



westview crc

Renovate & Renew

CONTINUE TO WELCOME, SERVE & GROW



November 2, 2018

Dear Westview Family Member,

Thank you for your generosity allowing us to address the critical roofing repairs and maintenance on our church building. We are now in a good position to prayerfully consider the next phase of renovation to our facilities.

Earlier this year, recommendations and conceptual drawings were presented to the congregation outlining an updated vision for Westview's facilities and ministry programs. Included in this communication was an overview of proposed building updates and why church leadership feels they are critical to continue Westview's present mission and provide for future growth.

What's next? We are prepared to begin a 3-month pledge drive and continued work on more detailed cost estimates and architectural drawings for this project. Before we do this, we are asking for your blessing as a church body to move forward. We will affirm this through a congregational vote a couple of weeks from now.

Please use the information in this packet to re-familiarize yourself with the changes proposed as well as their potential impact on our kingdom mission and the financial resources God gives us. We know this is very general in its content; it's meant to be. There will be plenty of opportunity to dig into more detail later if broad approval is given to move into the next step of planning. This vote is simply asking for your approval to begin a campaign now.

The results of this fundraising effort, as well as detailed cost estimates and refined recommendations for the renovation would lead into a full congregational vote later this winter which will determine the final outcome of the building proposal.

On Sunday, November 18, following the morning service, we look forward to hearing your voice in a congregational vote to answer the simple question: "Should we move one step forward?" You may vote either in person on the 18th OR by proxy anytime beforehand. For your convenience, two copies of a "proxy ballot" have been provided for you if needed.

Please reach out to us with any questions in the meantime. Thank you in advance for joining us in this prayerful consideration as a church family together.

In Christ,

Laurie Dykstra Tom Postmus

Laurie Dykstra & Tom Postmus
Capital Campaign Planning Team Co-Chairs



Cracks in Parking Lot



Non-Handicap Entrance



Small Conference Room



westview
Christian Reformed Church

Why do we need this project now?

In the past 15 years, ministry style has changed: It is more about who you are and building a relationship with the Lord.

- Space needs, a more prominent and welcoming main entry, barrier-free access, improved elevator, and security updates.
- Handicap accessibility for worship.
- Handicap and family accessibility for bathrooms.
- Welcoming and comfortable meeting rooms.
- Security and safety.

What are the benefits?

- Create spaces where all generations feel welcome, comfortable, and included.
- Include a variety of spaces and places for fellowship.
- Instill reverence for God while also expressing joy and community.
- Organize strategic, functional, and well-utilized spaces that still inspire with beauty.
- Provide barrier-free and accessible spaces with intuitive, navigable wayfinding.

What if we do not renovate?

Our limited entrances have already discouraged community partners from using our facilities.

- We lose our appeal to young families with children. There is inadequate security and confusion as to where to go and how to get there.
- People routinely get stuck in the small outdated elevator. This is NOT safe or welcoming.
- We miss “the gift of the stranger”. A missional church that cares for the community around it, exists for those who do not know Jesus. Our eyes must see our facility through the eyes of a stranger that has differing needs. Then we can minister to them in ways that are understandable, friendly, warm and inviting.
- Members have declined having special events at Westview due to inadequate facilities and handicap accessibility.



Small Bathroom



Outdated Elevator



Unsecured Nursery Entrance

What we've seen and heard....

“My heart was saddened recently when a bride was preparing for her wedding. She and her attendants were dressed and ready for the wedding to start. However, she needed to use the restroom. In full gown and needing assistance, there was no place for her except the little restroom in the nursery.”

“People routinely get stuck on our small elevator. Visitors who need to use the elevator, see its poor set-up and turn away avoiding its use. They choose to leave or take “the long way around” outside and down the hill.”

“In a conversation with a former member recently, he shared that you don't need a key to enter our east door. He just “yanks hard” and is able to get in. This is unsafe and unacceptable.”



What are we renovating and how much will it cost?

The conceptual designs we have in mind would focus on meeting the huge range of physical needs for both children and adults that come through our doors. This would mean:

- Replacing all restrooms and the elevator.
- Replacing some entry ways with roomier, ADA compliant facilities placed in better locations.
- A safe and larger back entrance.
- Clear-cut hallways designed to improve the flow of traffic.
- Resize and relocate numerous walls and doorways both upstairs and down to revitalize the options we have in rooms and technology used for childcare, church programs and community events.

The newly renovated interior building design was developed with a deep sense of purpose and mission in mind specifically for Westview at 2929 Leonard Street.

At a high level, this renovation project has been estimated to run conceptually in the range of \$2 - \$2.8 million total cost. If we move forward, more precise cost estimates would be developed to help inform our decisions along with our fundraising efforts.

How would we pay for this?

Much time was spent this summer by our planning team researching options and exploring a variety of funding scenarios — including promissory notes, long-term mortgaged debt, federal and state grants, gifts, creative fundraising events, and even “pennies from heaven”!

The committee thoughtfully reviewed the building projects Westview has undertaken in the past. Each time, God has led us through successfully paying off significant capital costs and debt when we prayerfully committed to it.

Ideally, the funding for this entire project would come from donations, 3-year pledges and gifts-in-kind from members within and friends outside of Westview CRC. Realistically though, we know that whatever amount of total estimated costs are not met in giving, would need to be covered by traditional debt financing. ***Rather than to begin by speculating on levels of debt we might incur, we're asking for your blessing to move forward in faith and let God show us to what levels hearts are being led for financial giving towards this vision.***



2929 Leonard St NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616.453.3105
westviewcrc.org