

A word on the former Trinity Lutheran parking lots,

With a heavy heart, we must announce that we will barricade our former parking lot.

For many years, we had a happy, informal arrangement; our parking lot was available to folks attending events at Bracewell Stadium and the Clark Field House. We were very happy to make those lots available for public use. As a church, we purchased and paved those lots with faithful member's hard-earned money. Sharing that resource was truly a source of pride.

Sadly, though, after the 2019 boiler explosion, those lots ceased to be parking lots. Now, all of the property is part of a work site. Last year, after the demolition of our beloved sanctuary, we posted no trespassing signs on the property. However, given excitement and routine, those notices went largely unnoticed.

We do not live in a time when we can look the other way and hope for the best. We must make clear that the property is no longer open to the public. That is why we must regrettably block the entrance to all the parking lots.

This decision goes against the Christian principle of generosity. And it goes against our whole-hearted support of our beloved community, too. We do not come to this decision lightly.

In fact, before taking this action, we reached out to community partners. It was our firm hope that we could avoid blocking the lots. We wanted to find a way to make the property a truly public resource. And we still do.

So far, though, nothing has come of those conversations. As such, at this point, we have no alternatives. We must make clear that the property is no longer open to the public.

Of course, we remain open to any future discussion. And we have contracted with Midwest Realty Group to facilitate any potential arrangements. The folks there have been extremely helpful. We want to thank them for their caring listening, thoughtful input, and professional help. We are confident that if something can be negotiated, Midwest Realty Group is the right organization to lead the process.

We understand the inconvenience. We do not relish the thought of closing something that has brought us so much pride and joy over the years. But we must make it clear that the lots are no longer open to the public. We sincerely hope everyone can understand our predicament and respect this unpleasant decision.

Thank you,

The members of Trinity Lutheran, now worshipping with members of Faith Lutheran on Sunnyside Ave, soon to form a combined congregation as Unity Lutheran