

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CASE FOR SUPPORT

The Second Century Commitment.

\$2,000,000 CAMPAIGN GOAL

"For all within its reach."

— OPENING

For as long as Gobin Church has stood at the corner of Seminary and Locust Streets, it has opened its arms in hospitality toward all within its reach.



*Now, the time has come for us to
open our own arms in grateful response.*

Join us as we honor Gobin's legacy and commit to a new century of hope, justice, beauty, and love.

*A critical moment in the life of **Gobin Church***

"The Second Century Commitment" represents a critical moment in the life of Gobin Church. Not only will this capital campaign support a comprehensive restoration of Gobin's historic structure, but it will also prepare it for a robust future of ministry and service.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PLANNED WORK

01 Structural Soundness

Ensuring the long-term structural integrity of the church by replacing the original slate roof and gutters, restoring the historic windows, and repairing damage to the brick masonry, limestone, and foundation.

02 Sanctuary Elegance & Acoustics

Preserving the sanctuary's historic elegance and renowned acoustics through restoration of decorative mortar, improvements to noise-reduction ventilation, repair of moisture-damaged plaster, renovation of the ceiling, and repainting of the interior.

03 Radical Hospitality

Advancing the church's mission of radical hospitality by replacing the air-conditioning system, repairing radiators, installing step handrails, and creating a new ADA-compliant entrance.





A JOYFUL AFFIRMATION

These updates go far beyond maintenance. They serve as a joyful affirmation of longevity, sacrifice, and that most blessed kind of brokenness that comes only as a result of selflessly loving others.

Whether you're well acquainted with Gobin or a relative newcomer to the place it occupies within the Greencastle and DePauw University communities, we invite you to encounter this space afresh — not as a mere building, but as a living presence whose impact continues to be broadly felt.



Five Pillars of Gobin's Identity

A CONVENER OF WORSHIP

A steadfast companion to generations of spiritual pilgrims who have found hope within its walls.

A SERVANT OF THE COMMUNITY

Extending radical hospitality through local partnerships that meet real needs and build stronger community.

AN ADVOCATE FOR THE ARTS

Celebrating beauty and creativity through music, performance, and the arts in all their forms.

A CARETAKER OF HISTORY

Stewarding a treasured landmark so its story and significance endure for generations.

A VISIONARY FOR THE FUTURE

Preparing Gobin for the next century of ministry, community, and impact.

— I. A CONVENER

Gobin Church, a convener of *worship.*

A steadfast companion to generations of spiritual pilgrims who have found hope within its walls.

— I. CONTINUED

Since its earliest days, Gobin Church has faithfully borne witness to the most sacred expressions of God's people — their prayers and hymns, their sermons and benedictions, their laments and thanksgivings, their creeds and confessions.

On some days, its well-worn floors shake beneath the feet of those who rejoice; on others, they collect the tears of those who grieve. This is a space for all who seek meaning through transcendence and worship, a space where the divine mystery meets the historic liturgies of the Christian faith and the United Methodist tradition.

Gobin is so much more than the sum of its bricks and shingles. It is a steadfast companion to generations of spiritual pilgrims who have found hope within its walls.

The people and leadership of Gobin always leave space for all feelings, understandings, and types of encounters with God. There is always room for joy and sorrow simultaneously, which is incredibly affirming and real. The congregation is made up of very kind people who continue to seek hope and healing, often despite painful experiences with church in the past. And they always welcome neurodiversity, all aspects of identity, and even diversity in belief in a way that I've never seen at another Christian church.

— Meghan Meadows

Worshipping at Gobin for the past 25 years has both developed and maintained my faith. Sermons and study groups have powerfully informed my understanding of how scripture can guide my life, and being in the prayerful community of the Gobin congregation continually affirms my commitment to social justice.

— Barbara Jackson



II. A SERVANT

Gobin Church, a servant of the *community.*

Gobin isn't busy only on Sundays.

— II. CONTINUED

Whether it's hosting a Jewish student group for the observance of a shabbat service, creating space for the weekly meeting of a recovery community, or providing a safe environment where dozens of children can receive support and care during the summer months, Gobin's extensive calendar reflects the depth of its commitment to high-impact local partnerships.

Some of these partnerships are historic and well-known throughout Greencastle and Putnam County; others are emerging collaborations that largely fly beneath the radar. But regardless of the size or scale, Gobin remains devoted to hospitality and action, viewing every investment in the community as an invitation to love and serve its neighbors.



INTERFAITH COOPERATION HAPPENS HERE

Gobin's commitment to hospitality extends across faith traditions. By welcoming student groups from diverse religious backgrounds, including Jewish and Muslim communities, Gobin provides a space where people can gather, practice their traditions, and experience a true sense of belonging. These moments of connection foster understanding, reduce barriers, and model the kind of inclusive community our world deeply needs.

