



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming! Affirming! Loving!

Rev. Jessica Shields, Pastor ~ peacepastorshields@gmail.com

August 6, 2018

Elderly Person's Assistance Fund
NEOS Executive Committee – ELCA
1890 Bailey Road
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-5259

Dear Committee:

Attached you will find an application for the Elderly Person's Assistance Fund for \$5000 for Peace Lutheran Church.

Peace Lutheran Church in Cleveland Heights, OH, is a merger of Bethlehem Lutheran & Hope Lutheran churches, and is now formally applying for this grant to help our senior congregants navigate the churches internal construction and become accessible in the areas of restrooms and entryways. This would avoid any potential injuries to those people using walkers and/or wheelchairs and other persons with special needs.

Peace Lutheran church has recently added an elevator to accommodate those congregants with special needs. Additionally, this restroom renovation will allow us to reach out into the community and invite handicapped people to our church for services, meal programs and other church outreach programs. More funding is now needed to continue this process to ensure full accessibility {see attached project proposal – Initial Accessibility changes recommended for Peace Lutheran church written by Steve Hansler of Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio}. MAHO is an outgrowth of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries of Cleveland.

Peace Lutheran has a majority of senior congregants and as such needs to accommodate them as they grow older by installing safer accommodations so that they may participate more fully in the recreational, spiritual and other activities at Peace. We believe this request will directly benefit the congregation and meets the spirit of the bequest language.

If, after reading this request, you have any questions and/or comments, please do not hesitate to call me at 216.904.6773..

Yours in Christ,

Paul R. Lund

Peace Lutheran Council Member

Grant Application
Elderly Person's Assistance Fund
Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA

"The Ederly Persons' Assistance Fund shall exist for the care and assistance of disabled children to provide them with monetary help, medical help, food, clothing, and recreation."

Date Aug 1, 2018
Program/Project name Restroom - ADA Compliance
ELCA Congregation or Partner Agency Peace Lutheran Church - (Cleve. Hts)
Contact Person PAUL R. LUND / James Fox
Address 3740 Mayfield Rd
City Cleveland Heights, Ohio Zipcode 44121
Telephone 216-382-4545 cell / home work (circle one)
Email peaceclehts@gmail.com
Is this a new grant request or
 a request for a renewal in a previous year's grant? _____ year(s) received

This program/project will assist elderly persons in the areas of: (check all that apply)
 food clothing recreation medical help monetary help
Age of recipient(s) Seniors (~65-?)

Program/Project Description

Use this space to detail your program/project. Make sure to highlight partnerships with congregations, community, and/or individuals. If this is a request for a renewal, indicate how the funds were helpful in the success of the project/program. Use additional pages as necessary.

In partnership with Peace Lutheran Church (Cle Hts) it is the intent to increase the accessibility of the Church of the church for everyone, but especially those with physical limitations. Changes to be made would be
1 - Building Entry - the door is difficult for everyone to enter a push button to activate the door will be needed both inside and outside. A contractor will be needed.
2 - Restroom accessibility - One bathroom will be made ADA compliant while the remaining 3 will be made walker friendly

Total Program/Project Cost \$7500
Amount Requested \$5000

Please supply funding and expense estimates on back. Priority is given to those projects/programs that secure funding from a partnership with local entities or individuals.

Funding:

Peace Lutheran - 2500
Elderly Persons Assistance
FUND - 5000

Total 7500.00

Expenses

Contractors:

FRONT Door - 2500
Conversion of
Restroom for
ADA Compliance
(Door Frame - etc) - 3000

Items:

Items for ADA compliance - 2000
(grab bars,
high seated
toilets, lever
sinks, lower
switches, etc)

\$7500

Initial Accessibility changes recommended for Peace Lutheran Church

July 2018

With the elevator almost finished, it is time to think about other changes that should be made to Peace Lutheran Church (PLC) to increase the accessibility of the church for everyone, but especially those with physical limitations.

