

**THE RENOVATION OF LUTHER PLACE MEMORIAL CHURCH  
PROPOSED PROGRAM  
December 27, 2002**

*(Cluster Meeting suggestions indicated in italics)*

**A. HISTORIC CHARACTER/AESTHETIC**

1. Maintenance and restoration of existing historic character
  - Pews
  - Balcony front and columns
  - Ceiling beam/trusses and medallions
  - Stained glass windows
  - Plaster detailing around windows and organ
2. Finishes to be sympathetic with historic character – historic windows restored, wood pews and balcony screen stripped and refinished, new finishes/colors *and stencils, all historically compatible with Victorian Gothic character.*
3. Desire to keep the existing Lectern, Altar, Baptismal Font, *explore alternative* Processional Cross and Torches. New elements/furnishings to be sympathetic with existing historic character and furnishings.

**B. CHANCEL**

1. Proposal: take the chancel down to one uniform level (where the white floor is) all the way back to the wood wall behind the choir and remove the wooden islands. The Altar would be on moveable *platforms*, one step up. A larger Chancel space is desirable, while *considering sightlines and the flexibility of the space for multiple uses*. Chancel floor should be wood to match existing wood flooring (not white). *Flexible seating for multiple celebrants.*
2. Architects will need to address ADA compliance issues (see “**J**” below)
3. Retain existing moveable Baptismal Font in the Chancel. When there is a baptism it could be moved to the center. It is difficult to get around the Baptismal Font and Pulpit when serving communion. *(See also **D** below)*
4. Retain current Pulpit but with possible modifications – reduce height *(now too high for shorter people)*.
5. Continue to use moveable risers for Choir. Choir would like to have more room, especially needed when singing to piano accompaniment. Some choir members who usually sit behind organ console would like to see children’s sermon.
6. Organ console needs to have removable screen wall (as it does now). Extent and configuration of wall to be determined. *Concern for choir sightlines.*
7. *Cross will continue to be carried in, not permanently hung in sanctuary.*
8. The wood wall behind choir is not historical. Part of the design will need to be retained to support the organ pipes. Columns could be continued with wooden pilasters.
9. More light (natural or artificial) in organ loft is to be considered. We will need to verify what the space looks like when lit (organ pipes, swell boxes, controls, supports). *Architecturally beautiful lighting scheme desirable.*
10. *(deleted)*
11. Chancel lighting needs to be improved (see **K** below).
12. Storage/relocation place for altar, pulpit, risers, etc.

**C. NAVE**

1. Pews to be kept, with possible exception of first row, depending on Chancel design. While refinishing of the pews is ultimately desired, this is not an immediate priority. *Revisit hymnal holders.*
2. Better lighting is needed (see **K** below).
3. Chandelier: (see **K**)
4. Need to improve sound system with recording capability. *Provide sound reinforcement for hearing impaired. General sound amplification (see **P** below)*

5. Carpet: Extent of carpet to be determined.
6. Color to be used to add depth to the walls and windows.
7. Performance capability.

#### **D. NARTHEX**

1. Improved lighting needed (see **K** below)
2. New entrance to Parish Hall needed – such as shown in drawings previously reviewed.
3. Screen between Narthex and Nave: there is consensus that some form of screen (wood and glass) such as shown in drawings previously reviewed is needed.
4. Document distribution and miscellaneous storage to be explored – *credenzas in base of screen wall (see H)*.
5. *Explore liturgical and architectural feasibility of small, additional baptismal font at entrance to Nave.*

#### **E. ENTRANCE TOWERS**

1. Address weather and sound issues with exterior doors but create a clearer, more inviting entry to Nave from outside, esp. Vermont Ave.
2. Install glass doors at entrances immediately inside the exterior wood doors.
3. Remove upper interior doors to Narthex.
4. Replace flooring with all weather, high-traffic, low-maintenance material.

#### **F. STAINED GLASS WINDOWS**

The following items – in the order of priority listed – were agreed upon as the actions and sequence needed for the Stained Glass Windows. “Protection” refers to the installation of an exterior security glazing.

1. Protection and repair of the ground level Main Tower windows.
2. Repair and protection of the upper level Main Tower windows.
3. Repair and re-protection of the Historic Nave Windows.
4. New design and installation for two *historically compatible* windows to replace the modern windows at front of Nave. This new design to be done in coordination with the Architect as the Chancel design develops.
5. Explore options for allowing light from Main Tower windows into the organ loft.

#### **G. SACRISTY**

1. Sacristy is “worn down” and in need of refurbishment.
2. Revisit/*improve* existing storage rooms/closets to determine best use of space available.
3. Retain bathroom and pantry *functions*.

#### **H. STORAGE**

1. Acolyte Robe storage needed (possibly Choir robes as well), location to be identified.
2. Coordinate with Sacristy (see above)
3. Document and literature storage in Narthex. (*see D – credenzas*)

#### **I. HVAC (HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING)**

1. Baseboard heat (integrate into overall control system; upgrade/replace?)
2. Analyze effectiveness and reliability.
3. Energy efficiency.
4. Acoustics (current system far too loud)
5. Visual aesthetics – revisit *circular ceiling* supply diffusers and large, black rectangular return.
6. Design approach (heat from floor/baseboards, cooling from ceiling – natural convective flow. Possible use of ceiling fans?)

#### **J. FIRE AND SAFETY, SECURITY, ADA COMPLIANCE**

1. Exiting from Nave

2. Fire strobes/alarms: Upgrade for entire church (Nave and Parish Hall) required by current code.
3. Locks, keying, exiting, security.

#### **K. LIGHTING**

1. Nave Interior: lighting design required. Congregation and Choir/Chancel need increased lighting. Possible re-use or upgrade of dimming system. Spotlighting for speaker. Choir needs specific lighting to read music during evening (and candlelight) services.
2. Exterior (See L)
3. Stained glass windows – both interior and exterior lighting.
4. The Chandelier – *architects to submit alternative drawings with and without chandelier.*

#### **L. EXTERIOR**

1. Lighting design: Building and grounds, both Landmark and Security related. Make the Church more welcoming at night, and clarify entry points.
2. Landscape design - *pigeon and rat control; columbarium (see O); general grounds*
3. Signage to be improved.
4. *Improve parking circle.*

#### **M. BALCONY**

1. Structural inspection of previous water damage; safety/code review of guardrail.
2. Desire for greater ease of use: multiple uses, choir use on special occasions.
3. Replace pews with moveable seating.
4. *Easily maintainable lighting behind Stained Glass window on north wall.*

#### **N. ORGAN**

1. Remove for cleaning and storage during renovation.
2. Repairs required from earlier water damage.
3. Renovation of organ loft: plaster and painting required; zone HVAC requirements, lighting modifications.
4. Hydraulics (can organ console go up & down?); console removability.

#### **O. COLUMBARIUM**

1. Not in nave; outside location? *Perhaps at or around base of Luther Statue?*

#### **P. SOUND SYSTEM**

1. *Provide sound system for hearing impaired, general amplification, and recording capability.*
2. *Location of sound system control to be determined.*