

## SAFE, STRONG AND SACRED SPACES

Sept. 6, 2016

Dear Trinity Families,

It's hard to believe that with Labor Day behind us and kids returning to school, we are fast approaching what we hope will be a Miracle Sunday that will enable us to tackle some long-overdue maintenance, to make the improvements approved with the Vital Church Initiative prescriptions and to preserve our beautiful, historic building for future generations to worship and to serve the community. As you prayerfully consider your support of the **Safe, Strong and Sacred Spaces** capital fund drive, following are some reasons fellow Trinity members are lending their support:

*"A hymn goes through my mind when I think of the effort to invigorate our church by establishing a fund drive. "Be Thou My Vision" calls us to heartfelt thoughts which celebrate the presence of our Lord Jesus through constant faith. We find hope and love at Trinity. We stand on a solid history that can give strength and hope for future generations. Let us stand together for the future." Susan Ilka*

*"Sandra and I fully support the "Safe, Strong, and Sacred Spaces" campaign being proposed for Trinity. We have a beautiful facility that is used by many in the surrounding community, and keeping it in good repair is critical. Also, it is important to look to the future and modernize some of our equipment and service practices to appeal to younger individuals in the community." Chase and Sandra Klinesteker*

*"We first started attending services at Trinity Church in 1989. This building has been our spiritual home and the people who attend it have been our church family for over 25 years. The building is nearly 100 years old and is long overdue for structural repair in many places. For us, our investment in this capital fund drive is an investment into Trinity's future. We are excited to move forward with the guidance of the VCI to see where God will be leading us here at Trinity UMC." Blessings to you all, Suzy and Larry Gill*

*"I'm with the committee on trying to raise the funds for fixing the items. The items listed are in dire need of being fixed and the bathroom on the first floor really needs to be done. I know it seems like a big amount of money, but with prayer and doing what you can, we can get these projects done. Prayers to all for helping with us at this time." Thank you, Judy Conner*

*"Fifty-one years ago I first came to Trinity UMC. I was contacted within a week by the minister, two members, one who invited and picked me up for Choir . . . The choir and hand bells have meant so much over the years, my children were welcomed to nursery, they worked in nursery and grew up with vibrant choir and youth group experience. Over the years some disappointments have been that our music and youth programs have diminished, budget has been cut, but we are still a vital church, and our building has sustained us, but now she needs some help. Trinity has been my God connection, my family and*

*dearest friends, and I have become ever more aware as part of VCI that our building needs repair. We can't put it off or our beloved building will become beyond repairs. . . . Please faithfully pray about and contribute to this campaign to make the necessary changes."* Judi Ryan

"Carol and I are excitedly participating in the Vital Church Initiative. As long-term members of Trinity, we've not seen this level of energy involving such a cross section of members in a decade or more! This is a great time to be part of the revitalization of our church and of our neighborhood. We support the recommendations of our VCI consultants, our worship consultant, and all the staff and members working to fulfill this initiative. We encourage all members, both new and old, to 'roll up your sleeves' and get involved! Find out what is happening and be part of what God has called our congregation to become." Paul and Carol Hillman

*" . . . Our annual budget does not account for enough funds to cover the \$50,000 to \$75,000 a year of our average capital needs. Consequently, about every ten years or so, it is necessary for us to raise extra funds. The Endowment Committee has a dream. If in the future enough members remember us in their will, we could build this fund up to, say a million and a half dollars. We are already about a third of the way there. If we invest these funds and only take out five percent interest a year, we would have the funds necessary to take care of these capital needs on an annual basis. The principal would never be spent. With this in mind, as we all consider a stretch in our giving for the present campaign, we should also consider adopting for ourselves, this wonderful dream for the future of our church."* Lynn Francis

"Prior to Jerry's illness and passing a few weeks ago, we discussed supporting the capital fund drive. He said he 'absolutely' wanted to extend our financial support to the many projects necessary to maintain and restore our historic Church home. I can't imagine the last few weeks had we not had the support given by our Trinity family, and I want to do my part to help insure that Trinity will be there for my grandchildren and for others long into the future. With VCI's guidance, it is my hope we'll be able to preserve our beautiful building as a vessel to enable us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." With a grateful heart, Kay Snyder

Please prayerfully consider how you can best support the **Safe, Strong and Sacred Spaces** campaign on Miracle Sunday, **September 18**.

Blessings and Peace,

SAFE, STRONG AND SACRED SPACES TEAM

Lynn Francis (Memorials and Endowment), Amy Heiney (VCI), Paul Hillman (Church Council Chair), Diane Joppie (Finance), Nancy Manett (Finance Chair), Pastor David Nellist, Warren Richter, Jeff Snyder (Trustee Chair) and Kay Snyder (Treasurer)