# 180th Anniversary Thankoffering

### Forward in Faithfulness

It's a new beginning at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church this year as we celebrate our 180th Anniversary. We are calling our anniversary year collection "Forward in Faithfulness". Our goal is \$180,000 to address three main emphases.

- Stewardship: Your support will "take a bite" of our current debt of \$700,000.
- Infrastructure: Your support will help fund rebuilding of the entrance to Trinity's former school hall to make it accessible.
- Partnering: Your support will help meet human service needs in the community.

We will challenge ourselves in reaching out. Big steps or small steps, we know that God gives us what we are ready for, and now it's time to take on new challenges! It's a new beginning for all of us. Let's make it count.

Join us in our Year of Mission's "Forward in Faithfulness" anniversary year thank offering. Be part of our year-long celebration, culminating this fall on November 10th, 2019.

#### TRINITY + SOULARD

AN OPEN & CARING, RADICALLY CHRIST-CENTERED, DEEPLY SACRAMENTAL & SOMETIMES ECLECTIC MINISTRY IN THE HEART OF ST LOUIS.

Trinity is a diverse, welcoming community of members and friends. We greet hundreds of visitors each year from all over the world. It is your church as well. Let us know how we can serve you.

#### To support this ministry...

We deeply appreciate support of our parish ministries, our historic buildings, our daily care for homeless people, and our 180th Anniversary "Forward in Faithfulness" goals.



HISTORIC TRINITY

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## HISTORIC TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE FUTURE FOR
180 YEARS
1839-2019

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen...

## **Our Past**

As the oldest Lutheran church west of the Mississippi, our 180th anniversary is a truly historic event.

Trinity was founded in 1839 by Saxon immigrants who settled in St. Louis and in small communities of Perry County, MO. They abandoned the oppressive state church in the Old World for the promise of a revived Lutheran church and community in the New World.

Their utopian vision suffered setbacks in Perry County, but Rev. C.F.W. Walther returned to St. Louis to pastor those who had stayed in the city, founding a school and church here, along with a seminary, a newspaper and in 1847 a national church body with Walther as President in 1848.

Today Concordia Publishing House, Concordia Seminary, and today's "The Lutheran Church—Mis-

souri Synod" continue as does Trinity itself.

For nine generations God has granted Trinity a strong, deep-rooted history, a commitment to reach out to "all people," and the faith that in God all things old are made new.



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race...before us,

## Our Present

Today Historic Trinity Lutheran Church is a diverse and welcoming Christian community of over 300 persons, located adjacent to downtown St. Louis and serving the entire metro area.

We celebrate and demonstrate our faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ through inspiring worship, study opportunities, daily service to our neighborhood's homeless and needy families, support of urban elementary Lutheran education, and mission outreach here and through mission trips abroad. Trinity serves the downtown community and welcomes visitors and those in need.

#### **Community service**

Volunteers from the metro area and Trinity members assist people at the parish house kitchen window with clothing, soup, donated food, and emergency financial assistance. Trinity partners with S.S. Peter and Paul Catholic Church's homeless meal program and opens our facilities to host other service organizations like the



Community ReEntry Program for Ex-Offenders and the Helping Hand-Me-Downs service for families.

#### Inclusion

God created all people in "the image of God." Because of Jesus' Good News that God welcomes us all in love, we celebrate the rich diversity of God's creation and are intentionally inclusive in embracing all people in everything we do.

looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of...God. (Hebrews 11:1, 12:1-2)

## Our Future

Jesus invites his disciples into an ever-unfolding discovery of what will be. The future of Trinity is in that same discovery.

Our future is...

Open: Inclusive and Welcoming to All of God's Children Without Qualification or Distinction.

Caring: Engaging, Vulnerable and Authentic Life With One Another.

Radically Christ-Centered: Point Always and Ever to God, Revealed in Jesus Christ.

Deeply Sacramental: Awe at the Mystery of the Unpredictable Movement of the Spirit.

Sometimes Eclectic: Intentionally Multi-Cultural, as all God's People are Multi-cultural.

In the Heart of St. Louis: In-the-flesh Service Alongside Our Neighborhood and our City.

Our future is unfolding with God. We look forward to our discovering it together!



Now: Pastor Josh Hatcher