VOICES



Gobin has had a real impact on the kids we serve through the Summer Enrichment Program, especially those coming from tougher home situations. Having a consistent, safe place where they're welcomed and cared for matters. It gives them stability and a chance to just be kids in a space where they're supported. Gobin's hospitality is practical and genuine — they make space for people and remove barriers where they can.

— MISTI SCOTT,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Gobin is generous and hospitable to many people in our community. Offering Getting Ahead the use of their facilities free of charge has resulted in many lives being changed — to the tune of more than 85 people who have gone through the program over 15 years, many of whom would not have otherwise been in church.

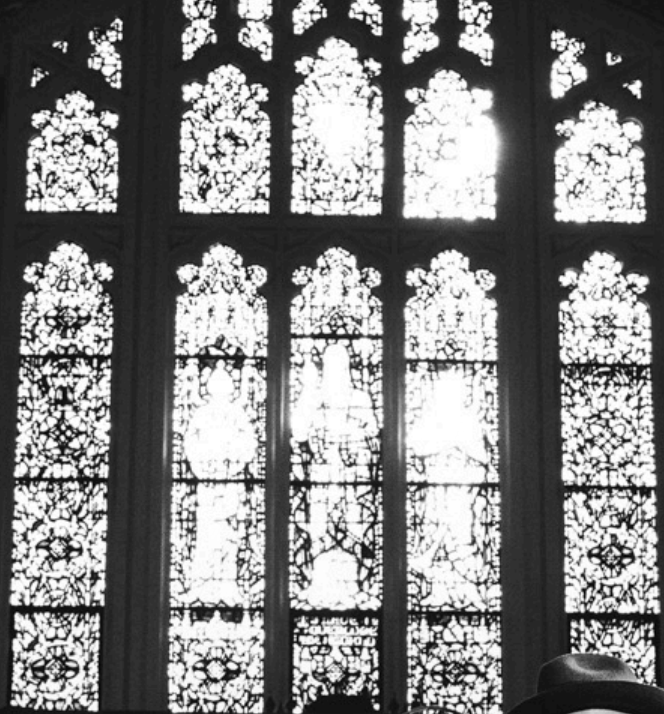
— LORI MILLER,
PROGRAM COORDINATOR, GETTING AHEAD OF PUTNAM COUNTY



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Independent research conducted through Partners for Sacred Places estimates that Gobin contributes more than \$3 million annually in economic and social impact to the Greencastle community through:

- arts programming
- educational partnerships
- community service
- volunteer engagement
- hospitality to local organizations
- preservation of a significant civic landmark



— III. AN ADVOCATE

Gobin Church, an advocate for *the arts.*

A rare beacon of beauty and light.

— III. CONTINUED

Its traditional neo-Gothic architecture evokes an undeniable sense of awe simply by beholding the vivid colors that stream through its stained glass windows and the soaring beams that trace its ceiling. Yet the majesty of Gobin is not contained to its physical features.

For years, Gobin has earned a reputation as a haven of artistic expression, hosting renowned musicians from around the globe as well as talented artists from just down the street. By serving as a performance space and a refuge for artistic expression, Gobin continues to occupy a unique role within the community.





For twenty-one years, Gobin has been the home of the Greencastle Summer Music Festival, a marvelous free community partnership that features world-class music and musicians every Wednesday evening during the summer. The diversity of musical genres and the warmth of the setting has brought thousands of people throughout Indiana to the church. Gobin's open doors and its embrace of artistic endeavors have been the church's hallmark and a beacon to many.

— STUART FABE,
BOARD MEMBER, GREENCASTLE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL.

Featured artists have included Carrie Newcomer; Latin Grammy-winning composer and pianist Fernando Otero; internationally acclaimed Japanese pianist Taka Kigawa; and pipa virtuoso Wu Han, alongside ensembles such as Silk Road Ensemble and a wide range of distinguished performers—from Tad Robinson and Ariel Pocock to chamber groups like Fifth House Ensemble and The Vivaldi Project.

— IV. A CARETAKER

Gobin Church, a caretaker of *history.*

A story too precious to lose.

— IV. CONTINUED

Since its cornerstone was laid in 1928, Gobin has experienced — and shaped — the history of Greencastle, of DePauw University and of the United Methodist Church. It has faithfully held its ground through global wars, economic hardships, scientific breakthroughs, national tragedies, cultural shifts, and a thousand crucial moments in the lives of those who have found spiritual refuge within its hallowed walls.

From the east window donated by Josia K. Lilly in memory of his grandparents to the pulpit where Martin Luther King, Jr. once preached in 1960, Gobin's features tell a story too precious to lose. Its legacy connects us to our past while filling our present with a deeper sense of communal identity and meaning.



