

# BRICKS

## FEATURE

### The Rise of Masonry

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**OWNER**  
Lombardo Homes

**MASON CONTRACTOR**  
Lampkin Masonry

**MATERIALS SUPPLIER**  
Midwest Block and Brick

**CRAFT WORKERS**  
Bricklayers' Union Local #1  
of Missouri

Eastern Missouri Laborers' District Council

Lombardo Homes' impressive new development in St. Charles County, Westleigh Cranbrook, is an inspiring executive sanctuary with grand estate homesites in the Traditions series. Lombardo's choice of brick and stone exterior veneer and interior accents add to the elegant look of these homes, while blending in with the rolling terrain and surrounding woodlands. Lombardo turned to **Lampkin Masonry** for its expertise, using materials supplied by Midwest Block and Brick. "We chose materials that we felt were appropriate for the look and lifestyle that Westleigh represents," said **Dan Licarri**, Lombardo's Vice President. "Our display home (pictured here) showcases a detailed elevation with four sides of brick and stone on the front, and many other architectural details that show the range of options, luxurious features and high end finishes available to them." **M**



The rustic stone look provides additional warmth and elegance to the open-air deck and lounge area.



Dark brown cast stone in the bath frames the picture window above the tub.



The Westleigh display home features sand-colored Ashton Queen brick quoins, contrasting with Harvest Mix Tumbled stone, natural colored mortar.



Use of brick on the back of the house blends beautifully to achieve a durable living space.



One of the most dramatic spaces in the home is the family room fireplace, elegantly framed with El Dorado Parchwood stone to create a distinctive appearance.



- OWNER**  
St. Louis County Library
- GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
S.M. Wilson & Company
- ARCHITECT**  
Christner, Inc.
- ENGINEER**  
David Mason + Associates
- MASON CONTRACTOR**  
John J. Smith Masonry Co.
- MATERIALS SUPPLIER**  
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When St. Louis County voters approved the means in 2012 to fund new and upgraded library facilities, they got their money's worth with the new Grant's View Branch in South County. The stunning, two-story, 37,000-square-foot facility, since its opening, has already become a popular draw, with a 75 percent increase in visitors and a 40 percent increase in circulation. Designed to be open and welcoming, the library features large window walls offering spectacular views of nearby Grant's Farm, as well as distinctive architectural brick designs created by John J. Smith Masonry Co. "Along several faces, the design called for

*AIA noted, "The expressive and complex designs required great skill, patience, and attention to detail of the craftsmen."*

brick panels with a fading saw tooth pattern," explained Steve Stark, Project Supervisor. "Our bricklayers had to use a level quite a bit more than usual because every brick was kicked out a degree and had to be individually checked for plumb. It was challenging." John J. Smith Masonry Co. was honored by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) St. Louis Chapter for its brick work on the library, which also included CMU construction for an interior elevator shaft.

*Along the South face of the building, John J. Smith Masonry Co. used protruding Flemish bonds with projected headers. Overall, more than 14,800 square feet of brick was used.*



*The unusual saw tooth design required each brick to project out from one-eighth to one inch over the length of the panel.*



- OWNER**  
Congregation Shaare Emeth
- ARCHITECT**  
TR, i Architects
- GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
ICS Construction Services Ltd.
- MASON CONTRACTOR**  
Leonard Masonry, Inc.
- MATERIALS SUPPLIER**  
Midwest Block and Brick
- CRAFT WORKERS**  
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When Congregation Shaare Emeth launched its \$9.5 million Shaare the Light Campaign to renovate and expand its facilities in time for its 150th anniversary, it required special artisanship to create a warm and beautiful look with stone and brick, both inside and out. **Leonard Masonry, Inc.** delivered. From the dramatic new portico entryway, to a spacious lobby and reverential chapel, Leonard's craftsmen met every test, completing their work in just a few months. A particular challenge was the congregation's choice to use Italian-cut Travertine stone for the main chapel wall to create a monolithic effect.

The new covered portico incorporates smooth Renaissance stone to create an inviting and accessible entrance to the congregation.

The masonry materials selected for the interior convey a sense of both strength and calmness.



"Each stone piece arrived numbered and had to be notched in the back to allow for anchors to be set so they would fit together seamlessly with no visible gaps," explained Project Manager **Ken Westhoff**. "It was tedious work, but the result was a jointless stone wall that reflects the beauty and stability of the facility."

The synagogue's brick sign was built in the shape of a menorah.



Leonard Masonry, Inc. cleaned and re-used brick from prior demolition work at the site for some of the exterior.

Light-colored stone and brick provide an excellent contrast for the synagogue's religious artwork.



The seamless chapel wall was a highlight of the renovation, featuring natural-looking European Travertine stone from The Vero Stone.



