



RENOVATION CAMPAIGN



A PROJECT TO ALIGN OUR
FACILITY FUNCTION TO OUR
COMMUNITY MISSION

*"We welcome, with no exception, all people to the full life
of this community of faith."*



“We have the opportunity and the responsibility to make necessary changes to our building. As we pursue building changes to strengthen Holy Trinity’s ministry, we are guided by the values of accessibility, hospitality and safety.”

Creating our future out of Generations of Caring

As our motto states, **“We welcome, with no exception, all people to the full life of this community of faith.”** While the mission rings true in our hearts and minds, it falls short in practice when looking at the state of our building. Our building does not meet our current and future needs in terms of **accessibility, hospitality and safety**. By redesigning our entrance off of the 28th Avenue cul-de-sac and moving the church offices to the first floor, we will bring our building in line with both our values and our dreams for the future. We want a building that all can enter, with no exception, so that we can continue to support caring communities for everyone.

Since being called together in 1904, Holy Trinity

Lutheran Church has been a place of deeply-rooted Christian worship and a leader at the forefront of various issues concerning Longfellow, surrounding neighborhoods, the city, and the world. Holy Trinity continues to be committed to these communities today and recognizes that maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for our congregation and our neighborhood requires constant care.

Therefore, Holy Trinity members are deeply involved in efforts contributing to community well being, including partnering with a variety of local organizations. South Minneapolis and Holy Trinity are both gaining diversity, which people of Holy Trinity believe provides greater vitality, strength, and understanding.

ACCESSIBILITY & HOSPITALITY...

fundamental ways to express “you are welcome here.”

Accessibility

The east cul-de-sac entrance is our main entrance during the week and the only accessible entrance without stairs in our building.

Still, it is far from being considered fully accessible. The east entrance is on a slope with a grade that makes it challenging for anyone with mobility issues to navigate. The doors are too heavy for many people to open alone. The restrooms are nearly impossible to manage with a wheelchair or walker.

We want our building to support the congregation’s clear welcome for both members and newcomers and be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Hospitality

Holy Trinity is a community space. The building houses two worshipping congregations, a preschool, Metro Works Center, Exodus Lending, Fare-For-All food program, community voting, the Theatre Circle, arts events, and much more.

More than 200 people worship at Holy Trinity each Sunday, and over 100 enter our building each weekday. With so

much activity, Holy Trinity is well known as an active congregation with a strong calling toward engagement in the community. ***Our ministry is hospitable, but our building is not.***

After discussions with members, visitors, and guests we know that our building’s first impression is that it lacks the warmth and hospitality that our congregation otherwise exemplifies.

We listened as people described our building from the exterior as “fortress-like” and made statements such as, “Is there any sign of life in there?” The main east entrance was described as “confusing” and “very difficult to find the first time,” and for anyone with mobility difficulties it is barely accessible at all.

When people do enter our east entrance, the only entrance open on weekdays, it can be very difficult for them to find the church offices, sanctuary, meeting rooms, or even another person.

Our worshipping community is vibrant, engaged, caring, and warm. Our building in its current state does not sufficiently reflect the congregation’s personality or inclusive welcome.



“Is there any sign of life in there?”

- visitor

“confusing” and “very difficult to find the first time”

- visitor



SAFETY...

Ensuring our welcome is good for all who enter

Having our main door unlocked during the day is a sign of the welcome we extend to all. At the same time, we are committed to safety in our building for our members, staff, visitors, and the broader community.

The relocation of our staff offices to the first floor will provide visibility for both staff and guests to welcome people as they enter.

Much of the building is unsecured during weeknights, and for staff and volunteers locking up, it can be difficult to know if anyone else is inside the building. Minor design changes to the first floor will include creating a door that can lock so that meetings and offices are

available in the evenings while the rest of the building is closed for the night.

Additional safety hazards to be addressed in the renovation include the current slope of the entry, the weight of the entrance doors, and the additional emergency exit from the Bartsch Room / Chapel.



+ OPENING DOORS TO OUR FUTURE MINISTRY

We are launching the Opening Doors Renovation Campaign to raise \$850,000 for necessary improvements to the east entrance of our building and for the relocation of staff offices down to the first floor of the building.

After years of thoughtful discussions, surveys, and studies, which engaged members from the congregation and the broader community, a long-range plan has been established for the health and vitality of our physical spaces.

The top priority in our building remodel is the renovation of the east entrance area. Our building has been well maintained for nearly 100 years, and we want to continue that tradition. While we know there are other potential areas to address that are incorporated in our long term building plans, our primary entrance area is the right place to start.

The proposed project includes:

- A partially covered entry designed to draw people from 31st Street and the parking lot
- Replacing the heavy wood door with an automatic door and additional glass for visibility
- Moving the offices to the first floor to enhance visibility and safety for all
- Additional meeting spaces on the first floor
- Improvements to the emergency exit stairs from the Bartsch Room
- Fixing the grade of the entryway to bring it to code and improve accessibility
- Replacing first floor windows with clear glass
- Additional bicycle parking
- Additional exterior lighting, seating, and signage

The campaign will officially launch upon approval at a congregational meeting on November 22, after the best and final bid has been received from a contractor. No work will be done until pledges have been received for at least 85% of the budgeted expenses.



With each Holy Trinity member's generous participation, we will have a successful campaign and will be able to open a new door to ministry that is much more welcoming to all people, without exception.



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street
Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358

www.htlcmpls.org