The top finisher in each age division will be awarded a medal.

Learn more and sign up for this family-friendly fundraiser at StCroixLutheran.org/5k



SCLA HOSTS 2024 CHORAL FEST

SCLA will welcome 13 schools and over 300 choral students for the 2024 WELS Regional Choral Fest, November 15-17.

Join us for the Friday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. Pops Concert and the Sunday, November 17, 2:00 p.m. Sacred Concert in the SCLA gym.

Tickets are free and reserve seating is recommended (ticket links at StCroixLutheran.org/Choralfest starting September 1). Overflow and sensory room seating is available in the SCLA Auditorium.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 18 Open Service and Installations
2:00 p.m., Chapel
- Oct 4 Homecoming Festivities and Parade
StCroixLutheran.org/homecoming
- Oct 10 Children's Theatre / Fall Play
StCroixLutheran.org/tickets
- Oct 27 Fall Concert
StCroixLutheran.org/fallconcert

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