

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

2005-2008

*Capital Campaign*

**Expansive**  
**FAITH**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1218 W. Addison Street

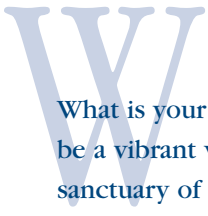
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What is your image of Holy Trinity? For some, it may be a vibrant worship service, for others, the quiet sanctuary of our church garden. Others may reflect on the Easter Vigil, or the welcome they received when they first walked in the door. Each of us experiences Holy Trinity in a slightly different way, just as we each bring different gifts and voices that add to the ever-changing tapestry of our congregation.

Even as Holy Trinity has grown and changed with each new member, we continue to hold firm to those elements most central to our congregation ... a commitment to hospitality ... vibrant worship grounded in our rich liturgical tradition ... an appreciation for spirituality, diversity, and progressive theology ... a congregation rooted in the city. Our commitment to these core values reflects our faith in a loving, transcendent God. We share an expansive faith, encompassing the diverse spiritual gifts we each bring.

Change has been a constant at Holy Trinity in our congregation's recent history. We have moved past a time when we wondered whether Holy Trinity's doors would remain open, and now are on solid ground to look with confidence to our congregation's future. At this time in our parish's life, we are called to consider what Holy Trinity's future holds. What is God calling our congregation to be and to do? What is our unique ministry on this corner of Magnolia and Addison Streets in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood?

If our congregation's vibrant worship and open hospitality are two key elements of our ministry, then it is crucial that we have the resources needed to fulfill these ministries. Certainly, we are blessed with strong musical leadership and a welcoming spirit among our congregation, yet our facility itself does not reflect these congregational gifts. Our building and our pipe organ are both legacies, left to us through the gifts and careful stewardship of past Holy Trinity members. Yet for us to leave this legacy for future Holy Trinity members, we need to take steps now to ensure that these gifts truly meet our needs for ministry.

After intensive study by planning committees, examining both the long-term needs of Holy Trinity and our specific needs relating to accessibility and our organ, Holy Trinity members voted in January of 2005 to launch a \$440,000 capital campaign. This campaign seeks to:

- **increase the accessibility of our building by those with mobility challenges;**
- **enhance our worship life through greatly needed organ repair and improvements;**
- **establish a building contingency fund in order to more proactively identify and repair maintenance needs inherent in old buildings such as ours.**

We invite you to prayerfully consider the role you might play in meeting the challenge of this campaign. This is a big step for our congregation, but one which we take with faith — an expansive faith — and confidence in our future together.

Please read through the enclosed materials regarding our *Expansive Faith* campaign. In response to God's expansive grace we invite you to reflect spiritually on the importance of your role in the capital campaign and your financial support of this next stage of our congregational journey. We seek pledges over a three-year period and you are free to identify the fulfillment schedule that would be most appropriate for you to meet this pledge. Materials to help you discern your pledge, and a confidential pledge card are both enclosed with these materials.

Because ongoing congregational expenses do not stop during this campaign, please also consider your 2006 Annual Commitment for Holy Trinity's ongoing ministry. We hope that members will maintain or even increase their annual gifts to Holy Trinity during this campaign as a commitment to the vibrant ministries of the congregation. Please note that Simply Giving, the automatic giving program, is available for both ongoing congregational giving as well as campaign pledge fulfillment.

# *Expansive* FAITH Q&A

## Holy Trinity Capital Campaign

*Questions and Answers to help you better understand the need.*

### **THE CAMPAIGN**

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**Q.** *What is the Expansive Faith Capital Campaign?*

**A.** After several years of discernment and preparation Holy Trinity is embarking on a capital campaign to raise funds to provide accessibility improvements to the building and make needed repairs and improvements to the organ. We hope to raise \$440,000 or more for this project. Contributions to the appeal will be OVER and ABOVE our weekly offerings.

**Q.** *How does my commitment to the Expansive Faith Capital Campaign correspond to the 2006 Annual Commitment to Holy Trinity's ongoing ministry?*

**A.** Members of Holy Trinity will be asked to make both commitments during the fall of 2005. It is important that we continue generous giving to the ministries of Holy Trinity that support its worship life, outreach, benevolence and support of staff and property. Our giving to the capital campaign needs to be up and above our regular offerings.

