



King Avenue
United Methodist Church

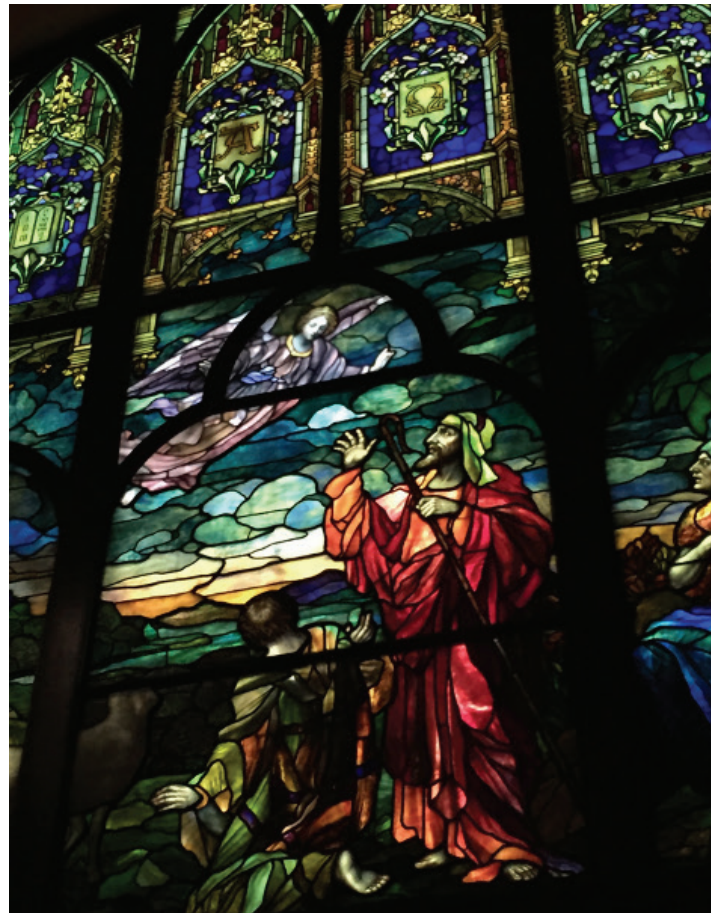
THE VESSEL

A newsletter to communicate the goals and status of
the Coming Together for Transformation Comprehensive Campaign

The Who, What and When . . .

King Avenue's long history, striking architecture, and significant mission all make a Comprehensive Campaign necessary and timely. As Pastor John Keeny expressed in his recent retirement announcement, we must continue on our spiritual journey to position and equip King Avenue to move into God's gracious and exciting future.

The Coming Together for Transformation Comprehensive Campaign imparts the role of God as the potter in our Christian lives. Like the potter, God's work is a transformative experience. Mysteriously even miraculously an ugly lump of clay is transformed into something beautiful. The process requires a delicate balance of opposing forces that takes patience and devotion. This Campaign is the culmination of years of detailed work by multiple individuals and committees and, the projects outlined in the Comprehensive Campaign are in direct accord with the Mission and Vision of King Avenue United Methodist Church. More specifically the completion of these projects will invite, welcome, and honor all people, open doors of sanctuary, and create new avenues of ministry.



Lead channels of our stained glass windows must be restored.

For one hundred thirty years, King Avenue United Methodist Church has focused on transforming Christians through faith, hope, and building community with an emphasis on Christ's love for all people. The congregation faced tremendous adversity early on. In August of 1918, its 14-year old building burned to the ground, in October of 1918 the influenza pandemic ravaged Columbus, closing churches and schools, and that same month two of the more than 170 members serving in World War I died.

