

# Accessibilities Proposal

## The Situation

- Many older congregants and visitors have difficulty or are completely unable to attend Sunday worship services because they can't climb our steps.
- Our one fully accessible space, the chapel, has no bathroom access.
- We are losing income from rentals, including weddings, due to our lack of accessibility.
- Our congregation has been seeking a solution to this situation for over 25 years.
- An elevator, which would provide full accessibility, has an estimated cost of at least \$500,000 (based on the cost of an elevator in a similar Gothic Revival church in New Haven, CT serving only two levels – we need three - which cost \$360,000 in 2015).

## The Proposal

- A wheelchair lift from Monroe Place to the west door of the sanctuary.
- A chairlift from the chapel to the undercroft. (Available headroom does not allow for a wheelchair lift.)

The wheelchair lift to the sanctuary portion of the project includes:

- Obtaining approval from Landmarks Commission, which has indicated that it is very open to helping religious institutions become physically accessible to their congregants. This will be managed by our architect.
- Creating a new gate in our fence on the Monroe Place side, between the garbage entrance and Pierrepont Street.
- Creating a ramp from the new Monroe Place to a level area – also to be created – for the wheelchair lift base. This will be designed by our architect and is the part of the project where there are the most unknowns.
- Making the West entrance to the sanctuary exclusively for lift users.

## Estimated Cost

<u>Wheelchair Lift to Sanctuary</u>	
Architect	\$ 20,000
Lift Manufacture and Installation	50,000
Electrical Work	3,000
Entrance Gate and <u>Ramp to base of lift</u>	25,000
Total	\$98,000
Chairlift from Chapel to Undercroft	10,000
<u>Contingencies</u>	<u>17,000</u>
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>