"THE LILLY MEMORIAL ORGAN" DONATED BY JOSIAH K. LILLY IN MEMORY OF HIS PARENTS, ELI AND EMILY LILLY.



THE PULPIT
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PREACHED HERE IN 1960

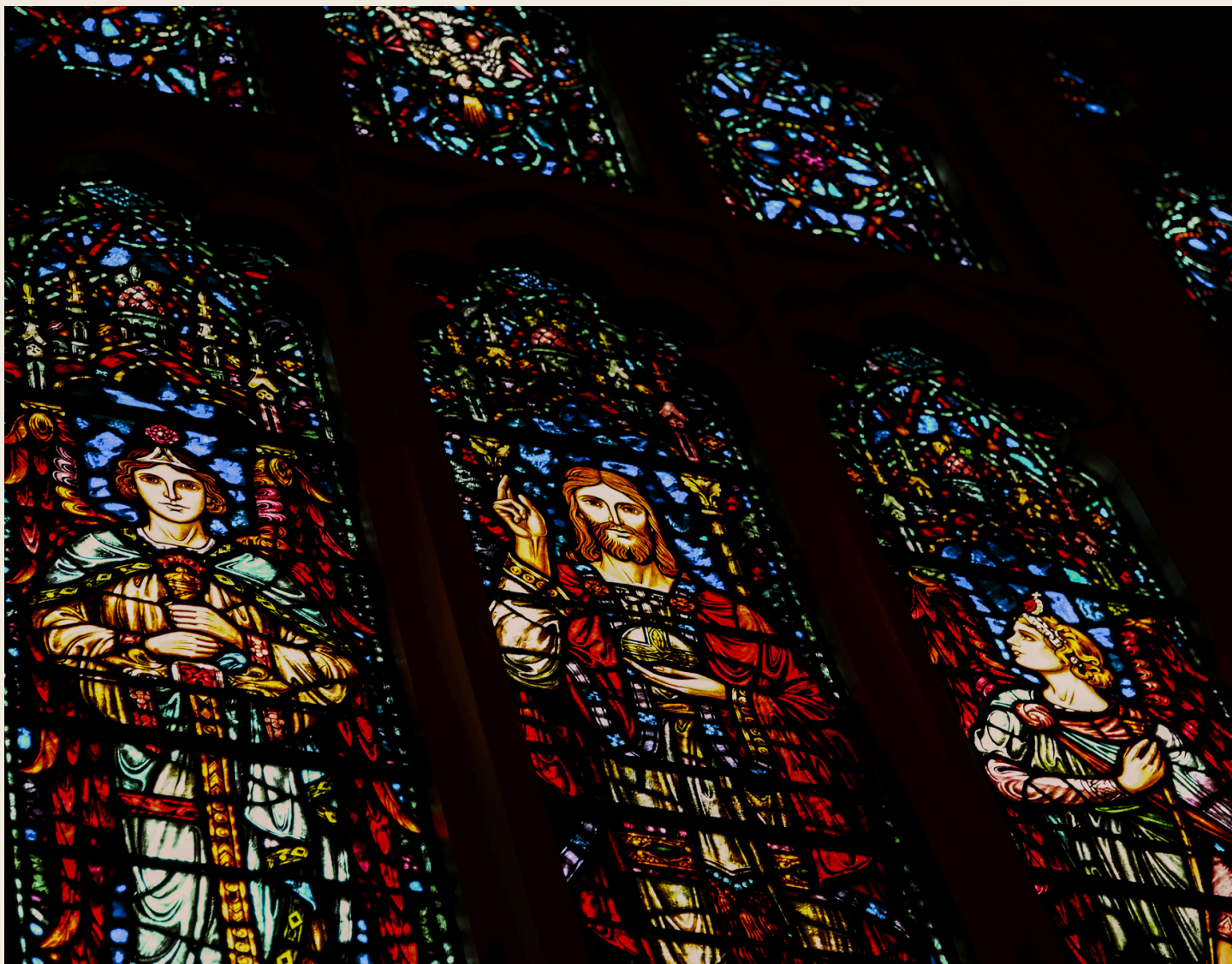
VOICES

Gobin Church was born in 1924 to bring together two Methodist churches in Greencastle. With that foundation, Gobin has continued its ministries to bring people from many backgrounds together in community to serve Christ and others. The people of Gobin have faithfully kept that mission at the forefront.

— WES WILSON,
ARCHIVIST EMERITUS, ROY O. WEST LIBRARY, DEPAUW UNIVERSITY

The contrast in Gobin's formal architecture reflects tradition, while the open floor plan provides a modern, flexible space. This contrast reinforces the Methodist tradition of searching for faithfulness to God's presence by empowering others to act in the world. Through flexibility and openness, Gobin is able to meet needs as times and circumstances change.