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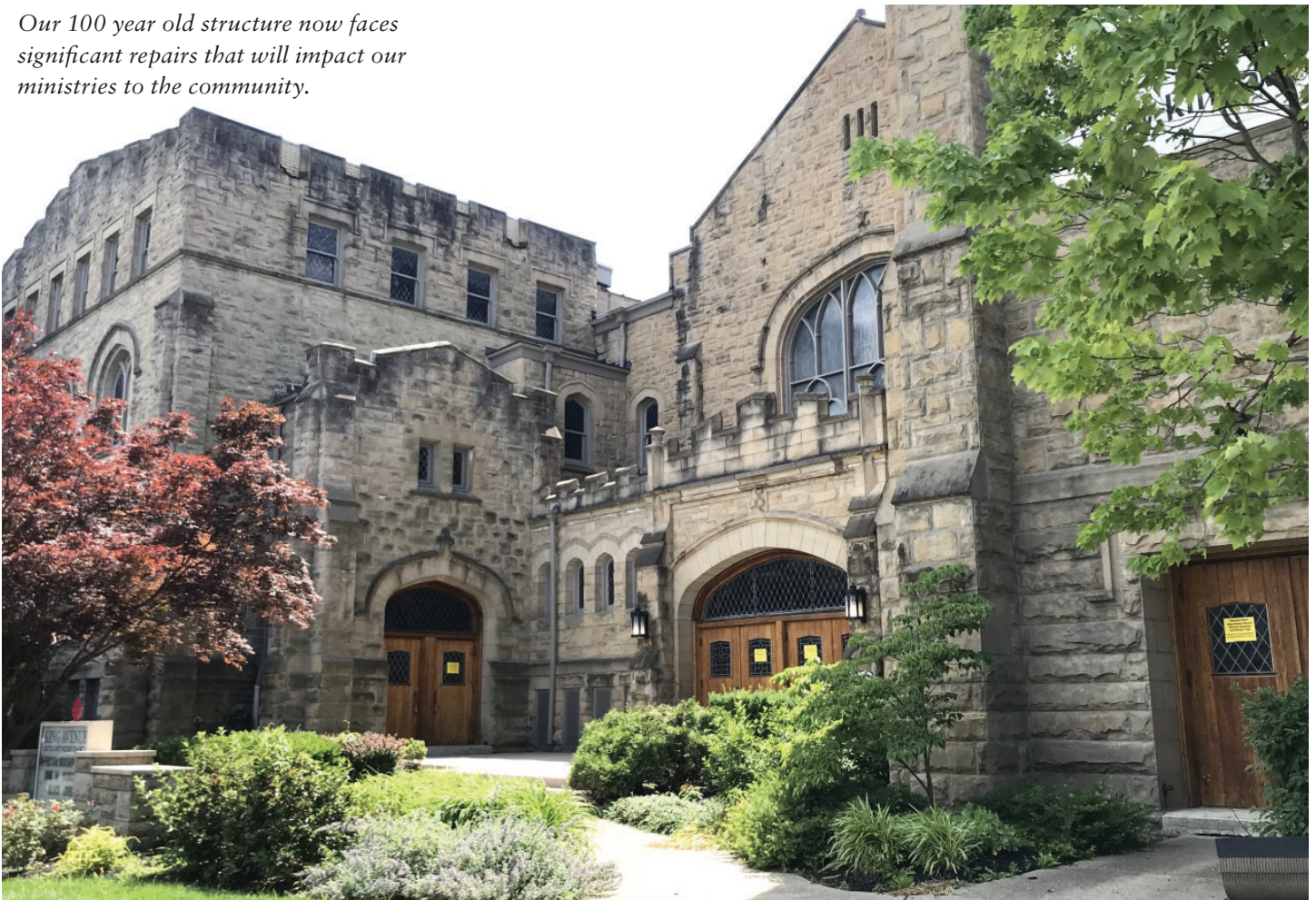
SAVE THE DATE:

- Information Meetings October 11 - 18
- Commitment Event November 15
- Celebration Sunday December 6

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

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Our 100 year old structure now faces significant repairs that will impact our ministries to the community.



(Continued from front page.)

Despite the challenges of the time, in May 1919, the congregation came together and initiated a campaign to rebuild their church home. The campaign called for \$110,000 in funding, which calculates to \$1.7 million today. Plans for giving included paid dinners hosted by the congregation and a simple plan of giving from every member, per day, for three years. Giving levels were based on age group, 100 children were expected to give one cent per day for three years, 200 young people five cents a day and, 100 men and women twenty-five cents per day. In November of 1922, the first Sunday worship was held at what the newspapers billed as the “most modern church edifice in Columbus and one of the most modern in the United States”.

The faith and resolve of King Avenue’s congregation did not waver during those challenging times. The challenges faced by the King Avenue congregation in 1918 are not unlike those we face today. We have on-going conflicts around the world which threaten our safety, we have the COVID-19 pandemic and, although not faced with rebuilding our church home, we are faced with significant challenges to

its integrity and safety. Additionally, our denomination is on the precipice of major change related to the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation announced in January. As Rev. John Keeny recently mused “[the Protocol] gives me great hope for King Avenue’s place in the future of the United Methodist Church. We would stay within the denomination and keep our assets. The “incompatible” language would be stricken. LGBTQI persons would be fully included and eligible for ordination. Weddings would happen. Charges and trials would be over”.

Although we face significant challenges today, we are in a time of transformation. Transformation of our denomination and transformation of who we reach as a congregation and how we reach them. We have an opportunity to demonstrate our faith in God’s vision of a more just, loving, and inclusive world. Let us now, at this time in our history, Come Together for Transformation and continue to be a beacon of hope and an ally to so many who want to bring full inclusion across our denomination. By coming together as pieces in the potter’s work, we will bring long lasting transformation. ■

The Where, Why and How . . .

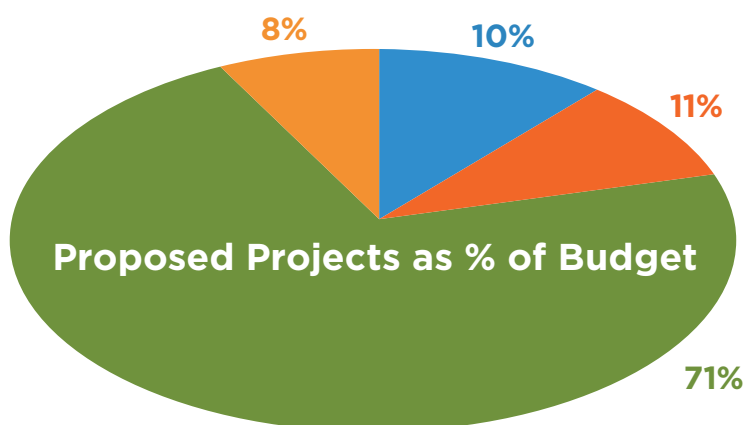
Goals of the \$2 Million Comprehensive Campaign are organized in four categories: Accessibility & Welcoming Improvements, Ministries & Missions Expansion, Infrastructure Upgrade & Repair and, Historical Preservation.

