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Keillor to raise funds for S.F. church

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Writer Garrison Keillor will help launch a fund-raising campaign featuring the world's largest Jell-O mold in an effort to save a century-old San Francisco church from the wrecking ball.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church at 1111 O'Farrell St. holds the distinction of being the oldest Lutheran church west of the Mississippi River. But the church is on a list of some 2,000 San Francisco buildings that are in need of seismic retrofitting.

The benefit next Sunday featuring Keillor is part of an effort to raise almost \$5 million to make the church earthquake safe.

The Romanesque-style church survived both the 1906 and 1989 quakes, although a large crack above the altar serves as a reminder of the Loma Prieta temblor.

The fund-raising benefit will include hymns, monologues from Keillor's writings and a 6-foot Jell-O statue created by sculptor Thomas Marsh.