

## TURNING VISION INTO REALITY

We seek to make a place for grace for those yet to come and for those in need. We live in God's abundance and our lives are overflowing. We want to give ourselves away in grace-filled service to those in need. We seek to make a place for grace for the next generation. We are thankful for God's faithfulness over the last 60 years and invite you to generously live into this future with your prayers, your energy and your financial resources. This bold claim of making room for grace will be made real by our mutual support of this campaign and the thoughtful giving of members who have found grace and want to continue to usher this ministry into the future. Please prayerfully consider your generous response to this bold vision for making a place for grace.

# making a place *for grace*



Grace Lutheran Church  
3149 Waverley Street | Palo Alto, CA 94306



Grace Lutheran Church

*Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

## OUR STORY BEGINS

Over 60 years ago, faithful pioneers sensed God's call to form a community of faith in Palo Alto. They boldly set out to build a church to share God's word with the community around them. Our founding members made a place for grace—in their hearts, minds, and physically at 3149 Waverley Street. The sacrificial response of those early members left a legacy that has served Christ through two generations. Grace Lutheran Church has become a key congregation in Silicon Valley and a beacon for our tradition on the Peninsula, sharing the grace of God through word and action.

In recent years, we have become challenged by time. Time has taken its toll on Grace's mature campus, with some parts aging less graciously than others. Significant deferred facility maintenance now needs attention. Time is often in short supply in today's frenetic pace of life. Busy lives and hectic schedules make it increasingly difficult for people to navigate their way to Grace outside of Sundays. This inhibits our ability to build the kind of community and trusted relationships with one another that we long for in our congregation.

Grace Lutheran Church is called to be an inviting and diverse Christian community, embracing our Lutheran tradition in ways that are faithful and innovative, that makes disciples through worship, education, and service to all creation. The people of Grace shared their thoughts about our community through an anonymous survey, focus groups, and individual conversations. Several themes emerged from this feedback: Grace is a welcoming community that highly values worship and music; there is a desire for deepened relationships and faith formation; busy lives make getting to Grace outside of Sundays challenging; our current campus does not embody the sense of hospitality and community people feel here; and, we have a strong passion for service and mission.



## THE VISION FOR GRACE

Making a place for grace is a process that never quite ends. It's an ongoing effort that calls us to be intentional; for our faith life together, for our sense of welcome, for our service to others, and for the care for our campus. The vision for this campaign is to enlarge the narthex, renovate the parking lot, repair the sanctuary roof and steeple, site work related to these projects, and benevolence opportunities aligned with the interests and priorities of the members of Grace. We seek to welcome everyone to Grace Lutheran Church; familiar faces and new. An enlarged and welcoming narthex will provide a clearer entrance to our place of worship and create a large, beautiful space that encourages conversation, gathering, and community. Worship is the core of our community and the common point of connection, making the narthex and sanctuary the central part of campus. Enlarging the narthex enhances its utility, making it a versatile place for Grace and a wide open door to the community.

To be good stewards of what was given to us by our preceding Grace family, it is time to address the parking lot, sanctuary roof, and steeple. Performing necessary maintenance on these parts of our campus allows us and future generations to benefit from our beautiful sanctuary.

Benevolence and service are key parts of what makes Grace Lutheran Church the warm, vibrant, and accepting community it is. Aligned with what we do annually in the operating budget, ten percent of dollars raised in this campaign will go toward benevolence opportunities that will be developed with input from the congregation. We also seek to physically engage our community by including elements of sweat-equity opportunities so that we can build relationships with one another and understand what it means to be, literally, making a place for grace. While these projects, including our existing debt, are projected to cost \$4,050,000, we hope in this campaign to raise \$1,650,000 or more over three years toward this vision, with ten percent of funds raised to go toward benevolence opportunities. More funds raised in this campaign will allow us a smaller mortgage moving forward.

*through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.*