We look forward to seeing old friends and new at our “Masterpieces in the Making” Annual Spring Gala & Auction, Sunday, April 22, at 4 p.m.

We return to the lovely Stillwater Place at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo this year. Located across from the Wildlife Carousel, Stillwater Place has a lovely view of Waterfowl Lake. We are happy to have found an event space in our neighborhood—the Zoo is about a mile from our Main Campus and less than seven miles from the West Campus.

Tickets include Zoo admission on the day of the event. You are welcome to come make a day of it, touring the Zoo or Rainforest before coming to the Gala. Feel free to dress casually.

Come enjoy great auction items, a sit-down dinner and entertainment provided by some amazing LMS students.

Invitations will be mailed in early March. Hope to see you there.

Help make the Gala a success!
• Buy a ticket to the Gala and bring a friend: Tickets are $50/per person (includes sit-down dinner, Zoo/Rainforest admission on the 22nd and auctions).

• Donate an auction item (i.e., jewelry, restaurant gift cards, vacation homes, sports tickets). Contact Peggy Sexton at 330.256.2242 or development@lmslancers.org if you can help us out!

Familiar face fills in as principal at Main Campus

Mr. Joe King, long-time Lutheran educator at Lutheran West in Rocky River, will substitute for Mrs. Levy as principal at the Main Campus during her maternity leave. Mr. King is no stranger to the Luther Memorial halls, having served as a short and long-term substitute here since his retirement from West six years ago. Mr. King primarily taught English during his 42 years at Lutheran West. A number of current LMS teachers were Mr. King’s students, as well as some LMS students’ parents.

“It is a tremendous blessing to be in an elementary school and work with such a great staff,” says Mr. King. “I’m looking forward to being a support to the staff here and helping in any way I can.”
2018 FUND-A-NEED:
CREATING SPACE TO SERVE MORE STUDENTS

With remarkable growth over the last decade, Luther Memorial is poised to have single graded classrooms at the Main Campus next school year—preschool through Grade 8. This year’s Fund-A-Need will make that possible by providing funds for renovation of our existing building to add an additional classroom and instructional space.

“We have been thrilled with the response to our Fund-A-Needs since we started them three years ago,” says Mrs. Levy. “Having an additional classroom is our greatest need right now, and we pray that our generous community will show its support.”

Several years ago, the school took a first step toward single grades with the renovation of a music room into a classroom. Now, one more classroom is needed. A room that has served as space for speech and psychology will be renovated into a classroom. The space needs a great deal of work, including soundproofing, flooring, lighting, shelving and furniture.

A new room for support services will then need to be carved out of what is now church/school storage space. With some planning, the space can be used more efficiently to meet multiple needs.

“Luther Memorial enjoys a good reputation in Old Brooklyn and continues to grow. There is no space to add on to the building and modular classrooms are extremely expensive so finding space in the existing building is our only option,” says Mr. Walt Fischer, chairman of the LMS school board. “We’re using every possible square inch of this building while continuing to provide outstanding instruction and maintaining our arts focus.”

We hope to raise $12,000 at our Gala for this renovation. Non-attendees are also encouraged to donate to this cause using the return envelope in this newsletter or the reply envelope with the Gala invitation, which will be sent out in early March. Last year’s Fund-A-Need raised $21,000 for new classroom furniture and renovation of the Main Campus office.

Drama program makes after-school hours entertaining

A spirited group of students in 3rd grade through 8th grade are enjoying a first-ever after-school drama program this semester thanks to the generosity of donors to our 2017-18 Annual Fund.

Thirty students, triple the expected number, are having fun creating masks and puppets with the goal of performing for the school community on May 4.

Professional actors from Talespinner Children’s Theatre in Cleveland had the group first draw their dream puppets and masks. “They’re learning an entirely new skill set,” says Katelyn Cornelius, Talespinner’s Director of Education and Outreach. “It’s challenging for them, but I was so impressed to see how still and focused they were when we brought out the puppets and masks we’ve used in productions. They asked smart questions about how they were constructed and used.”