- OWNER**  
Creve Coeur Fire  
Protection District
- GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
S.M. Wilson & Company
- ARCHITECT**  
Archimages
- MASON CONTRACTOR**  
Grant Masonry  
Contracting Co., Inc.
- ENGINEER**  
KPFF Consulting
- MATERIALS SUPPLIERS**  
Midwest Cast Stone  
Raineri Building Materials, Inc.  
Richards Brick
- CRAFT WORKERS**  
Bricklayers' Union Local #1  
of Missouri  
  
Eastern Missouri Laborers'  
District Council

Replacing a 56-year-old fire station on a postage-sized lot required careful planning, innovative engineering, budget flexibility, and considerable professional expertise. The 25,000-square-foot project had to be done in two phases. It included more than 25,000 square feet of brick, cast stone and load-bearing block, with 12 different stone features. "This job had a bit of everything in it," said **Bill Grant**, Vice President of **Grant Masonry Contracting Co., Inc.** "It was like putting together a jigsaw puzzle at times." To help meet the Fire District's budget, Grant used a larger utility brick to cover more surface area in less time. For the large (14' x 14") apparatus bays, Grant premade the arched lintels on site, let them cure and then lifted them into place, thereby eliminating the need for

wood blocking supports. "It was a stroke of engineering brilliance on the part of **Brian Grant**, Company President, and the field personnel to put that together," Grant said. The new engine house includes five bays, updated living quarters, a day room, fitness area, locker room and kitchen. **M**

Each of the apparatus bays features a two-piece cast stone system surrounding the 14-foot high arch with cast stone affixed to premade lintels.



Twelve different stone details, brick accent and soldier courses give the facility a distinctive, modern appearance.



The small size of the lot meant the existing structure was demolished and the new building constructed in two phases.





A limestone band runs around the upper third of the building, contrasting with the red brick to create a distinctive look.



Four stone panels were sculpted for the facade, based on artwork produced by one of the school's young students.

The interior storm shelter/safe room is topped with six inches of cast concrete and features shatterproof and bullet proof windows.



It was all smiles on the faces of the more than 300 students, faculty and staff at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Regional Catholic School in Herrin, Illinois this past January. When they arrived for the start of a new semester, awaiting them was a brand new school building, solidly built with brick, block and stone by **Joseph F. Becker, Inc.** The 43,000-square-foot concrete block building features a dramatic arched entryway, with brick veneer across the lower half of the facade, topped by a limestone band. Becker's entire work was completed in six months, which Vice President **Jeff Becker** noted was critical in order to meet the school's schedule. Unique features included a storm shelter/safe room that can accommodate up to 500 people. Four sculpted stone panels, designed by one of the students, grace the school's facade. **M**

- OWNER**  
Diocese of Belleville
- ARCHITECT**  
Eggemeyer Associates Architects
- MASON CONTRACTOR**  
Joseph F. Becker, Inc.
- GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
Fager-McGee Commercial Construction
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Irwin Products, Inc.  
Spec Mix
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Laborers Local 773

- OWNER**  
Special School District of Saint Louis County
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Dickinson Hussman Architects
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Wachter, Inc.
- MASON CONTRACTOR**  
Grant Masonry Contracting Co., Inc.
- STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**  
Alper Audi, Inc.
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Caliber Cast Stone  
Irwin Products, Inc.  
Raineri Building Materials, Inc.  
Richards Brick
- CRAFT WORKERS**  
Bricklayers' Union Local #1 of Missouri  
Eastern Missouri Laborers' District Council

When the Special School District of St. Louis County needed to expand its Southview School in Crestwood, **Grant Masonry Contracting Co., Inc.** delivered. Grant's craftsmen created a 15,000-square-foot addition and connecting corridor to the existing building. The entire structure involved load-bearing masonry, with a Flemish Bond face brick veneer that matches the original school's exterior built more than 40 years ago. The interior connecting corridor features custom coursing brick for an attractive yet safe environment. "Masonry fit the District's requirement for a durable atmosphere for the students and staff," said **Brad Grant**, Vice President. It also reinforced the architect's vision that, "successful educational facilities must provide an environment that allows students to learn effectively and efficiently." The school educates students five to 21 years of age with a range of developmental disabilities, autism and emotional disturbance. **M**

Load-bearing masonry throughout the addition matches the style and color of the 40-year-old school building.

The Flemish Bond brick veneer provides a consistent and calming appearance for the nearly 200 students enrolled there.



The low-slung building blends well with its wooded neighborhood surroundings.





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## Immaculate Conception School Addition

**OWNER**  
Archdiocese of St. Louis

**ARCHITECT**  
Baalman Architects

**MASON CONTRACTOR**  
JDS Masonry, Inc.

**MATERIALS SUPPLIERS**  
Midwest Block & Brick  
Caliber Cast Stone  
Irwin Products, Inc.  
Raineri Building Materials, Inc.

**CRAFT WORKERS**  
Bricklayers' Union Local #1  
of Missouri  
Eastern Missouri Laborers'  
District Council

**T**his 4,500-square-foot addition to the Immaculate Conception School in Old Monroe, Lincoln County was completed in 2017 and now houses the school's preschool children. **JDS Masonry, Inc.** constructed the facility, with load-bearing concrete block, brick and natural stone that matches the appearance of the existing school and adjacent historic church. Immaculate Conception recently celebrated its 150th anniversary, serving more than 180 students among its more than 600 parishioners. **M**



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