

## Who, me? Involved with Faith In Our Future?

By Gail Grenier Sweet

I'm not a "meetings-person," and I'm not much of a "money-and-business person" either (although I have done my share of begging for HOPE Network)....

.... So why have I been going to meetings about the money and business of Faith in our Future?

Two reasons: (1) My friend Karen Cluppert got me interested; (2) I want to see Good Shepherd's share of the money raised used to revitalize our parish and express our confidence in the future of the Church. I love our parish and I dream of pews bursting with people!

I'm hearing the same questions over and over:

### Q. What the heck is Faith in our Future?

A. Well, for one thing, it's not Generations of Faith. That's something else. Faith in our Future is a capital campaign with specific goals concerning Catholic education and the individual missions of each parish. Check the website [faithinourfuture.org](http://faithinourfuture.org) for an eight-minute video and clearly-stated information.

### Q. Why should I care about Faith in our Future?

A. As Archbishop Dolan says, we need unity and cause, and a compelling opportunity to express our confidence in the future. Our noble cause is Catholic education and lifelong Christian formation of all children and adults.

### Q. Isn't this campaign just a way for the archdiocese to get money?

A. The archdiocese will keep

40 percent for programs that are not funded by the archdiocese today or for programs that are new to the archdiocese; Good Shepherd will keep 60 percent of all monies raised in this campaign.

### Q. Isn't this just a way to pay for the abuse lawsuits?

A. No. The money is in a legal entity, a trust that is protected even should the archdiocese go bankrupt. The trust is governed by a volunteer board of four lay people and three clergy. There are ironclad uses for the archdiocesan share of the funds: concerning youth, adult and family faith formation and stewardship to the global church. If you direct that your contribution be restricted to fund a specific archdiocesan ministry area(s), that intention will be honored.

### Q. Why should we raise money when Good Shepherd will be closed in the future anyway?

A. I asked Father Mich about that, and he said the word

from the archdiocese is that there will be no more parish closings from the top down. It will be up to our cluster of five parishes to figure out how to work with four priests.

### Q. How can you ask me to dig into my pocket in this awful economy?

A. I think it's fair to ask you, my fellow parishioner, to give a fair study of the Faith in our Future goals. If you think the goals are worthy, you may be moved to make a pledge to be paid over the course of three years. No one will ever tell you how much to give. "I consider it a privilege to be a part of this effort, to the extent my husband and I can afford to be involved.

### Q. How can I get more information from a real human being?

A. Please call one of the Co-chairs of the campaign: Greg Goss (262) 255-6145 or Mike Rodriguez (262) 262 623-0263.



FAITH  
IN OUR FUTURE

[www.faithinourfuture.org](http://www.faithinourfuture.org)

*"Not equal gift, but equal sacrifice."*

Weddings



Tony Witcus and Maxine Rutowski, married on December 20, 2008.