



We are fortunate at Trinity to be blessed with a beautiful and historic building that is the heart and soul of our church family. As work begins on the areas of the building that are in need of restoration and repair, we want to ensure that everyone in our Trinity family understands the specifics of the project and how it will affect the daily life and operations here.

We've prepared a general overview of the project through the list of Frequently Asked Questions below. Watch out in the coming weeks for a photo timeline to be posted on the bulletin board on the Chisholm Trail and on the Web site. Also keep an ear out for weekly updates starting this summer on the Voice of Trinity radio program.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the scope of the project?

The Trinity Restoration Project will restore the 151-year-old Cathedral building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Parish House (c. 1927) in anticipation of the bicentennial of the church's founding in 1812.

The primary focus of the project in the Cathedral includes the following:

- * Replace spire caps and the louvers that have deteriorated in the towers.
- * Repair the exterior stucco incorporating the original lime-base stucco method used in the 1846 construction.
- * Replace HVAC system.
- * Install tie rods for wall support on the interior.
- * Restore/repair the historic stained glass windows, particularly the rare Belcher altar windows.
- * Repair and paint interior plaster.
- * Update the electrical and sound systems.
- * Replace the front steps.
- * Rebuild the handicapped ramp.
- * Improve the lighting in Satterlee Hall, paint and replace the flooring in the kitchen, and paint and repair plaster throughout the Parish House.

How has the scope of work been evaluated to determine priorities and needs?

Over a period of nearly a year, Columbia architect Larry Woodrum, AIA, developed a plan and timeline to address the needs listed above. Woodrum has substantial design experience with projects such as Policy Management Systems Corporate Headquarters, the Fairfield County Courthouse, and historic projects that include the Hampton Preston House and the Robert Mills Carriage House, walls and gates.

Why is this being undertaken now?

Generally, this century-and-a-half year-old landmark is in relatively good condition, but time has taken a toll on a number of interior and exterior elements of the building. Initially, we noticed some water leaks and determined what work needed to be done to stop the leaks. This investigation led to a closer examination of other repairs and restoration work that needed to be done to avoid greater structural problems and deterioration in the future. The bicentennial of the founding of Trinity is in 2012, so now is an appropriate time to focus on ensuring the structural integrity of this historic and treasured landmark for generations to come.

Where will the funding come from? How will we fund the initial work until the total amount is raised?

The initial funding comes from a lead gift of \$750,000 over five years from the Trinity Foundation and the annual operating budget of the Cathedral. The initial work will be financed by this commitment. Additional fundraising will be led by the Trinity Foundation and will come from parishioners, grants and some community fundraising. Plans are in the works for a campaign to raise the funds for this project, and details will be rolled out later this year. Planned giving opportunities are available right now, however. Contact the Foundation for more information and look for specifics about making a gift of annuities or stocks in the June Tidings insert.

How long will the restoration take?

Possibly 2-2 ½ years, with stops and starts along the way because of the church calendar.

Will church activities be disrupted during the work?

At some point in the distant future, the Cathedral Proper will need to be closed for interior restoration.

Does the Cathedral have long-term plans to support maintenance needs once the restoration is complete?

Yes. After the restoration project is complete, excess funds raised and donated to the campaign will be put in an endowment through the Trinity Foundation for the maintenance of the Cathedral and Parish House.

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