When it comes to erecting edifices that make no common sense, large public and private institutions are all ‘birds of the same feather.’ Spoken or implicit, the message comes through: ‘Let the peasants be damned.’

– William Worthy, journalist

BY BRAD PASS

An estimated two hundred community members came together on the last day of November to hear two plans, the City Plan and the Community Plan, for the Roof Depot Site at the intersection of the Midtown Greenway and E 28th St in South Minneapolis. They came together to exercise their right as defined by the first principal of community engagement, passed by the Minneapolis City Council in 2007; “Public participation is based on belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.”

City representatives Lisa Cerney and Mark Ruff gave a presentation explaining the critical importance of providing safe and reliable water and sewer for the city and the need for a new facility from which to operate.

Community members including State Rep. Karen Clark, EPIC Board President Carol Pass, C.M. Alondra Cano, all members of the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) with help from Hennepin County Commissioner Debby Goettel and Dean Dovolis – founder of DJR Architecture, Inc. presented the Community Plan. They pointed out the horrific health consequences this economically challenged and racially diverse community suffers as a result of years of unrelenting pollution, both vehicular and industrial. They explained that the Community plan will provide a buffer between residential housing and the activities in the proposed water yard; that the Indoor Urban Farm with East Phillips World Café and Farm Store along with the affordable bike repair shop will create good paying, meaningful jobs for the community and the entire plan will take up only 3 acres of the combined city property in the “Hiawatha” site of 16.42 Acres. That’s just 18.27% of the Total Public Works land in our neighborhood. The presentation was punctuated with a slide show showing pictures and renderings of the Community and its Plan.

After food, provided by Papi Fiesco and the Jubba Grill and paid for by C.M. Cano’s Office, a vote was taken. Of the estimated 150 neighbors who voted, it was nearly unanimous in favor of the Community Plan. Two opposed, probably because they thought the community should have the entire 7+ acres of the Roof Depot Site, and one abstention.

Thanks to all who attended. It was an inspiring evening. Our work is just beginning!

The Roof Depot Site: East Phillips Institute 3 Acre Plan Decision

EPNI, East Phillips Institute, is a collaboration of Tamales y Bicicletas, DJR Architecture, the East Phillips Improvement Coalition-EPIC, Little Earth of United Tribes, Somali Family Chemical Awareness, Precision Green Houses, Women’s Environmental Institute and many neighbors. A comprehensive future-oriented plan has been formed. The collaborators on the Indoor Urban Farm project came together under the name East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) and sought and received a planning grant of $319,000 from the State of Minnesota because of the project’s job creating potential for this challenged area and population.
Messiah: Raised or Razed?

UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE MESSIAH PROPERTY
Nov. 30, 2017: When a property owner applies for a demolition permit, the City of Minneapolis has 10 minutes to determine if the property is listed on a list of buildings “of historic interest” and if on that list the Mpls. Heritage Preservation Commission has recommend it be considered. The City Council must then decide pursuant any further. By unanimous vote, Messiah Church building owner Shirley and Randi Church, gave assurances that the congregation is seeking a buyer for the church and has no intention of demolishing it. The decision is now up to the City Council of Minneapolis Planning Commission. The opinion was for Messiah’s 6th Ward Council Member Abdi Warsame’s unanimous vote after 6th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman cautioned members of Messiah’s congregation that the recommendation does not give permission to demolish the church. The Motion by Warsame’s that the church is not a landmark, it will no longer be considered a building of historic significance, and it can be administratively seized without benefit of a public hearing. Messiah members, David Shirley and Randi Church, gave assurances that the congregation is seeking a buyer for the church and has no intention of demolishing it. Will Messiah do its part to respect the Minneapolis Preservation building was considered to merit unanimous vote, Messiah Church Commission is requested to owner applies for a demolition permit can be issued administratively seized without benefit of a public hearing. Messiah members, David Shirley and Randi Church, gave assurances that the congregation is seeking a buyer for the church and has no intention of demolishing it. Messiah Church’s compelling interior Architectural Art by Architect

Preserving Immigrant History

BY LINDSEY FENNER
One block from the elaborate American Swedish Institute mansion is a more modest landmark of the Swedish immigrants who made their homes in the Phillips neighborhood. The Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2501 Columbus Avenue South, was once a social center for the center. The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, nominated the building for consideration. Built in 1916, the building was designed by local architect, Harry Wild Jones, a Phillipson who serves the on the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, nominated the building for consideration. The future of this historic building worshiping remains uncertain. It is not clear if or how the building is being marketed. Apparently, a previous offer from Children’s MN Hospital was contingent on it being demolished by the City of Minneapolis to the Congregation. The current high price of land downtown Minneapolis means that the church building is likely to be demolished for new buildings.

