



May 8, 2018

Chapel Friends,

In the book of Ecclesiastes, it's said that there is "a time to be silent and a time to speak." It's been a few months since the last big update, and during that time of silence the building committee has been hard at work, so we wanted to provide a quick update. At the annual meeting, we shared that the construction documents had been finished and we were almost ready to begin the bidding process. We are now in the midst of that bidding process, with drawings and specifications sent to four invited bidders May 1. These bidders were selected from a combination of Chapel member suggestions and architect recommendations. A pre-bid conference will be held May 15, and the bids will be opened June 5. If all goes according to plan, then we could break ground by July. Please remember to keep all those involved in your prayers.

Now that the construction documents are finished, the focus of the building committee will shift slightly. We are beginning to work on interior elements such as furnishings and items used in worship. A common question I've been asked is how an individual or a group can help contribute. If you would like more information on how to contribute toward a specific, tangible item, please reach out to Ben or Amy. There have already been generous gifts towards things such as the baptismal font, and the cross, and these are wonderful ways to be a part of not only the new building, but the worship that will happen within those walls. In general, if you have questions about the new space or the plans, please contact Amy Barker or a member of the building committee. As a reminder, the committee is made up of Ben Robertson, Bob Williams, Cheryl Welch, Clay Eckerson, David Cado, Jon Woodward, Katy Breaux, Russ and Julie Markle, Shirley Abney, and Whit Rayner.

Meanwhile, as we continue through the bidding process and move into construction, the Construction Oversight Committee will be gearing up. Made up of Bill Buhner, Scott Carter, and Jon Woodward, this small and agile committee is tasked with being the "feet on the ground" for the architects and contractors. They've already been called upon several times to answer questions or provide access to the grounds. They've dealt with questions regarding pest and termite prevention, insurance, fire prevention systems, and more. Moving forward, their advice, experience and counsel will be increasingly important in finalizing the project documentation. As we move into construction they will be tasked with making even more time-sensitive decisions that cannot wait for normal building committee and vestry meetings.

A big thank you to everyone who has continued to work on this project and to those who are making it possible to move forward. In the future, we will do our best to provide updates on regular intervals to keep you informed of the progress. While there is certainly a time for silence and planning, we know this is an exciting time at the Chapel, and we want you to be a part of it so we'll provide updates as they are available.

Keep the Faith,

Amelia "Amy" Barker
Chair of the Building Committee

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*Welcoming the stranger,
nurturing one another,
and guided by the Holy
Spirit, the Chapel of
the Cross strives to live
the mission of Jesus
Christ through prayer,
traditional liturgy,
Christian education,
active outreach, and love
of all God's creation.*
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