



TRINITY CATHEDRAL

*Honoring Our Legacy
Growing in Love*

An Unfinished Legacy

A cathedral is a beacon of God's steadfast presence in the world, and a visible symbol of God's justice, love, and mercy.

It casts a vision of timelessness, yet, like each of us, a cathedral is never fully finished.

Within its walls, a cathedral holds the space for all who seek solace and beauty, while offering a pastoral community where we are nurtured and known. It is where we go to seek meaning and connection with God and grow into beloved community. It welcomes us in, totally as we are, where we are at any given time.





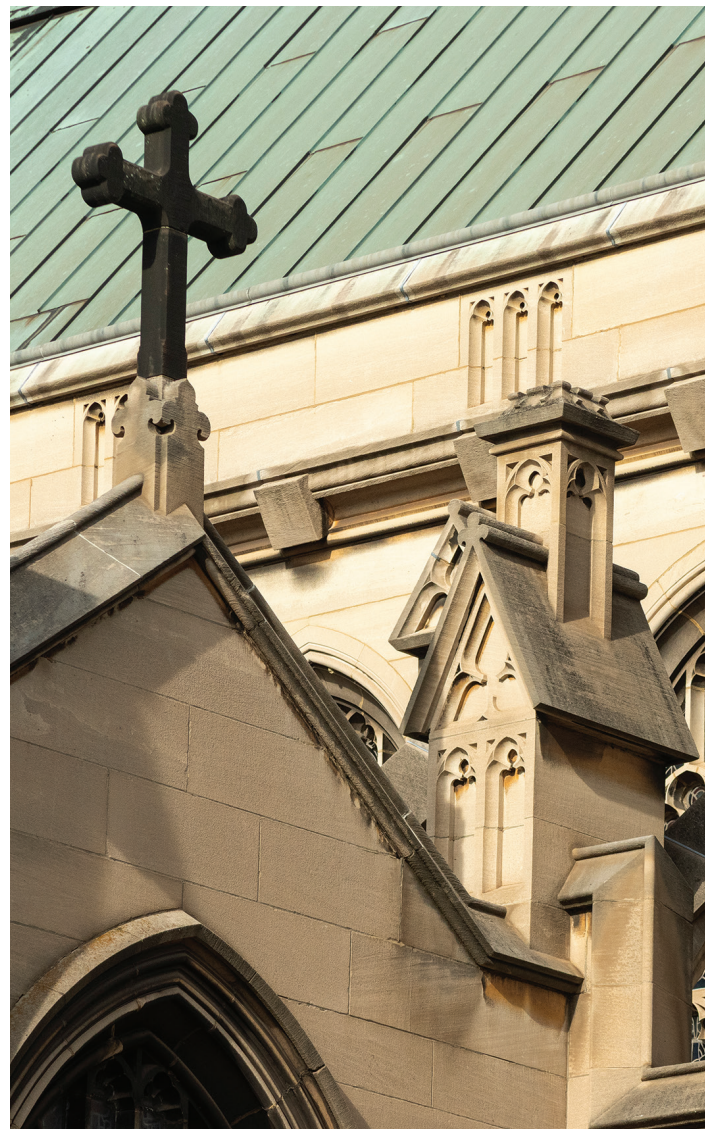
That final stone may have been firmly laid in the ground, yet each generation has a new dream and calling they bring to this sacred space. A cathedral grows and evolves with its congregation and responds to its community. Each generation is called to ask, "What is our work?" in sustaining a cathedral that will serve the faithful for many years to come.

Today, Trinity Cathedral is a sacred place for all people. We stand on the shoulders of ancestors who built these buildings and resourced our ministry. Now, it is in our hands to secure its future for generations to come.

