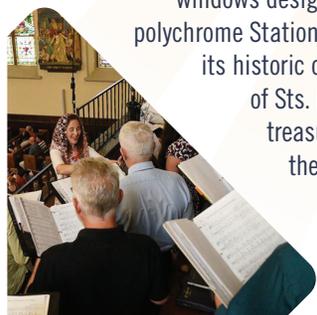


THE *Basilica* OF  
STs. PETER & PAUL

**PLANNING STUDY FACT SHEET**

*History*

For 130 years, the church of Sts. Peter and Paul has served as a focal point of the Catholic faith in the Chattanooga area. Dedicated in 1890, when the population of Chattanooga was less than 30,000 people, it is the mother parish of many East Tennessee Catholic parishes. In 2011, the church was named a minor basilica by Pope Benedict XVI. Long recognized for its beautiful architecture, stained-glass windows designed by Tiffany, the polychrome Stations of the Cross and its historic organ, The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul is a treasure for Catholics in the Chattanooga area and the Diocese of Knoxville.



**PRESERVATION**

Preservation of the Basilica is a strategic priority for Sts. Peter and Paul. Recent restoration projects included the installation of a new altar, with Sequatchie blue marble top, the addition of hand carved reredos behind the two side altars, with niches to display the Basilica's newly acquired relics, the removal of the carpet and the installation of wood floors in the sanctuary as well as the uncovering of the original heart pine floors in the nave.

In addition, the Basilica pipe organ, which is the oldest still in use in Chattanooga and prized by the local community, was finally completed, with the installation of the final two ranks of pipes that were planned in its original design. These renovations have enhanced the beauty and functionality of the Basilica and will be appreciated by generations to come. With these projects completed, it is now time to address some maintenance needs and consider improvements that will help grow the parish and will help secure these facilities for the next generation.

*(over)*

# OUR *Needs*

## **Roof and Gutter Replacement**

***Estimated Cost: \$650,000***

The Basilica is currently experiencing leaks in several areas of the roof. Evidence of the leaks can be seen along the interior walls in a couple of locations where damage is starting to occur. Roof and gutter replacement are a key priority to prevent future damage to the Basilica. Once this maintenance is done, some of the interior windows and plaster need to be fixed to resolve damage already incurred.

## **Heating and A/C | *Estimated Cost: \$750,000***

Another key priority in maintaining the Basilica is updating the HVAC system. The current system was installed in the 60s. It is well past its expected lifetime and is extremely inefficient. A new heating and air conditioning system will keep the church more comfortable, especially on extremely warm and cold days. In addition, the new system will be more efficient, providing energy savings in the coming years.

## **St. Dominic Religious**

**Education Building | *Estimated Cost for renovations: \$400,000 | Estimated Cost of new HVAC: \$100,000***

Finding space for meetings and activities at Sts. Peter and Paul has become a significant challenge. One plan devised to help with this problem is to renovate the third floor of the St. Dominic RE building. Currently used primarily for storage, renovations would turn this area into usable space that would be available for office and meeting space that would assist the parish in the many space needs we are experiencing. In addition to the proposed renovation, the RE building also needs a new HVAC system to replace an old, inefficient system.

## **Proposed Bridge Building | *Estimated Cost: \$2 million***

Currently, the parish only has one large meeting area. That has created conflicts and hindered the ability for several parish ministries to hold group meetings. Ministries large and small would benefit from additional, flexible meeting space. Parish leaders are considering a "Bridge" building that would connect the church with the current RE building. This building would provide flexible meeting space for parish ministries and other small, medium and large gatherings. The building would be equipped with the latest technology and the amenities needed to accommodate a variety of meetings and activities.

## **YOUR INPUT IS**

# *Needed*

For The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul to continue its mission, it is important that we address these strategic priorities. We are preparing for a capital campaign to fund these projects. First, we need to hear from you. With the help of the Steier Group, a national, Catholic fundraising firm, we are conducting a planning study. We ask that everyone in the parish participate in this survey process. The study will allow us to gauge support for these projects and determine a realistic fundraising goal. If asked, please take part in an interview. If sent a survey, please fill it out and return it, or go online to complete it.