The whole group will work together to write a play and then decide what characters will be portrayed with a mask, as a puppet or as a human actor. The puppets and masks will likely be made from recycled fabric and sticks and rods.
Mrs. Levy and students look through the new CPH Bible Storybooks for our 1st and 2nd graders recently purchased with funds provided by Faith Lutheran Church in Mentor. Besides classroom use, children will be able to take the books home to read with mom and dad. Thank you, Faith, for having a caring heart for our students.

Taking advantage of a building of different ages, teachers look for ways to engage the younger kids with the older ones. Here, eighth grader Chelsee reads with mom and dad. Thank you, Faith, for having a caring heart for our students.

**Long-time teacher joins LMS Board**

Adam McElwain, a middle school history teacher in Medina, has joined the Luther Memorial School Board, bringing the board’s number to nine. A member of Trinity Lutheran in Cleveland, Adam is eager to see a strengthening of the partnership between his congregation and LMS. Adam lives in Lakewood with his wife, Lisa, and their three young daughters.

**Act Now On Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Eligible Thrivent members have until March 31, 2018, to direct their 2017 Choice Dollars. Luther Memorial School is one of thousands of qualifying nonprofit organizations that benefit from the Thrivent Choice program. If you are a Thrivent member and have used Thrivent Choice to give to Luther Memorial – thank you! We greatly appreciate you taking the time to participate.
Donald & Diane Poloha
Timothy & Jennifer Ponstingle
Jim & Linda Potter
Klaus & Rhoda Preen
Rev. Warren & Karen Priehs
John & Noreen Prim
George & Joan Prok
Andrew & Leslie Prusinski
Natalie Ralph
Charles & Sharon Raquet
Sally Reeder
David & Joan Regener
Michaele & Terry Repak
Jon & Elizabeth Reusch
Kenneth & Judith Richter
Nancy Richter
Amelia Rogers
Wilma Rohn
Jane Roth
Nicole Rosza
William Rupert
Jackie & Mark Rychel
Terry Sabato
Michelle Scahel
Mark & Margaret Schauer
Rebecca Schultz
Marlis Schmidt
Rita Schnedler
James & Marge Schroeder
Briggs Schuett
Patricia Schuller
Joyce Schuller-Mayer
Harry & Carol Schultz
Ernest & Christine Schwartz
Wally & Joyce Senney
Daniel & Peggy Sexton
Arthur & Sandra Sichau
Ed & Gillian Solem
Rev. Thomas Solgis
Steve & Nancy Spaudie
Rosemarie Sprinzl
Richard Stamppel
Chris & Sara Steinmann
Debby & Michael Stinehelter
Robert & Lana Stover
Joe & Alice Strieter
Paula Stumph
Nancy & Carl Suchovsky
Rob & Cindy Tarro
Wayland & Lois Tenkku
Julia Thomas
Johanna & Fred Toma
Sonja Toma
Ed & Hildred Tornberg
Rev. Eric & Chris Tritten
Michael & Amy Tubergen
Karl Tyall
Marty & Laura Uhle
Greg & Kristin Ulm
Rick & Sheri Vaccarella
Kevin & Patricia Wade
Timothy & Jean Wadle
David & Darlena Waugh
Lois Weikum
Ken & Gay Welsh
Carol & Robert Wensel
Elizabeth While
Duane & Judy White
Jeroldyn White
Tatie White
Sylvia Wildner
Dennis & Sandra Wilker
Frank & Esther Williamson
Wendel & Doris Willmann
Robert & Lucille Wilms
Barbara Wilson
Jean Wimer
Harold Wright
Lois Zalent
Stephanie Zehnder
Loretta Zeleznik
Walter Zukowski

Mrs. Nancy Jo Creutz, a veteran in the preschool classroom, has had many class pets during her career—fish, hamsters and hermit crabs, to name a few—but her newest pet, a bearded dragon, is a first.

Mrs. Creutz applied for a grant to cover the initial habitat costs. She admits she was a bit surprised to find out how many crickets a day a bearded dragon can eat (as many as 60) and how much those crickets cost (6-10 cents each). Elliott will be a weekend guest with Mrs. Creutz, since he'll need to be fed and his cage misted daily.

On the day of his arrival, the kids jostled for room around the tank to watch Elliott climb on his rocks and net. Besides crickets, he can eat melon, apples, strawberries, and salad greens—a diet that keeps preschoolers healthy too!