



## BEHRENS CHAPEL AUDITORIUM

*Serving as an anchor for our students and a reminder of the value, necessity, and comfort of community.*

Since the school's beginning in 1891, praise and worship have been a part of the campus, culture, and curriculum at Hardin-Simmons University. Even though Christ's presence is felt in every corner of the campus, since 1911 there has been a building dedicated to gathering as a community of faith.

Behrens Chapel Auditorium is central to Hardin-Simmons University's mission as a community dedicated to excellence in education, enlightened by Christian faith and values. Our speakLIFE capital campaign plays an important role in helping to advance that mission and ensure the future for the students who come to our campus.

Through its many designs, expansions, and uses, Behrens Chapel continues to serve as a visible reminder of the core

Christian culture and conviction that permeate HSU. It is the place we gather each week to worship and nurture the faith journeys of students, faculty, and staff.

Restoring Behrens Chapel provides us the opportunity to redesign the facility to make it modern and flexible. Creating a space that reflects the heritage of the original chapel and holds fast to the foundations that remain true to Hardin-Simmons University— foundations of honesty, humility, and truth; found in the word of God, modeled in the life of Christ, and growing in the hearts and lives of the Church.

As we look to the future, the spirit encapsulated in Behrens Chapel, a survivor of world wars, depressions, fires, and freezes, will continue to thrive.



*While the structure may change, the spirit and legacy of the Chapel will remain.*



# BEHRENS CHAPEL TIMELINE

1911

A small, humble wooden building was erected to serve as a dedicated gathering place.



1928

A formal structure, now known as the Original Chapel was constructed.



1946

The Original Chapel was renovated and renamed as Behrens Chapel after W.J. Behrens, former president of the Board of Trustees.



1957

The Original Behrens Chapel was destroyed in a fire.



1961

Today's Behrens Chapel Auditorium was built with the addition of Van Ellis Theatre.



2022

To keep up with the spiritual growth and needs of the campus, fundraising for restoring Behrens Chapel Auditorium begins.

We gather each week in Behrens Chapel Auditorium to worship and nurture the faith of our community. At the same time, Behrens Chapel reflects the school spirit of HSU by providing a space for convocation to commencement and everything in between.

