

# Feasibility Study Focus Groups

Carved in granite in our Sanctuary Gathering Space are these words of vision:



*Matthews United Methodist Church seeks to become an all-inclusive Christian community which lifts high the Cross and shares the love of Jesus.*

## Project Background

- Administrative Council & Trustees identified multiple large capital projects that needed to be vetted
- Eighteen months ago, Administrative Council appointed Building Committee to investigate
- Committee completed their due diligence and presented the following recommendations for Sanctuary/Auxiliary space improvements
- Administrative Council approved to engage with a local ministry, *Generosity Development* to guide our feasibility efforts

## Projects Identified as Mission Critical

- Refurbishment to Exceed ADA Standards
- Replacement of failing Heating & Air system installed in 1993
- Upgraded Sound/Lighting Systems including LED Screens
- Increased Access to Language Caption & Translation
- Modifications to the Chancel Space

### + Refurbishment to Exceed ADA Standards includes:

- A wheelchair lift on the right side of the Chancel Area
- Push button door openers on the Sanctuary doors, as well as the nearby bathrooms
- Making the Chancel Area one level with a smooth(er) surface

### + Replacement of failing Heating & Air System

- System is 31 years old, well past its life expectancy
- Multiple “patchwork” repairs have been made over time to keep it running
- The probability of total failure is extremely high if we do nothing

## + Upgrade Sound/Lighting Systems & Add LED Screens in the Sanctuary

- Upgrade to a high-fidelity sound system that provides more consistent coverage
- Convert to brighter, more efficient lighting
- Replace the projection screens with LED displays

## + Increased Access to Language Caption & Translation

- Enable people to access closed captioning on individual devices in worship service
- Provide closed captioning on Livestreamed services and events
- Provide translated captions for bi-lingual events as needed

## + Modifications to the Chancel Space

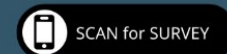
- Increase Chancel Area to provide more space for Handbells and Orchestra
- Increase size of the Choir Loft
- Build wider stairs for safety protocols
- Add wheelchair lift for accessibility to Chancel level
- Replace the organ which is 25 years old and requires very costly upkeep

## Congregational Survey

*Responses will be confidential. Our consultants will receive your sealed envelopes & forwarded online responses.*

- Opportunity to provide further comments
- Scan the QR Code to complete electronically
- Hard copies are also available -- return in sealed envelope (provided) -- baskets at Welcome Center & Church Office
- Complete survey within 5 days of this Focus Group

**All surveys must be in by May 21.**



<https://qrco.de/beq2sJ>

## What's Next?

- After the final focus group on May 19, all responses will be aggregated
- If we have consensus to commit to doing these projects, we will consider a capital campaign



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

Email:  
[Questions@MatthewsUMC.org](mailto:Questions@MatthewsUMC.org)  
for more info.