One hundred years ago, the building was settled and continuing today. The foundation of any civilization must be the continuing struggle for justice and morality. - William Worthy The Rape of our Neighborhoods: and How Communities are Resisting Take-overs by Colleges, Hospitals, Businesses, and Public Agencies.

Church merits Historic Status

BY BOB ROCES
In 1916 the cornerstone was laid for the Messiah Lutheran Church at the intersection of 25th Street and Columbus Avenue South in South Minneapolis, designed by Harry Wild Jones, a leading Minneapolis architect. Messiah’s interior present Jones’s lavish use of wood, with pointed arches and stained glass windows, including a 25th Street and Columbus Avenue South in South Minneapolis, Designed by Harry Wild Jones, a leading Minneapolis architect. Messiah’s interior present Jones’s lavish use of wood, with pointed arches and stained glass windows, including a 100-year-old church building, complete with its Gothic Revival architectural features, including three stained glass windows blown and many intricate stained glass windows above and behind the altar to the interior a graceful space. Perhaps the most splendid interior architectural feature is the system of wood hammer beam trusses, supported by the seven five-story tall, sizeable vertical members with buttressed bases. The church is a testament of Minneapolis. Church historian Susan Hunter Weir assembled a very informative historic designation document for the Minneapolis City Council to hopefully nominate the church as a historic landmark. Her nomination form notes the scholar, Martin Luther nailed a piece of paper with 95 opinions over the years? Will the Monopoly Community worked tirelessly to Messiah Congregation. Phillips 6th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman cautioned members of Messiah’s congregation that the recommendation does not give them permission to demolish the church. But the City Council determined that the church is not a landmark, it will no longer be considered a building of historic significance, and it can be administratively seized without benefit of a public hearing. Messiah members, David Shirley and Randi Church, gave assurances that the congregation is seeking a buyer for the church and has no intention of demolishing it. What happens next? The full Council will vote on the motion at its next meeting on Friday, December 8th, at 9:30 a.m. in 317 City Hall.

Church is 100 Years Old Luther nailed 95 Theses Congregation nailed Sale Sign

BY HARVEY WINE
Five hundred years ago, on October 31, 1517, the priest and scholar, Martin Luther nailed a piece of paper with 95 opinions to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. It would begin the Protestant Reformation.

The future of this historic build- ing of worshiping remains uncertain. It is not clear if or how the building is being marketed. Apparently, a previous offer from Children’s MN Hospital was contingent on it being demolished by the City of Minneapolis. The current high price of land downtown Minneapolis means that the church building is likely to be demolished for new buildings.

One hundred years ago, the building was settled and continuing today. The foundation of any civilization must be the continuing struggle for justice and morality. - William Worthy The Rape of our Neighborhoods: and How Communities are Resisting Take-overs by Colleges, Hospitals, Businesses, and Public Agencies.

Nine months ago, on June 21, 2016, the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission unanimously approved Commissioner Sue Hunter Weir’s nomination of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church located at 725 East 25th St., as a Landmark, established interim protection, and directed the Planning Director to have a designation study prepared. A Designation Study outlines the potential significance of a building or property, both individually and within the context of Minneapolis planning and heritage preservation goals. Studies are based on a review of resources including historic building permits, unpublished documents, community meeting minutes, newspaper articles, and archival materials from the Minneapolis Collection.
**How about a partnership to restore and/or repurpose?**

**BY JAY METGE**

So, I have to vent. I was baptized and confirmed Lutheran. The leadership at Messiah Lutheran Church has decided to demolish this glorious church located at 25th and Columbus. It is a Harry Wild Jones design. From left to right, it consists of the fabulous pipe organ. This is such a fabulous pipe organ. It is a Harry Wild Jones design. I wish to address just one assumption from your paper. As a long-time member of Messiah, I was very hurt by the intimations that our church is just “trash” and is not worth a darn. This is such a sad, sad situation. To me it seems inevitable that we will have to sell our property. But that does not mean that we are not responsibly caring for our building. After 100 years of occupancy, it is a daunting task to make sure the move to vacancy is done with the dignity and love that it deserves. This will all be done in God’s time. I pray that it doesn’t take too long. Sincerely, Ann E. Keating

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**Mission Driven: hard decision to sell Church forgetting past for future**

