



# The Building Buzz

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.

— 1 Corinthians 3:11

June 15, 2006

## What's The Buzz?

The coming year will be full of changes for our congregation. In order to keep everyone informed, we will periodically publish special inserts called *The Building Buzz* in *The Chimes* which will focus on the construction project and the transitions which will be taking place as we move forward.

## A Resounding "Yes!"

June 4 was a day of great affirmation. That afternoon, our congregation said "Yes" to the final proposals for the new building program. We said "Yes" in committing ourselves to a ministry to be "Downtown for Good." We offered an enthusiastic "Yes" to being part of a grand new adventure in the long and faithful life of First Church. Thank you for saying "Yes" to the future.

This is an exciting time for First Church. Yes, there will be inconvenience. Yes, there will be some sadness as we watch the older buildings and the beautiful garden disappear. Yes, we will need to relocate many of our activities, meetings and fellowship events for

## Building for the Future!

The FUMC Building Proposal was overwhelmingly approved with a 96% vote in favor of the construction project. The vote was held on Sunday, June 4 at the All Church

Conference. A total of 185 votes were cast with 178 in favor, 4 against and 3 voters abstaining.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to the Building Committee for their dedication and hard work on this project. They have been working toward this goal for many years dealing with challenges and frustrations along the way. We appreciate all of the time and energy they have devoted to this campaign and look forward now to the exciting future ahead.

*Building Committee Members:* Jim Hoyt, Co-Chairperson, Bill White, Co-Chairperson, Barbara Clapp, Brad Crowley, Alan Fish, Doug Knudson, Randy Kyle, Nicki Miller, Randy Schmitgen, Carrol Spencer, Kate Vanderheiden, Staff: Tina Lang, Kathy Sandefur, Keith Schroerlucke.



a period of time. BUT, soon a new building will emerge that will house our growing ministry and provide facilities with more useable space and provide a more inviting environment to those seeking a church home. And one day, you will be able to share with your grandchildren that you were part of making this dream a reality.

If you have questions, feel free to contact staff

members or members of the Building Committee.

Thank you for the wonderful support you have given to this effort and your continued patience, understanding and support as we move forward.

— Keith Schroerlucke



# Transition Underway

The following is a quick overview of what we expect to happen in the next few months.

## Recycle/Reuse

Working with Madison Environmental Group, a team of First Church folks will inventory everything in the educational wing and decide what to keep and store during the construction phase, what to discard and what to sell or give

away. We hope to have this completed by early July.

## Pack and Move

HELP will be needed when it comes time to move items to other areas of the church or into storage. HELP will also be needed removing items such as bulletin boards, bathroom fixtures, etc. from walls to be reused in the new building. We want to recycle and reuse as much as possible. It is our hope that the older buildings will be vacated and ready for deconstruction by early August.

## Storage

HELP will be needed in securing a storage area for many of our items such as tables, chairs, cabinets, and boxes of materials. If you know of a storage area that might be available, please contact the church office. Of course, we want to keep the cost down as low as possible.

## Offices

We have decided to relocate the offices during the construction phase. Given that there will be little or no parking during the work week, construction noise, dust, etc., it was felt that office and program staff would be more productive in a different environment. Many of the program staff will work out of their homes. With computer and telecommunication abilities, we hope this will allow the program to continue with minimum costs.



## Worship

Worship at First Church will remain vibrant and strong. The sanctuary will be unaffected during the construction phase, except for the organ. The pipes and mechanicals will need to be covered during this period. Specialists are being consulted. During pleasant weather, we hope to offer fellowship time outside under the awning at the Wisconsin Avenue Entrance.

## Sunday School

Our Christian Education program will be conducted in the present lower level of the building. The music room and office area will be used for classrooms during the construction period. Other possibilities for some off-site areas are being investigated.

## Initial Timeline

### June

- Determine items to be used, stored, sold, given away, recycled or thrown away.
- Evaluate storage needs
- Research off-site office space options
- Research and finalize off-site options for Outreach ministries
- Begin relocating garden plants

### July

- Obtain warehouse/storage space
- Obtain off-site office space
- Pack, move and store all items
- Empty Education Wing
- Move Food Pantry
- Continue relocating garden plants

### August

- Demolition begins August 1
- Empty office spaces in lower level
- Relocate administrative staff
- Prepare new classroom spaces in lower level for Fall semester

## Office Space Needed

If you know of temporary office and/or storage space available for a period of approximately 12 months (probably beginning August 1st), please contact Seth in the Church Office. We are exploring all options available during our possible re-building transition. We are looking for 800 to 1200 square feet of space where the central offices can be located for approximately 12 months or less. Ideally this will be close to the downtown area. Parking for four or five cars will be needed, as well. If you have ideas or tips let us know. Thanks in advance for your ideas!

## Church Garden Plant Sales

Here's your chance to take home a piece of the church garden. Due to the upcoming construction many of the plants will not be able to remain in their current locations. Plants from the East garden, closer to Dayton Street will be salvaged and potted up for sale after services on Sunday June 18th and Sunday June 25th. There will be groundcovers, perennials, bulbs and hosta available for purchase with the funds going toward future landscaping materials. Additional plant sales will be held closer to the deconstruction dates in July and August. Questions? Call Allison Eyring-Green at 661-9815



## Outreach Programs

Our commitment to First Church Outreach Ministries will continue, including the Food Pantry. Assisted by our great partners, Community Action Coalition and United Way, it is our hope to relocate the Food Pantry for continued service during the construction period, as well as our other outreach initiatives. Our shelter volunteers can work out of the kitchen at Porchlight, located at 306 Brooks St. We are looking into possible sites for our three Holiday Meals.

