

# Built on tradition. Embracing the future.

For *The Messenger*, published late May 2015

## Organ Renovation: Refinishing any one?

The renovation is well underway with the console now almost completely dismantled. So it is now able to be taken out of the balcony for refinishing. If there are any members who would be interested in working on this project, the Capital Campaign Committee would be interested in hearing from you.

In order to make the balcony space most useable for the organ, piano and other musical ensembles, the platform for the carillon which likely has asbestos containing tile will be removed. The seven conduits that historically have provided electrical connections for the console will be moved or closed to provide a smooth floor surface that will allow multiple positions for the console to meet the needs of various organists and ensemble configurations. In addition, this will allow the balcony piano to be moved to the same level as the organ.

## Insurance Company: Stairway and balcony railings need to be up to code

Our property insurer, Church Mutual, has recently conducted a periodic review of our facility including a risk analysis. Among the areas of concern was the wide gaps between the spokes in our railings which range from 9 – 11 inches while current safety codes allow no more than a 4 inch gap. Thus, the insurance company is requiring use to provide a *plan* for upgrading these railings in June. Though there had been a vision to make such changes in the balcony with the organ renovation, this safety review has pushed us to include the stairways, now totaling nearly 200 gaps that are too wide. The capital Campaign Committee is studying the issue and searching for a solution that is acceptable aesthetically, and from a safety perspective.

## Marquee Signs: Presentation at the Fellowship Hour, Sunday, May 31

A final plan for the replacement marquee signs on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Division, and along 7<sup>th</sup> Street has been developed and will be presented to the congregation during the Fellowship Hour following worship on Sunday, May 31. Please attend this session to see large format drawings and sample materials for the signs. We will then be working with the Washburn Neighborhood Association in preparation for the City of La Crosse permitting process.

## Bathroom Renovation for Accessibility

The RIC (Reconciling in Christ) national office recently reviewed our work to be a welcoming congregation. Among the recommendations they have made is that we consider having a unisex bathroom in addition to the traditional gender specific bathrooms. This would provide a more welcoming restroom for those whose gender identities do not fit well in traditional gendered bathrooms, and would provide an appropriate space for mothers to take their sons, and fathers their daughter, to the restroom. We are currently exploring renovation of the “paper room” (adjacent to the main church offices) which once was a single fixture bathroom, for this purpose. Thus, the major renovation of the existing bathrooms has been delayed until this option can be explored.

Additional details regarding our campaign are available on the OSLC website's ([www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net](http://www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)) Capital Campaign tab.

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### Capital Campaign 2014-17

