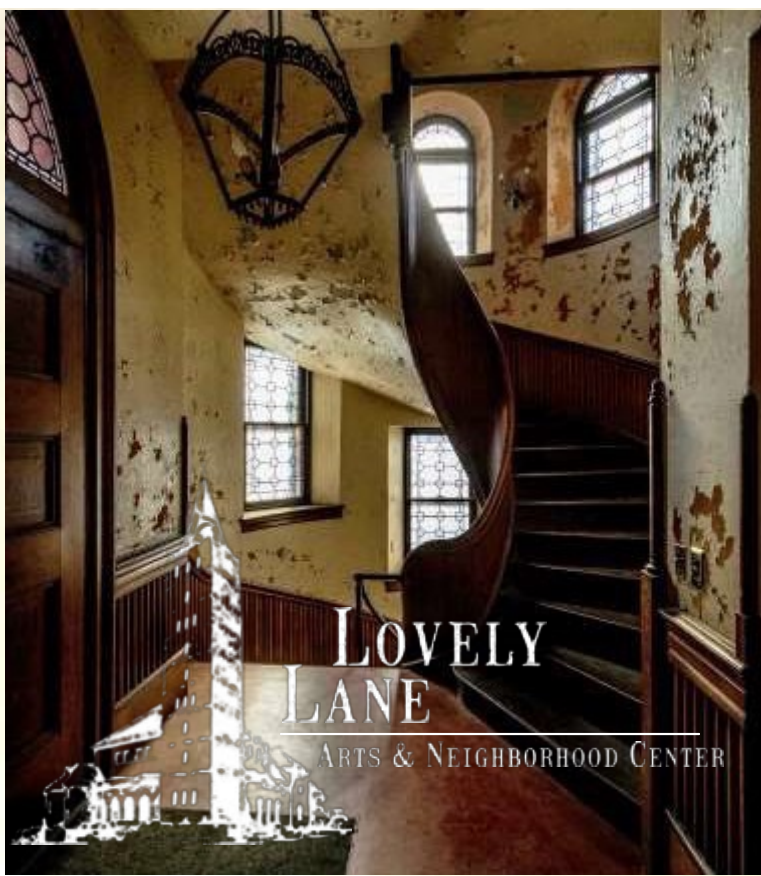




South Tower Staircase



Brannan Chapel

Churches are Neighborhood Anchors

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church is a monument that defines local Baltimore history as well as the larger history of Methodism in the United States. Known as the Mother Church of American Methodism, the 1884 building by famed architect Stanford White is a monument that draws hundreds of visitors every year.

However, Lovely Lane is much more than a place of worship and a work of art. Prior to the pandemic, the church hosted in 2019 over 750 participants representing over 40 educational, cultural, recreational, citizen, community volunteer and performing arts groups of all faiths and backgrounds. By providing access to lodging, arts exhibition space, and recreational facilities, Lovely Lane supports programs that foster community and serve our city's students and youth. However, limitations of the aging facility increasingly restrict its use.

The Campaign

The creation of the **Lovely Lane Arts & Neighborhood Center** within the walls of our historic building offers a year-round facility with 21st century capacity. The completed and future upgrades will preserve the building's historic fabric while modernizing spaces, and increasing the church's capacity to host community groups, performing arts events, and arts and cul exhibits.

The project is transforming Lovely Lane's architecturally complex structure to maximize community use. It allows Lovely Lane to continue operating sustainably while serving as an anchor in the Old Goucher neighborhood.

The \$3+ million project has already achieved important success. An initial \$250,000 grant award in October 2020 from the National Fund for Sacred Places (NFSP) allowed church leaders to raise funds from both public and private sources to finance the \$1.6 million completion of Phase 1. As of Fall 2023, we are actively pursuing a \$1.5 million dollar goal to incrementally undertake Phase 2 work as funds are raised.

The project is divided into three phases:

Phase 1a (2020 - 2021) - \$750,000* (leveraged by capital grant from NFSP)

Construct handicap-accessible, street-level ramp **COMPLETE**

Install four additional public restrooms **COMPLETE**

Restore windows of the Brannan Chapel (exhibition space) **COMPLETE**

Phase 1b (2021-2022) - \$850,000*

Update electrical capacity and safety systems **COMPLETE**

Install air conditioning system and new flat roof in Fellowship Hall (auditorium) **COMPLETE**

Phase 2 (2023 - ?) - \$1.5 million*

Install upgraded building security **WORK IN PROGRESS**

Upgrade gymnasium restrooms and locker rooms

Upgrade 2nd Floor classroom air conditioning equipment

Restore the South Tower entrance and historic staircase

Install air conditioning system inside the Brannan Chapel (exhibition space)

Restore floors and finishes of the Brannan Chapel

*** Budget figures include both hard and soft costs.**

By investing in the revitalization of Lovely Lane UMC's community spaces, we will not only preserve an invaluable piece of Baltimore's heritage but also enhance the role the church plays in strengthening our community's future.



Brannan Chapel



1st Floor Plans



Fellowship Hall



Restored sanctuary



Baltimore Folk Music Society dancers in Fellowship Hall



To learn more about how you can help us complete our work, please contact:

Lovely Lane UMC at lovelylanecenter@gmail.com

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