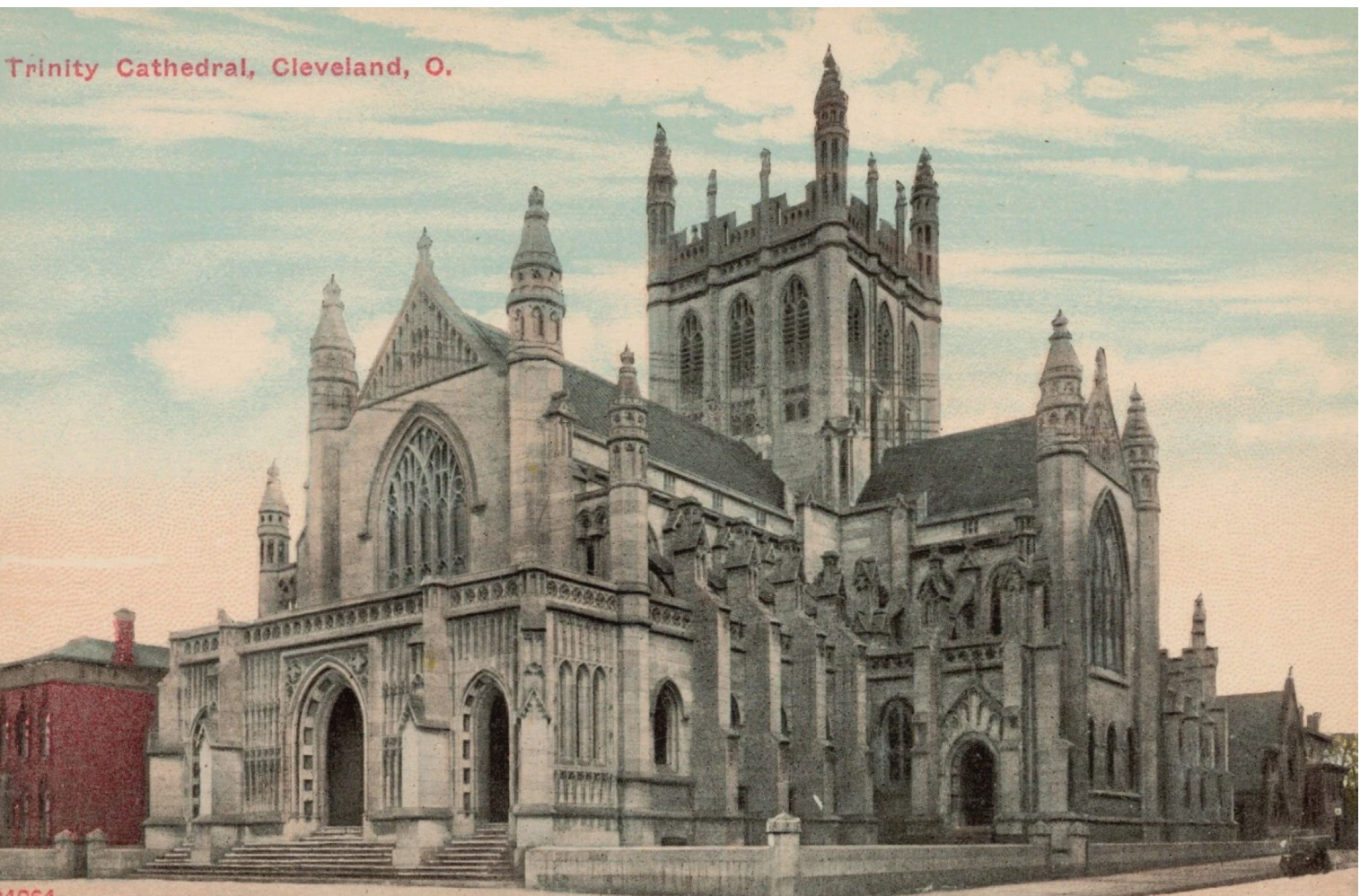
How might God be calling you to continue building the cathedral?

Growing in Love

A cathedral is a gift to the world, but it is a gift that is never fully finished.



History



Back in the 1890s, the worshippers at Old Trinity at East 6th and Superior dreamed of a landmark cathedral in downtown Cleveland. They boldly put Old Trinity up for sale and moved over to Euclid Avenue with hopes and dreams for a brighter future. They believed Cleveland deserved a beautiful, world-class cathedral, reflecting the faith and beauty of the great cathedrals of Europe.

And they built one.

But this creation took time.

They commissioned Charles Schweinfurth, a nationally renowned architect and member of the congregation, to design the chapel, parish buildings, and cathedral. They traveled to England and brought back ideas and inspirations to create the beautiful, sacred space we now call home.



The Heart and Hearth of Trinity

During the six years that Trinity Cathedral was under construction, these faithful parishioners worshipped in what they called the Perry Street Chapel, located behind the cathedral building site. They even had to extend the chapel plans by three additional bays to accommodate more people.

