

## **Russell Memorial Library: Space Needs, Mission & Goals**

**A new building would enable the library to more readily fulfill its mission and goals.**

### **Space is needed to:**

#### **Accommodate a growing collection of books.**

Even after a thorough weeding of the collection, library materials are beginning to move to the top of the bookshelves which is not ideal for easy access. Children's books fit tightly in their cubbies. It can be difficult for children to look through and pull out books.

#### **Create patron reading and work areas.**

Currently, when a librarian, patron or program attendee is at the one table, it blocks access to the book shelves. The computer work space is also insufficient as a work space. Both of these spaces are already challenging to navigate for those with mobility issues, but even more so when someone is at the table.

#### **Create a staff work area and larger storage closet.**

Currently, book processing occurs on the one table thus minimizing use of this space by patrons.

Book processing and programming supplies restrict access to the Special Collections bookshelves.

#### **Accommodate programming.**

There is only room for a few children to sit in close quarters during story hour.

The current space is not well suited to host a group of adults at a program.

**In addition to the above space needs**, the current library does not have potable water, hot water or safe parking. The library also lacks a sufficient heating system which causes the library to be uncomfortably cold in the winter.

**The mission of the RML** is to promote positive growth in our community by providing free access to library materials, resources, and programs for personal enrichment, self-education and leisure.

### **RML's Goals:**

1. To serve the community by providing and maintaining a current collection of books and materials that meet the educational, informational, and recreational needs of all in the community.
2. To provide a welcoming space where people may gather, connect with one another, and freely exchange ideas.
3. To collaborate with other organizations to provide diverse programs and services to engage our community.
4. To keep the community informed of library materials, resources, and programs.