

Our Lady of Consolation Church

Our Lady of Consolation Church, affectionately known as OLC, is Charlotte's only historically African American parish, with approximately 400 active parishioners. OLC has launched a \$2 million capital campaign to convert its former school building into a learning center that would serve the community as well as parishioners. The campaign has been launched to make necessary building repairs to mitigate further deterioration of the buildings, including major roof leaks, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and flooring work. The lack of these repairs and consequential issues have curtailed the use of the main Sanctuary for daily, Saturday and Sunday Mass. Additionally, this displacement has prevented the parish from having and developing needed programs for its members and the surrounding community.

The surrounding neighborhood north of uptown Charlotte has markedly changed since the church was built in 1955 – and sits in an area that is robust with urban redevelopment. Parish leaders are excited about the possibilities the old school could offer the growing number of young people, the elderly and newcomers moving in nearby. Forced to close in 1988 due to dwindling enrollment, the 12,000-square-foot building has fallen into disrepair over the years. The capital campaign's first phase would transform the building with a new roof, windows and handicapped-accessible entrance, as well as enable much-needed foundation repairs; major updates to the building's HVAC, electrical and plumbing systems; renovated bathrooms; and new flooring, paint and furniture throughout.

OLC is in the center of change and it is important for it to support those in the community who are challenged by access issues and to ensure they are not left behind. A community learning center would be a resource and "beacon of hope and strength" in the community geared to the underserved – the elderly, children and programs to address healthcare disparities. OLC has been a staple and system of support for residents of the Statesville Avenue corridor since the 1950s... Improvement of the facilities will allow OLC to expand the spiritual and community work of the Church. So, please help the campaign and make a donation today. THE TIME IS NOW.

Help the campaign:

Visit www.ourladyofconsolation.org/capital-campaign: Learn more about Our Lady of Consolation Church and its campaign to renovate its old school and contribute securely online. Donations can also be mailed to 1235 Badger Court, Charlotte, N.C. 28206. Questions? Contact the parish office at 704-375-4339.

RENDERINGS