The three-part façade stained glass windows were brought over and placed at the west end of the chapel, with the façade tracery windows installed where our Music Room in Parish House stands today. These leaders were exacting in their intent and carried forth the treasure of the past to enrich the future.



The Perry Street Chapel, now called Cathedral Hall, evolved into a space for service and witness to the wider civic and faith community.

During the Great Depression, hundreds gathered here to enjoy music, films, and fellowship. When the Episcopal Church General Convention met in Cleveland in the 1940s, the hall was an essential space for the work of the Church. For decades, Fenn College students worshipped here weekly. Weddings, receptions, concerts, community meals, and outreach programs have filled the hall with life and meaning. Today, it offers a space of radical hospitality through a free Sunday lunch for anyone who is hungry.



Now, it's our turn.

How do we honor the impressive legacy that has been left to us?



This original great gathering space, Cathedral Hall, has been forgotten in the shadow of the cathedral and Commons in the past several decades. The last renovation was in 1964—over sixty years ago. It now needs our loving care and attention.

Through careful discernment within our community, and in partnership with architects and historians, we have gained clarity on the path ahead. We are called to repair, sustain, and grow our ministry today within these sacred walls, ensuring it remains here for the next hundred years and beyond.





Cathedral Hall

To honor our history and build a vibrant future for all, we are embarking on a journey to transform Cathedral Hall into a revitalized space that will lead us into the future.

Let's reclaim our founding community's grand vision by bringing the hall into the twenty-first century with upgraded lighting and climate control, so we can comfortably use it year-round and at a greater capacity.

Let's improve our kitchen and dining facilities so we can serve the community more effectively and graciously.

Let's create inviting pathways, inside and outside, fostering the welcome and connection that were indispensable parts of the original spaces.



Extensive historical research led us to identify opportunities to restore Cathedral Hall to be more consistent with Schweinfurth's original plans, while making it more inclusive, functional, and beautiful. We are restoring Cathedral Hall as a gracious and innovative space that can host events for a broad audience, resonating with Trinity's welcoming witness of justice, love, and mercy.



An Engine for Ministry

As the cathedral took shape, leaders recognized the need for long-term financial stability to sustain its growing ministry. The Trinity Endowment was established in 1920, and significant gifts from the Mather family and other prominent members of the congregation in the years leading up to the 1929 stock market crash strengthened the fund at a critical moment. This allowed Trinity not only to weather the Great Depression but to continue serving and supporting the wider community throughout those difficult years.

We stand on the generosity of those who came before us—but a cathedral is an ongoing commitment that requires constant maintenance and care.



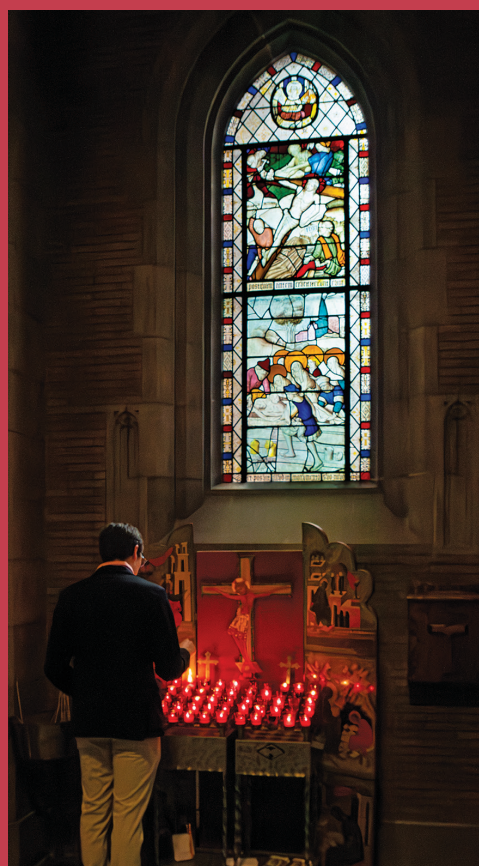
Endowment

While we are grateful that Trinity's endowment has grown to about \$24 million over these years, we know that inflation and rising costs erode its ability to sustain our ministry. Today, we estimate that to maintain our work, we would need a current endowment of approximately \$40 million.