**BY LOUISE BRIT**

On March 15th, Messiah Lutheran Church put their historic church up for sale. This has not been an easy decision but the reality is as a church community we could no longer afford to maintain the Historic church building. It is in need of several repairs and as a Church Council, it has become abundantly clear that trying to maintain an aging building was not the best use of our resources. Messiah is not the thriving Swedish Immigrant Church of the past. We are a diverse, vibrant, worshipping community of the present. Our ancestors discerned that their call was to share the Gospel and Jesus Christ through service to our neighbors. This is still our mission and focus today as Messiah Lutheran Church. We strive to fulfill that mission by building beloved community in Christ, one person at a time. Whether we are a church or a building, we can all work together to enable us to continue our mission. We are open to anyone who would like to buy the property. I am very saddened by the outcry of members of the community who have not contributed to help maintain the building, who did not show up to listen to the sessions of crafts that were published on our webpage and in various printed materials, yet feel they have a voice in what may happen to the property. Moving forward I hope we can come together and celebrate the Sacred Words of Isaiah 43:18-19a: “Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am about to do something new.” Louise Brit is Pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church 612-287-8831 PrBritts@messianhmlps.org

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**Are We Our Building?**

**BY JON ANDERSON, BISHOP MN SW SYRRO ELCA ON FACEBOOK DEC. 3RD ’17**

Church buildings play an out-sized role in congregational identity. For example, most of us identify our churches by what we consider to be key physical characteristics. “We’re the big new church at the corner of 42nd and Grand,” or “We’re the church with the bright red doors near the Capitol.” Any congregation that leaves a well-known location, whether to be a church plant or to embark on a nomadic existence, needs to do the hard work of сохранивания our identity by what it is rather than by what it looks like or where it is located.

requesting an extension of up to six months to complete the review. Ultimately the decision will be up to the City of Minneapolis. “For Sale Sign,” is a metaphor as used here because the Congregation’s “for sale” sign is “to enter into negotiations.” And worse, the hospital. The corporation which had a Good Neighbor Agreement. Then, offering the church leadership big money to demolish this antiquity. Neither party respecting the history. The $800,000 offered would go a long way towards the reuse of this incredible structure designed by Harry Wild Jones; craftsman, ship to never be seen again. People should keep their history, the work of the elders, the responsibility to protect and maintain that asset. This is simply inexcusable. There is always money. There can always be a plan. It’s about leadership, partnership, doing what is right.

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**Church has Heritage value Needs qualified estimates**

**BY BOB ROSCOL, ON HIS FACEBOOK SITE DEC 30, 2017**

The Minneapolis City Council will likely vote on this issue this coming Friday. The Zoning & Planning Committee made a fundamental error by not recognizing the church’s heritage value to the neighborhood and city, and allow any potential demolition to be a separate issue. What was not considered was a realistic rehab cost estimate, instead of allowing the congregation leaders to project a cost not borne out by professional experienced experts

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**Last building on BLOCK 5 Lost Heritage & Trust**

**BY HARVEY WINJE**

Messiah Lutheran Evangelical Church Pastor, Dr. Rev. Leonard Kendall, has not been in tune with the bright red doors near the Capitol. This is such a sad, sad situation. Messiah is not the thriving Swedish Immigrant Church of the past. We are a diverse, vibrant, worshipping community of the present. Our ancestors discerned that their call was to share the Gospel and Jesus Christ through service to our neighbors. This is still our mission and focus today as Messiah Lutheran Church. We strive to fulfill that mission by building beloved community in Christ, one person at a time. Whether we are a church or a building, we can all work together to enable us to continue our mission. We are open to anyone who would like to buy the property. I am very saddened by the outcry of members of the community who have not contributed to help maintain the building, who did not show up to listen to the sessions of crafts that were published on our webpage and in various printed materials, yet feel they have a voice in what may happen to the property.

Moving forward I hope we can come together and celebrate the Sacred Words of Isaiah 43:18-19a: “Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am about to do something new.” Louise Brit is Pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church 612-287-8831 PrBritts@messianhmlps.org

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**59 Theses**

A unifying theme of the Hennepin County Library and Minnesota Historical Society. The Heritage Preservation Commission may vote on the church’s status as a landmark before June 21, 2017, but has the option of

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**Isaiah 43:18-19a**

**While hoping for Sale, Messiah’s pia-**

**nos to kids, hymnals to Africa, music to**

**churches, and archives to smaller boxes**

**Dear Editor,**

After speaking to you, I heard the church needs money for its roof and other expenses in the possible sale of the Historic Messiah Church.

