



What does Open Arms mean to you? What does it mean to us as a congregation?

At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, we're responding to God's call to help feed the hungry by starting a food pantry and serving 224 families and 532 individuals in 2015. We sent 83 youth and adults to Detroit and Green Bay for gathering and mission trips... Sharpened our mission focus and touched at least 1000 lives while involving 200 members during Advent... We are answering the call to grow our mission.

We are answering the call, but we need help hearing what's being asked of us here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Jonah was in denial about his call, but he eventually answered. Did you hear the rain drops and thunder on Lessons and Carols Sunday? It wasn't the water of baptism hitting the pews during worship, but the biblical rain leaking into the sanctuary through holes in the roof. How about the collective gasp each time you use a restroom in the Narthex?

Now is the time we must deal with the needed repairs that have been delayed for years. Our house needs help. Will we hear its calling?

We voted to move forward with this Capital Campaign. Leadership of our congregation has listened and prioritized needs over the last 18 months, and now is the time to invest in our vision, which includes ensuring our house of worship is welcoming.

The time is now to **Open Arms** and embrace the broken, welcome the outcast and join on a journey of "Sharing God's Love." This capital campaign will help the vibrant congregation of today expand the foundation for those to come.

We have defined our mission to Share God's Love. To embody the **Open Arms** of Christ we need to be a congregation:

- Honoring the traditions of the church while presenting them in new ways;
- Where people find a path to spiritual growth, maturity, and discipleship;
- Living out radical hospitality, extending open arms to all people;
- Known as a place where people are fed and cared for while welcomed to grow in faith;
- Passing on the faith to a new generation in a way that makes a difference in their lives and the world.

What are the components of our **Open Arms** Capital Appeal?

### **Revitalize our Worship and Welcoming Space: \$350,000**

Enhance our worship space to welcome newcomers and embrace technology to allow us to grow, share, and serve within our existing facility.

- Fix the building so it reflects the congregation's vibrancy. This includes repairs to multiple roofs, HVAC system and other mechanicals.
- Move the baptismal font to a central location.
- Design a space for worship groups while creating flexibility for large groups to perform.
- Update and modernize our projection and audio capabilities in the sanctuary.
- Renovate and expand our 50-year-old restrooms making them fully accessible to everyone.
- Make our Narthex space more welcoming.
- Update and repair our external signage.
- Retool kitchen capacity with modern appliances.
- ✓ A very apparent need was sanctuary lighting. This project was accomplished by a generous gift for that purpose. Thanks be to God!
- ✓ Another accomplishment was removing pews in the choir loft and replacing with choir chairs.

### **Grow our Mission Trust Fund: \$50,000**

These funds will be shared as directed by our bylaws, in grants to touch lives with the love of Christ through expanded mission work, teaching of seminarians, and planting new congregations.

### **Tithe our Open Arms Capital Appeal Gifts: \$120,000**

We will share 10% percent of the gifts received from our **Open Arms** Capital Appeal to our global mission partners. These funds would be directed to feeding the hungry, supporting the disabled, and helping others in need.

### **Develop a Second Site for Ministry and Worship: \$380,000**

In order to live out our mission as an **Open Arms** church, we will grow by renting space in Southwest Ankeny that will house a food pantry, provide a center for contemporary worship, and respond to local mission opportunities while expanding our presence in the community.

### **Reduce our Debt: \$300,000**

The **Open Arms** Capital Appeal will reduce our present debt by one-third and allow us to use a greater amount of our gifts to expand ministry and serve our community.

## Goal of Our **Open Arms** Capital Appeal

God is calling us to take up the challenge. We seek to be faithful to God's mission by raising **\$1.2 million** through the generosity of the members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The gifts received from our **Open Arms: Grow, Share, Serve** Capital Appeal will enable us to enhance our facility and grow our mission in our congregation, community, and beyond.

In the next few months, you will be invited to pray and seek God's guidance in how you might grow your generosity and support our expanding ministry of Sharing God's Love.