Accessibility & Welcoming Improvements (10%)

The Mission of King Avenue United Methodist Church (KAUMC) is to invite, welcome and honor all people and nurture them to grow in service to Christ. The need to provide Christian experiences to underserved communities is of paramount importance to build upon our strengths and our fellowship. These projects will allow us to update and upgrade several accommodations underscoring our common belief that like the potter, God shapes King Avenue by binding us together in the sharing of life's struggles and joys.

Some projects earmarked in the category include:

- Renovate 1st Floor Women's Restroom to ADA compliance and add more stalls.
- Installation of ADA compliant balcony railing
- Update sound system in Sanctuary and add new media to Fellowship Hall & Chapel.
- Installation of intercom system at exterior doors to provide safe and secure access to our building after hours.
- Replace bulletin board in Children's Classroom hallway with digital media. This will advertise King Avenue UMC Missions, Activities, and information in an attractive, up-to-date method and will be the first point of information for guests and members entering the building on this level.



- Accessibility & Welcoming Improvements (10%)
- Expansion of Ministries & Missions (11%)
- Infrastructure Upgrade & Repair (71%)
- Historical Preservation (8%)



Expansion of ministries includes integrating creative worship resources to engage a visual generation.



Expansion of Ministries & Missions (11%)

The Vision of King Avenue United Methodist Church includes creating new avenues of ministry. Confronting the COVID-19 shut-down prompted the church to purchase equipment to live-stream worship services, a first step to reach those who are unable to attend in person. The initial months of our foray into virtual worship have proved that it can be an entryway for potential members who prefer to make a virtual visit before committing to attend. Additional technology will allow us to engage online participants and to encourage their involvement in online Christian community, learning, and serving. The proposed technological advances will allow our worship services to be accessed beyond our four walls to retirement centers, homes, and out-of-state members and friends. It will expand our evangelical footprint. These projects will facilitate the creation of new avenues of ministry and expand our missional footprint.

Some projects earmarked in the category include:

- Personnel to run live streaming and related software.
- Licenses for streaming of services.
- Creation of stained glass window in the Milling Area honoring our reconciling ministry
- Installation of hearing loops for the hearing impaired in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.
- Improve Media and upgrade technology in Children's Classrooms.
- Funding for New Ministry Program & Staff

Infrastructure Upgrade & Repair (71%)

At King Avenue United Methodist Church, we continually strive to build a welcoming community based on the tenets of Christian faith. A vital part of this involves the maintenance of the beautiful historic church we use for our ministry and worship. Today we are confronted with crucial building upgrades and repairs which are essential to the objective of opening doors of sanctuary. Projects earmarked in the category are not simply building maintenance concerns, these projects directly impact the success of projects in other categories. These projects will provide comfort and safety to those we serve and allow us to use our building more effectively and efficiently in support of our ministries. As the largest portion of the Comprehensive Campaign budget, these projects are about safety, efficiency and, yes, cost savings. Many projects related to this category have been assessed for environmental sustainability using energy conservation measures (ECM). Overall, these ECMs are projected to reduce our carbon footprint by up to 50% in some areas and save King Avenue over \$10,000 annually in energy costs.

Some projects earmarked in the category include:

- Upgrade interior lighting system to LED technology
- Retrofit mechanical systems including programmable thermostats
- Replace existing heating system with multiple high efficiency boilers
- Install new ductless HVAC systems on east side of the building



- Improve building envelope system by rebuilding the existing windows and repairing storm windows.
- Repair exterior mortar joints and masonry and roof membrane.
- Replace flat roof over the new addition.

Historical Preservation (8%)

King Avenue has placed great importance on the care of their spiritual home as evidenced by numerous decorative improvements and building repairs made over the decades including structural additions that included the chapel and west parlor, the choir room, and classrooms, installation of the John-Paul Buzard Opus 36 Organ and, restoration of the bell tower. While countless improvements and repairs have been required in the interim, the last significant changes to KAUMC occurred more than 12 years ago. We are at a point in the life of our historical elements which requires immediate attention to preserve the significant legacy of our building. Historical Preservation not only ensures that King Avenue will stand another century as a beautiful landmark, it expresses our commitment to God to act upon us in order to be shaped into what we are meant to be, active stewards of one of our most precious resource.

Some projects earmarked in the category include:

- Restore & Protect Memorial Windows
- Clean & Enhance all stained-glass windows
- Refinish interior and exterior wood doors
- * Repair mortar joints and tuck point masonry
- Refinish pews

Interior and Exterior repairs will enable us to continue to serve Christ through our facility.