As we grow towards that, we will be able to shift our financial model from one of dependence to one of empowerment. This will support our creative and prophetic visions for future generations. We know it will take time, and is a journey that starts with the legacy we create today.



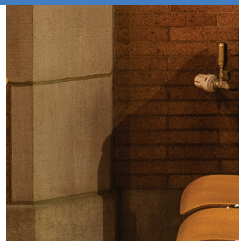
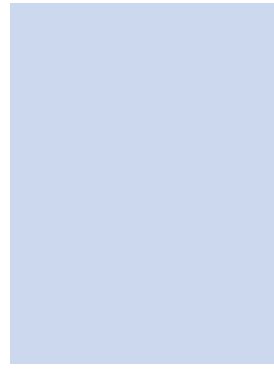
The endowment continues to be an essential engine for ministry—without it, we could do only a fraction of the work God calls us to do. Yet we also believe that our ministry and work in the community become stronger when our generosity is in healthy balance with the gifts of those who came before us.



Beauty and Structure: Trinity's Stained Glass

Trinity's worship space is the heart of our identity. While our soaring architecture speaks of steadfastness, our stained-glass windows illuminate the stories of our faith and history. By preserving this sacred landmark, we ensure our ministry remains grounded on a bedrock of stability—allowing us to proclaim a message of hope today while creating a witness of tomorrow.

We are undertaking a multi-phase restoration of our historic windows, which are treasures that connect us to centuries of faith, the history of our cathedral, and Cleveland itself. These repairs are also essential to the structural integrity of the cathedral, ensuring these vibrant icons continue to protect the building while illuminating our worship for the next generation.





With over 114 stained and leaded glass windows in the cathedral, we have identified many that need immediate attention, with the remainder being monitored for future work. This is delicate work by skilled artisans and requires time and care. The mortar holding them in place also needs to be repaired and replaced before the windows can be reinstalled.

What we do now matters. What *you* do now matters. This campaign is an invitation to imagine how we want to gather today and to create the sacred spaces that will make that possible in the decades to come.



Our Invitation

Today, we are called to write the next chapter that will propel Trinity into a robust, exciting new era of growth.

Will you join us in dreaming our cathedral into the future?



Trinity is important to Cleveland not only because it has been a sacred space for Episcopalians to worship, but also because it has throughout its history been sought out as a gathering space in times of need, in times of celebration, and in times of growth. Trinity is part of Cleveland.

Restoring Cathedral Hall allows us to meet this need. Building a sustainable financial future is essential to our outward-facing ministry. And restoring our stained glass is how we live our vocation as a leading cathedral for our city and region.



You play a critical role in this adventure to the future.

It is a pivotal moment that will take many people from our congregation and from our broader community. Together we can prepare our hearth for a future of growth and service.



By investing in Trinity now and planning a legacy for tomorrow, you help us grow in faith, number, and participation, ensuring we share God's love with the world for generations to come.

Your participation in this exciting campaign is our generation's response to the quest to finish Trinity Cathedral—keeping it vital, keeping it secure, and keeping it the sacred space that offers radical hospitality and solace to all who enter our doors.

Honoring Our Legacy, Growing in Love

Goals

We are seeking to raise a total of \$10 million to strengthen Trinity Cathedral for today and future generations. This includes:

- **\$1 million**
towards the restoration of Cathedral Hall and Trinity's historic stained-glass windows
- **\$9 million**
in planned giving commitments to grow the Trinity Endowment over time towards a level that is generative and sustainable

Our goal is to combine \$1 million in current contributions from generous donors with \$9 million in planned gifts.

Your gift will fund essential capital work, minimize impact to the endowment, and ensure Trinity remains a vibrant, welcoming, and life-giving presence in Cleveland for years to come.



By giving, you become part of Trinity's living history. Your generosity, like this sacred space, will endure beyond a lifetime, leaving a legacy that tomorrow's community will cherish.

We are deeply grateful for your commitment to Trinity's future. We invite you to consider making a gift and joining us in this important work.



Scan to give



Honoring Our Legacy Growing in Love

In the 1890s, Trinity's congregation dreamed boldly of a landmark cathedral in downtown Cleveland—and they built one. It was a vision that took courage, faith, and time to become reality.

Now, it is our turn.

How will you honor this remarkable legacy?



TRINITY
CATHEDRAL

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