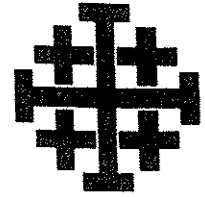


# The Chapel of the Cross

*An Episcopal Parish in Chapel Hill, NC*



## DEVELOPER'S NARRATIVE & STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The small Chapel, the oldest of the structures that comprise The Chapel of the Cross at its location adjacent to the University campus, was completed in 1848 with a small addition in 1890, a small Parish House in 1916, and the large church, tower, cloister arcade, and parish house expansion in 1925. Two larger additions with interior modifications took place in 1958 and 1993. The parish has a long history of building and expansion, each new structure designed with attention to the beauty of the first chapel and the historic district in which the church resides.

Although the original Chapel and the larger Church were immediately useful and remain so today, the other parish buildings can no longer support expanding missions including Christian education for a growing number of children and youth; hospitality for parishioners including weddings, baptisms, community and University events, and funerals; and increasing outreach to the community including support for Interfaith Council, the ABC Sale which last year raised over \$30,000 which was distributed in this community, ESL classes, a nursery school, and Alcoholics Anonymous to name a few. The parish is increasing its global mission with visits from companions in Africa and Central America and with partnerships with other churches in the Diocese of North Carolina. The Chapel of the Cross has a strong and growing campus ministry that seeks to involve other community religious and secular groups.

While no expansion of the smaller chapel and larger church worship spaces is anticipated in our master plan, the present parish house structures are grossly insufficient. Studies of programmatic and space needs over a five year period reveal a need for a parish building of at least 60,000 square feet. To take advantage of the assets and limitations of the building site, the consensus of work of four various committees that have studied the issue recommends that the current Parish House be replaced with a new building. The constraints imposed by the structural limitations (roofing, mechanical equipment, lighting, minimum floor to floor levels, access, fire separation, and floor plan configuration) of the Parish House are simply too great to warrant expending efforts to incorporate them through renovation or careful restoration. No part of the 1916 building façade remains and the almost no part of the larger 1925 expansion remains visible, and even that part has been significantly altered.

As part of its planning, The Chapel of the Cross has consulted with University leaders and staff, UNC Botanical Gardens staff, has sought advice from Town Planners and Traffic Engineers, and had a preliminary meeting with members of the Historic District Commission.

It is our intention to work thoughtfully with our neighbors, to build a structure that will enhance the beauty of our location and the context of the existing chapel and church structures retained, and that will help The Chapel of the Cross fulfill its mission in its downtown location for years to come.

To meet the requirements of our program assessment and the proposed master plan parish house structure, we would request a rezoning from the present OI-3 zone to the Town Center TC-2. Alternatively, if the Town Council would wish our church to stay in the OI-3 zone, we would request a text amendment to that zone which waives or increases a maximum floor-area ratio for our building type.

The Rev. Stephen Elkins-Williams, *Rector*  
The Rev. Tambria E. Lee, *Assoc. for University Ministry*  
The Rev. Victoria Jamieson-Drake, *Assoc. for Pastoral Ministry*  
The Rev. David Frazelle, *Assoc. for Parish Ministry*  
The Rev. Dr. William Joyner, *Deacon*

304 E. Franklin St.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
919-929-2193  
fax-919-933-9187  
[www.thechapelofthecross.org](http://www.thechapelofthecross.org)  
[info@thechapelofthecross.org](mailto:info@thechapelofthecross.org)