— JOHN SCHLOTTERBECK
PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF HISTORY, DEPAUW UNIVERSITY



— V. A VISIONARY

Gobin Church, a visionary for the *future*.

Not to preserve the past — but to bless, inspire, and transform.

— V. CONTINUED

Building on its rich legacy, the ultimate goal of Gobin's restoration and renewal is not to preserve the past, but to create a future in which its presence can continue to bless, inspire and transform. Gobin's second century will be built upon its first, but it must also be agile enough to meet the needs of a world that has not yet been imagined.

Who will be tomorrow's prophets, speaking truth and seeking justice? Who will be tomorrow's helpers, feeding the hungry and helping the weak? Many of them will be sitting in Gobin's playground this Sunday morning with crayons in their hands and love in their hearts.



A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

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Every generation deserves a place that is genuinely welcoming to all — a place actively trying to make the world look more Christ-like, where the teachings of Jesus aren't just spoken but shown through the actions of everyone involved.

At Gobin, real life is not ignored. The complexities of our world — including the difficult, often divisive questions of politics and society — are not dismissed. They are brought to the forefront, wrestled with honestly, and connected directly to the teachings of the Bible. That's the way it has always been, and the way it always will be.

— VINCE AGUIRRE

GREENCASTLE SMALL BUSINESS OWNER AND GOBIN COMMUNITY MEMBER



From the *Beginning*

When the people of Gobin began building this sanctuary in 1929, they imagined more than a church for themselves alone. They envisioned a place that could serve a growing university community, welcome generations of students, gather the people of Greencastle, and stand as a visible witness to faith, learning, beauty, and public life. It was an ambitious vision.

The building rose during a period of economic uncertainty and enormous change. Yet even amid those challenges, the people of Gobin chose hope over fear and generosity over scarcity.

Nearly one hundred years later, their vision still shapes this community.

Students still search for meaning here.

Artists still create here.

Neighbors still gather here.

Children still learn here.

People still encounter grace here.

Now, the responsibility passes to us.

Not simply to preserve a historic building —

but to carry forward the expansive vision that first brought it to life.

The Second Century Begins Now.



A *Community* Anchor

More than a church.

For nearly a century, Gobin Church has served as a place of worship, learning, creativity, service, and belonging.

Independent research conducted through Partners for Sacred Places estimates that Gobin contributes **\$3,015,982** annually in economic and social impact to the Greencastle community.

The study examined dozens of factors, from educational programming and visitor spending to counseling, volunteer service, community partnerships, and the use of church facilities by local organizations.

The result confirms what generations of community members already know:

What happens at Gobin reaches far beyond its walls.



Impact Area Annual Value

Individual Impact

\$1,306,586

Direct Spending

\$631,534

Invisible Safety Net

\$551,514

Magnet Effect

\$340,029

Education

\$184,060

Open Space

\$2,259

— CAMPAIGN DETAILS

Momentum is already strong.

In partnership with Partners for Sacred Places, Gobin recently completed a comprehensive feasibility study that confirmed strong enthusiasm from church members and community leaders to move forward this capital campaign, pursuing a bold but attainable goal of \$2 million. This vision has already been affirmed through two extraordinary grants:

\$260,000

SACRED PLACES INDIANA

a program of Indiana Landmarks funded by the Lilly Endowment Inc.

\$500,000

NATIONAL FUND FOR SACRED PLACES

a program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Together, these grants represent **\$760,000** in matching funds, propelling Gobin toward its next one hundred years. Your partnership will ensure that this momentum continues.

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

\$760,000 / \$2,000,000



— ACTION STEPS

Your partnership in this work is *indispensable*.

By supporting Gobin, you are enriching the life of every single person it serves — and the lives of all those it will serve in its next chapter. No matter who you are or what your connection to Gobin may be, you can help.

- 01** Give.

Consider your commitment to help turn dreams into reality and initiate real transformation that will impact generations to come.

- 02** Pray.

Surround this work in prayer, asking God to guide our decisions, deepen our compassion, and sustain this place as a source of hope and belonging.

- 03** Share.

When you introduce others to the work Gobin is doing, you expand its reach and allow others to take part in its mission.

What does a commitment look like?

Total Commitment Monthly (3 Years)	
\$ 1000	\$28/month
\$ 5000	\$139/month
\$ 10,000	\$278/month
\$ 25,000	\$694/month

— FOR ALL WITHIN ITS REACH —



Will you *join* us?

The second century starts now.



INDIANA LANDMARKS



PUTNAM
COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Lilly Endowment Inc.

A private foundation since 1937



NATIONAL FUND
FOR
SACRED PLACES

GOBIN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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gobinchurch.org · pastor@gobinumc.org

EST. MCMXXIV · GREENCASTLE, INDIANA