**Q.** *When do my new commitments begin?*

**A.** Capital Campaign Pledges and 2006 Annual Fund Commitments begin Sunday, January 1, 2006.

**Q.** *Are my gifts tax deductible?*

**A.** Yes, gifts are tax deductible if you itemize your contributions when filing your tax return.

**Q.** *May I contribute gifts other than cash?*

**A.** In addition to cash, you may contribute gifts of stock, property, and other securities. If you need assistance with making your gift, or would like other information about planned or deferred gifts, please contact Kathy Sime, capital campaign co-chair at 773.334.1383 or Michael Musgrave, finance chair, at 312.942.0607.

**Q.** *How much should I consider contributing?*

**A.** It is common in a congregational capital campaign that the total amount given over three years equals twice the offerings for a given year. Holy Trinity's goal of raising \$440,000 is about double the giving of the congregation in one year.

As a starting place for yourself, please prayerfully consider matching, that means doubling your current giving over the next three years. For example, if you are giving \$30 a week (\$1,560 a year) to the ministries of Holy Trinity, we ask that you consider giving an additional \$30 a week to the capital campaign for a three year commitment of \$4,680.

**Q.** *How can I make my capital campaign gifts?*

**A.** You can choose to make your gifts on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis. Larger initial gifts can help us move ahead with construction on a timely basis.

As with the Annual commitments you will be able to sign up for Simply Giving, an EFT (electronic funds transfer) option through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

The following giving table may be helpful in planning your gifts. Here's how a weekly gift can grow in size or a one or three year period:

MY WEEKLY GIFT OF	Amounts to an annual gift of:	Amounts to a 3-year gift of:
\$15.00	\$780.00	\$2,340
\$30.00	\$1,560.00	\$4,680
\$70.00	\$3,640.00	\$10,920

**Q.** *What are the costs of the various components of the campaign?*

- A.**
- \* Accessibility — \$105,000 (including hard costs and fees)
  - \* Organ — \$250,000 (including hard costs and fees)
  - \* Building contingency fund — \$40,000  
(emergency repairs, proactive building maintenance)
  - \* Campaign fees and misc. expenses — \$45,000  
(consultant fees, campaign expenses, unanticipated costs)

# ACCESSIBILITY

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**Q.** *Why are we making accessibility improvements to the building?*

**A.** While beautiful, Holy Trinity's facility can be limiting and inhospitable to those with mobility challenges — including parents of small children in strollers! Accessing our worship space requires managing steps and our bathrooms are impossible for those needing additional room to maneuver a wheelchair or even a walker. As part of a "Master Plan" to improve Holy Trinity's accessibility throughout the church (including a elevator to reach the second floor), this campaign includes a first phase plan to improve accessibility on our first floor, focusing on our sanctuary. Improvements to the building will benefit seniors and those with physical challenges.

**Q.** *What will be done to the building to make it more accessible?*

**A.** Specific improvements include:

- \* In the narthex, a (garden-side) accessible bathroom
- \* Sloped sidewalk/ramp on Magnolia and Addison entrance
- \* Improved entrance ramp through garden entrance
- \* Accessible bathroom near church office (by Magnolia door)
- \* Eight pew cuts in different places throughout worship space
- \* Entrance to garden-side stairwell through sanctuary wall (near current choir loft)
- \* Hospitality alcove in narthex to facilitate coffee and social time

**Q.** *Will the project include other building improvements?*

**A.** Two other improvements to our worship space will also be made. A small coffee service area would take the place of the west restroom at the back of the church, allowing social hour hosts to make coffee there rather than transport items from the upstairs kitchen. In addition, an entrance to the garden-side stairwell from the sanctuary (near the current choir loft) would enable worshippers to move upstairs without walking through sacristies.

**Q.** *Are there plans for an elevator?*

**A.** The first phase of this proposal calls for accessibility improvements for the worship space and the first floor. Since an elevator is very costly it was not able to included in this proposal, but the architect has prepared plans for a second stage of a capital campaign sometime in the future. In addition to an elevator the restrooms would be made accessible on the second floor. If we raise more than our goal this fall we can move more quickly with these plans!

## ORGAN

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**Q.** *Our present organ sounds great. What is wrong with it?*

**A.** First of all, the console (control desk for the instrument-where the organist sits and plays it) is 1923 vintage technology. While still functional, it is well-worn and not dependable, as well as being very limited in what it allows the organist to do.