## The Memorial Garden

We will save a layer of soil from the old garden to be used in the new Memory Garden area. This will symbolically represent those remembered in the Memorial Garden. The Memorial Committee has developed plans to identify the Memory Garden and those remembered.

We are hoping to save and transplant the crabapple tree that is in the Memorial Garden. Of course, as many trees and plants will be saved as possible. Landscape architects, as

well as church members are involved in that process.

See the ad on this page for details about how you can adopt plants from the church garden.

## The Library

The church library will be boxed and stored by Library personnel.

## Parking & Meetings

The limited church parking lot space will be available through July. The earliest we can have access to the parking ramp is 6:15pm. Please plan your meetings and gatherings accordingly. If there are a number of

meetings on a particular evening, we will provide an attendant for the ramp.

During the next two months, many of the meeting rooms will be used for temporary storage and may be cluttered, but we will accommodate the special needs for each group as best as we can.

## Other Logistical Issues

During the construction period, the elevator will be inoperable. We are working now to develop strategies for accommodating people with mobility issues during the construction period. The ramp will continue to be available on Sundays and on weeknights, when needed. The lower level will be accessible only by stairway during the construction period. We will plan to provide assistance where needed.

Although there will be no restrooms on the lower level once construction begins and the first level restrooms will be relocated, we are hoping to have restroom facilities available during most, if not all of the construction period. One restroom behind the chancel will be unaffected and available.

### **Boxes, Boxes, We Need Your Boxes!!!**

In order to pack and move nearly every room in the church, we will need boxes, boxes and more boxes. In order to keep our moving costs in-check, we hope to gather as many used boxes as possible.

If you have any moving boxes stored for future use, please loan them to us for the duration of the building project. When everything is unpacked in 2007 you can take as many boxes back as you'd like! We'll have several. We can use dish pack boxes, book boxes, clothing boxes, ANY boxes...but please, only sturdy, clean boxes. Thanks!

## Meet the Building Technical Team!

Now that we're moving into the nitty gritty work of finalizing architectural drawings, ordering materials and starting construction; the Building Committee realized that the church could benefit greatly from having a team of specialists to help oversee these aspects of the construction process. To that end, the Building Committee has appointed a wonderful Technical Team which will serve as a subcommittee of the Building Committee. Their job will be to provide technical review to the designers and builders; and to make recommendations to the Building Committee on technical issues when requested. Team members are Brad Crowley, Rob Phillips, Jim Reynolds, Randy Schmitgen, Steve Tweed and Dan Tyler. As you read about these talented people, I think you'll be amazed by the depth and breadth of their backgrounds. We are truly blessed to have them in our midst and we can be grateful for their willingness to serve in this critical capacity.

Brad Crowley—Brad earned a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1994 and works as a Project Manager for Affiliated Construction Services (a sister firm to Flad & Associates and Affiliated Engineers Inc.). Brad has been a member of FUMC since 2000 and has served on the Building Committee for the past five years.

Rob Phillips—Rob is the Deputy City Engineer for the City of Madison. As such, he is closely involved with public streets, bridges, waterways, wastewater and drainage systems for the City of Madison. Rob has been actively involved at FUMC for many years, having served most recently on the Board of Trustees.

Jim Reynolds—Jim is in charge of maintenance for the Watertown campus of Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services. Bethesda has recently undergone a \$33 million dollar new building and remodeling project which was begun in 2000. Jim's familiarity with transition issues relating to construction projects will surely help us as we move through our own project.

Randy Schmitgen—Randy Schmitgen is currently Director of Interiors, Senior Designer & Senior Associate at Flad & Associates in Madison. Randy



*The Technical Team: Jim Reynolds, Steve Tweed, Dan Tyler, Brad Crowley and Rob Phillips. Not pictured: Randy Schmitgen.*

has been at Flad & Associates for 11 years and prior to joining Flad spent 12 years doing interior spaces for a small design firm in Madison and at Manpower International Headquarters in Milwaukee. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1983. Randy has been an adult leader on 6 ASP mission trips and has been the Chair of Trustees for the past four years.

Steve Tweed—Steve has been in the electrical construction and design industry since 1984. He is a Wisconsin licensed Electrical Designer, Master Electrician, and Commercial Electrical Inspector. Steve presently runs and owns Wisconsin Power Control, a company that specializes in renewable energy systems design and installation (Solar power, Wind power, Hydrogen power, energy efficiency consulting and DC power systems). Steve is also an accomplished tuba player, and you can experience his talent when he plays with the Blessed Brass.

Dan Tyler—Dan and his fiancée Jennifer Post became members of FUMC shortly after they moved to Madison in August 2005. Dan has a degree in Civil Engineering and spent three years with the major contractor Peter Kiewit Sons', Inc., and now works at Horizon Design-Build-Manage in Verona. Dan manages the design of eight (and counting) indoor water resorts throughout the country from conception through construction. (The Building Committee has rejected all plans so far to add a water resort to the church.)