I wish to address just one assumption from your paper. As a long-time member of Messiah, I was very hurt by the intimations that our church is just “trash” and is not worth a darn. This is such a sad, sad situation. To me it seems inevitable that we will have to sell our property. But that does not mean that we are not responsibly caring for our building. After 100 years of occupancy, it is a daunting task to make sure the move to vacancy is done with the dignity and love that it deserves. This will all be done in God’s time. I pray that it doesn’t take too long. Sincerely, Ann E. Keating

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Reprinted from The Alley Newspaper April 2017
Somali community gets on the air with KALY in Minneapolis

Prometheus Radio Project sparks community radio in the Twin Cities

A new radio station began broadcasting Somali music and Somali language talk programing in the Twin Cities October 9th 2015. The new Low Power FM station, KALY 101.7 FM began broadcasts from its South Minneapolis location on the Eid al-Adha holiday on September 24th. Prometheus Radio Project worked with the new station, operated by the nonprofit Somali American Community, to build the studio, install the broadcast equipment and train volunteers in its operation.

The station will provide basic information like weather updates as well as conversations about issues affecting the tens of thousands of Somali people in the state of Minnesota. “This is the first Somali FM radio station in the US and it’s in Minnesota,” said Mahamed Cali, Director of KALY, adding, “oh my goodness, everyone is excited!” KALY will help new immigrants navigate life in America with instruction on “how to communicate, how to order at a restaurant, talk to their landlord, how the system of education works, how the country works,” he said. The KALY station build concludes a summer residency in the Twin Cities during which Prometheus Technical Director Will Floyd worked with other Low Power FM stations in the area. In Saint Paul, Prometheus worked with the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council to build WEQY, now on the air at 104.5 FM on the east side of the city. Prometheus also provided organizational and technical support to two new Low Power FM projects slated to go on the air in 2016: WPNI operated by Frogtown Neighborhood Association and Center for Hmong Arts and Talent in Saint Paul, and another in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis operated by Pillsbury United Communities.

“In a media landscape dominated by national networks and click bait headlines, low power FM is media at its most local,” said Will Floyd, Technical Director for the Prometheus Radio Project. “Stations like KALY and WEQY return local flavor to our media and are part of a larger movement of localization and community investment.”

The KALY and WEQY station builds are the culmination of years of collaboration between the Prometheus Radio Project and Twin Cities nonprofits. Prometheus began outreach efforts to spread the word about the one-time-only Low Power FM opportunity to community groups around the US in 2012. Prometheus also provided extensive engineering support and legal resources to groups in the Twin Cities, and over 300 across the nation, to prepare them for successful radio permit applications.

These new Low Power FM stations, particularly those in urban areas, are a victory for the Prometheus Radio Project and its supporters, who led the grassroots coalition that pushed Congress to pass the Local Community Radio Act of 2010. The law expanded Low Power FM opportunity to community groups in urban areas, are a victory for the Prometheus Radio Project and its supporters, who led the grassroots coalition that pushed Congress to pass the Local Community Radio Act of 2010. The law expanded Low Power FM opportunity to community groups in urban areas.

At 15th & East Lake St. Coffee Shop and HOBT GIFT SALE

Every day see this Coffee Shop being built next to Qurectow Restaurant and for two days across the street shop In the Heart of the Beast’s Holiday Sale! at 1500 E. Lake St. on Dec. 8th and 9th— preview night Fri., 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm This is a preview night for folks who want first dibs at the Holiday Sale! There is a suggested donation of $5 at the door. The Sale continues through Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM with no entrance fee. Our community of 28 brilliant artists will be selling their wares and fairs in our lobby. And, of course, HOBT swag and tickets will be available to fill up those stockings. Live Music. Hot Cider & Popcorn. Amazing Raffle. Family friendly. A portion of all proceeds will benefit HOBT programming. Please note: some of the participating artists will only be accepting cash.

WINTER COAT DRIVE: New or gently used winter coats will be collected during both days of the Holiday Sale. All coat donations will be donated to Little Earth of United Tribes youth.

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LAS POSADAS 2017
Iglesia Luterana
San Pablo St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
2742 15th Ave S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407
December 16, 2017
4:00 pm

The Alley Newspaper • December 2017

* I have gradually come to the conclusion that, in terms of remaking the U.S. into a peaceful and humane society, where defenseless people are not trampled on, it is just as important to stop the imperialistic type of expansion of institutions in this and other communities as it is to stop our aggressive warfare in Vietnam.* – William Worthy