Windchests that actually hold the pipes and provide the wind and action to make them sound are badly aged. For a number of technical reasons, some notes don't play at all, or they play intermittently. Others may play when not wanted! Sometimes a note "sticks", or ciphers... i.e., it will continue to sound even when the key is not being pressed. Significant repair or replacement of the chests is needed in order to guarantee that the organ will play correctly for the decades to come.

In order to expand the organ tonally (that is, to add pipes), it will be necessary to provide a new console. Tonal expansion (i.e., more pipes and reconfiguration for greater effectiveness) will necessitate a larger control desk.

**Q.** *I enjoy seeing the choir as they sing. Why does this project propose that the choir and organist lead the liturgy from the balcony?*

**A.** The current arrangement for the choir and organ is musically challenging if not nearly impossible. In order for the choir to watch the organist/conductor, it is necessary for them to turn away from the congregation. The current "loft" is less than ideal as an acoustical setting as well. The choir has much more difficulty hearing each other and the lighting makes reading music difficult during the evening and on dark days. That is why the choir has been singing around the piano so much of late.

The balcony, on the other hand, is superior acoustically. The experience of singing from there is a great deal more enjoyable as well since the acoustic properties in the balcony allow the choir to hear themselves, and feel that the room "carries" their sound. Lighting is superior also with the large window behind them. Most importantly, the choir members can see well from there and participate readily in the service. Having space in the balcony allotted for music would also easily accommodate other instruments on occasion.

**Q.** *What kinds of improvements will be made to the organ?*

**A.** The existing windchests upon which the pipes are placed will be repaired extensively or replaced. In either case, the result will be "like new," resulting in an organ that is dependable-no dead notes and no "sticking" notes (ciphers). The current 1923-vintage console will be replaced with a new, solid state console including digital combination action, that is, a digitally driven mechanism used to set and change stops. Also, there will be a number of new stops added to the organ so as to expand and upgrade the specification and make the organ more complete and versatile.

**Q.** *Why is the organ component of the capital campaign costly?*

**A.** Every pipe organ is a custom instrument. In other words, it is a unique instrument designed specifically for the space in which it resides. Organ building is an art that features a great deal of handcrafting and detail work that cannot possibly be mass manufactured. This kind of product is not cheap, and it is an investment built to last.

Pipes alone are expensive, in that they are individually handcrafted, tuned and voiced. We count the number of pipes in an organ by sets which are called “ranks.” Each rank has 61 pipes—one pipe for each key on the keyboard. Our current organ has 18 ranks, resulting in nearly 1100 pipes. Some need to be replaced. Others are still very functional. Still others could be salvaged and reused with some voicing and regulating. New ranks added to expand the sound of the instrument may run as high as the area of \$20,000 per rank, depending on the kind of pipes, the builder, and the materials from which they are made.

In addition to that, repair or replacement of the windchests is needed, as was mentioned above. These are also custom built, and the craftsmanship required to work on them is a unique skill that is not widely available. Costs for labor and materials are high.

It must be remembered that an organ is a long-term investment. The fact that we have a 1923 organ still playing in 2005 speaks to that fact. This is money well-spent, and the resulting instrument will serve this congregation for decades to come.

**Q.** *Why not use other instruments in worship? Why is the organ so intrinsic to the worship life of Holy Trinity?*

**A.** We do use other instruments in worship... piano, trumpet, viola, violin, flute, bells, etc. However, none of these by themselves are as capable of leading the congregation’s singing, and certainly none of them in and of themselves possess the resources for variety of tone color that the organ has. The organ is, literally, the original synthesizer. Playing an organ is a lot like “playing” an orchestra in many ways. Selecting the stops to use for a particular piece is much like orchestrating. So, because it is so comprehensive and so versatile, the organ has been and continues to be intrinsic to the worship life of not only Holy Trinity but many other congregations as well. Modern technology allows us many new sound possibilities, but the effectiveness of the organ for leading in worship is still unsurpassed!

Holy Trinity treasures its Lutheran church music heritage which includes organ works by none other than famous-Lutheran J.S. Bach! For a congregation such as ours, next to the worship space itself the organ is perhaps our most important investment!