



Four professors met under a willow tree in 1907 with the vision of creating one Protestant Church to serve the spiritual and material needs of the students and faculty in the growing community of East Lansing. So began The Peoples Church. For over 100 years, this church has been a place of Christian worship, fellowship and outreach. Our historic building was constructed and dedicated in 1924, the result of the faith, vision and generosity of generations long past. Yet after a century of use, we must address pressing capital repair issues if we intend to continue our mission of service to God and bring our building into the 21st century.

Snider Social Hall no longer meets our needs. The stage is not accessible, the room is poorly lit, and the space lacks the audio/visual technology to support alternative worship services, funeral and wedding receptions, and outside events. Poor air flow and a lack of air conditioning make it an uncomfortable space: damp and musty in the winter, hot and humid in the summer. The social hall must once again become a welcoming and functional venue for church events, and an attractive space to rent to community groups.

In the sanctuary, our aging HVAC system is coming to the end of its life and needs to be replaced. The chancel space is not accessible for people with mobility issues, limiting participation. The chancel stair treads are very narrow, which makes it difficult to safely go up and down the stairs and poses a challenge for staging wedding parties as well as children's pageants. The chancel floor has begun to buckle and crack, and must be replaced. To make the chancel safe and accessible and enhance the worship experience, the chancel will be extended out onto the sanctuary floor, allowing for wider steps and an integrated ramp.

The organ, while under the care of a reputable group of organ technicians, is in a state of constant repair and ultimately needs to be replaced. This grand instrument inspires worship, leads congregational singing and is integral to our Christian rites and rituals. The organ and choir are the centerpiece of our exceptional music ministry, which is part of our service to God.

All of these repairs and essential updates to our old building will dramatically improve our worship and fellowship at The Peoples Church. The church of Jesus Christ cannot be only focused inward; therefore, we intend to undertake a community outreach project that will materially improve the lives of people in need. To that end, a community outreach project is proposed so others will benefit from our gifts of time, talents and treasure. The community outreach project has been designed to partner with two non-profit organizations, Lansing Intentional Communities (LINC)s and Habitat for Humanity, to provide expanded housing opportunities for residents on the spectrum. As a project with the Capital Campaign, the Impactful Community Action Project with an estimated cost of \$300,000 will ensure greater success for those in the LINC)s community.

Addressing all of these building issues requires a successful capital campaign. Raising an estimated \$5,000,000 will enable The Peoples Church to make essential repairs and modifications to the building and take part in a community outreach project. This in turn, will allow us to continue living out our Christian mission of worshipping God and serving the wider community. It is a big project with a big price tag, but we are not the first generation in this church called to such a time as this. The four professors who felt called by God to build a church in East Lansing that would be "a spiritual home for all people" succeeded because they were faithful and passionate about their vision for this church.

We must hear this call again and do our part to ensure the mission of The Peoples Church continues into the future. Inspired by this call to be a place of Christian worship and service, we can and will be faithful, generation to generation.