Paul Lund and Steve Hansler reviewed the current situation and recommend the following as the most important and significant changes to be made in the short term

The primary entry is a red 42 inch door with 15 inches on the lock side so that is good in terms of accessibility. However, that door is difficult for almost everyone to open. The recommendation is that an automatic door opener should be installed. This may require a new door closer. [Note; There is already electric power near the door so that will help keep costs down.] A push button to activate the door will be needed both inside and outside. The main complicating issue to address is security concerns. How can we ensure that the door is locked and the door opener only works at the hours we want it to yet so a visitor coming for a meeting or event can still use the opener? A contractor should be familiar with these concerns and have ways to approach them.

The other main change to be made at the entry is for the doorbell/intercom. The current intercom with the camera that connects to the office is mounted too high. There is also something labeled as a doorbell that is mounted too high. We need a way to reach the office that is mounted at an easy to reach height.

Our guesstimated cost for these building entry improvements is \$2500.

Restroom Accessibility

After assessing the 4 restrooms at PLC, we believe that we can make one of them close to fully accessible and significantly increase the accessibility of two others including making them "walker" accessible. This is our recommendation:

The upper floor south women's room would not be changed.

Basement south women's restroom would become a fully accessible family restroom: This is the currently designated "accessible" restroom and is the only restroom that can easily be made close to fully accessible. A contractor will be needed for this.

The current doorway is only 28 inches wide which is far too narrow. The opening needs to be increased as much as possible, hopefully to 36 inches. Swing clear hinges should be used. We are limited by the fact that it is against the wall on one side and there is plumbing and electric on the other side. The new door should have an easy to operate turn or slide lock that shows "occupied and vacant" to the outside. It should be able to be opened from the outside with a screwdriver or other tool in case of emergency.

The wall mounted sink inside the door will need to move to the left as you face it. If possible, it should be at least 12 inches from the new door and should be mounted so that the top is 31 to 32" off the ground. A single lever handle faucet should be installed. The paper towel holder should be mounted at an accessible height. A light switch inside the door may need to be relocated, possibly to the outside.

The accessible toilet stall is mostly okay as it is. We will need to have grab bars on both sides of the stall. The grab bars should start 12 inches from the back wall and extend at least 24 inches past the front of the toilet bowl. The toilet paper holder may need to be relocated. A raised toilet seat should be considered.

The other stall can remain as is.

New signage will be needed designating this restroom as the accessible family restroom.

North restrooms upper and basement: These are currently designated as the men's rooms. They should be converted to unisex single user restrooms. The accessibility of them can be very easily increased so that they are usable by someone using a walker. This is important because they are closer to where the elevator and it is a long way to the south end of the building if you are using a walker. What needs to be done:

The partition next to the toilet should be removed so that the toilet is open to the room. A grab bar should be added to the long wall and behind the toilet. We may want to consider a raised toilet seat for one of the two. The lower one would be a better choice for that as that door is a little but wider.

The urinal does not need to be removed.

Since the toilet will now be open, these are single user bathrooms and a lock should be put on the door. It will likely require drilling into the frame. It should be an easy to operate turn or slide lock that shows "occupied and vacant" to the outside. It should be able to be opened from the outside with a screwdriver or other tool in case of emergency. The doors should have swing clear hinges added as these will add about two inches to the clearance making it easier for a walker to get through.

Sinks should be okay as is but single lever handle faucets would help with accessibility. Paper towel holders should be relocated to a more accessible location. New signage will be needed.

This an extremely low cost way to add accessibility to these toilets.

Guesstimated cost of \$3000 for restroom accessibility and an additional \$2000 for items such as grab bars, high seated toilets, levered sinks, lower switches, etc.

Other

The above items are the most important ones. Other changes have to do with attitude and awareness and we recommend a Sunday dedicated to this sometime in the fall after the above is done. PLC spent a significant amount of money on the elevator. The elevator was a necessary part of making the church accessible; it is not enough on its own. The items mentioned in this report are the next steps