



November 20, 2009

Dear Partner in Ministry,

It's hard to believe a year has gone by since dedicating gifts and pledges to the With Open Arms Capital Campaign. This Sunday, November 22, we will join together at one 9:30 am worship service to celebrate the great progress we have made and give thanks for God's faithfulness. After worship we'll give tours of the newly renovated facilities and members of the building design team will be available to answer questions and share future plans.

Phase 1 of construction is nearly complete. The renovations include adding both men's and women's bathrooms off the Reception Hall and adding new men's and women's bathrooms next to the children's ministry area. This will allow us to officially retire the original 1920's era bathrooms at the end of the lower hall. We've also created a new library and fellowship area near the children's ministry rooms and children and youth staff offices. This will be a new hub of activity on Sunday mornings and during the week. We have also made the church offices more safe and welcoming by adding windows, a new barrel ceiling and adjusting the office configuration, making the Pastor's office more accessible and providing more work space for volunteers. The week of November 30 we are scheduled to have carpet installed throughout the renovated areas. Volunteers have also been busy painting all the hallways, offices and classrooms. Phase 1 will be 100% completed by Christmas.

Since we launched the campaign last fall we have added a new phase of construction. This includes raising the entryway of the church to the same level as the sanctuary, reception hall and new bathrooms. It will also include an airlock entry and handicap entrance. This improved accessibility and more welcoming entrance is made possible by a special designated donation of 2/3 the cost of the project. For example, if this phase of construction costs \$300,000 then \$200,000 of that will be covered by this designated donation, with the rest paid for from other sources. In that this project was not part of the original scope of the With Open Arms Campaign, donations to the campaign will not be used to pay for this project. The session is asking the congregation to consider a one-time special donation to help cover the costs of this improvement. When making a donation please indicate that it is for the "Entryway Project." This phase of construction is currently scheduled to start the week after Easter and conclude the week before Vacation Bible School.

Phase 3 of construction will focus on replacing our current Christian Education building with a large multi-purpose room and additional classrooms that are connected to current facilities. The timing and financing of this phase is subject to many variables including; the sale of homes on Dale Rd., the progress on year 2 and 3 campaign donations, the final design of the building and the price tag that comes with that, and finally the church's willingness to take on short-term debt. While there are many variables we do know for sure that strong giving to the campaign through the remaining two years will be the key to success of Phase 3.

I am excited for the ways our work today will bear fruit in ministry and mission over the coming decades. It is exciting to share in this journey with you as we open our arms to each other and the community God calls us to. Please note that on the back of this page is a financial report of income and expenses so far.

God Bless,

Rev. Craig Goodwin