

Pardon our Renovation.... (Part Two)

Renovation Update

by Michael Bell and Wayne Willcox

We have made a lot of progress since our last update, as we move forward with our much-needed renovation of the first floor of the education building, consisting of a new chapel, classrooms, restrooms, library, and Fellowship Hall, in addition to a garden with columbarium on the State Street side of the Sanctuary.

SCHEDULE

The architectural team finished the drawings and specifications by the end of the summer. Four competitive bids were obtained from contractors, and the Capital Improvement Management Committee decided to recommend to the Session and the Congregation that we enter into a renovation contract with Ryan Gootee General Contractors LLC. We expect construction to commence in December 2011.

The first phase of construction will put all of the first floor of the Educational Building out of commission for about nine months, except for the current chapel, the freight elevator and the handicap-accessible restroom. The second phase will last about three months and will convert the current chapel into the library and renovate the remaining spaces.

The second and third floors of the Education Building will remain in use throughout both Phase 1 and Phase 2. Generally, access to the second and third floors will be by way of entrance via the old chapel or the sanctuary toward the freight elevator. The Nursery School will remain in operation throughout the 2011-2012 year, with the first floor classes moving to the



Fellowship Hall East View

first floor of the Land Building after Labor Day 2011, while the older children will remain on the second floor of the Education Building.

Throughout the renovation, Sessional committee meetings may take place on the second floor of the Land Building or on the second and third floors of the Education Building. Sunday school and other gatherings may also take place in these areas. Session will hold its monthly meetings and after-church new member receptions in the Sanctuary. The current chapel will get much use during the first phase of the renovation. It will be the setting for Sunday morning coffee hour and other gatherings.



Library

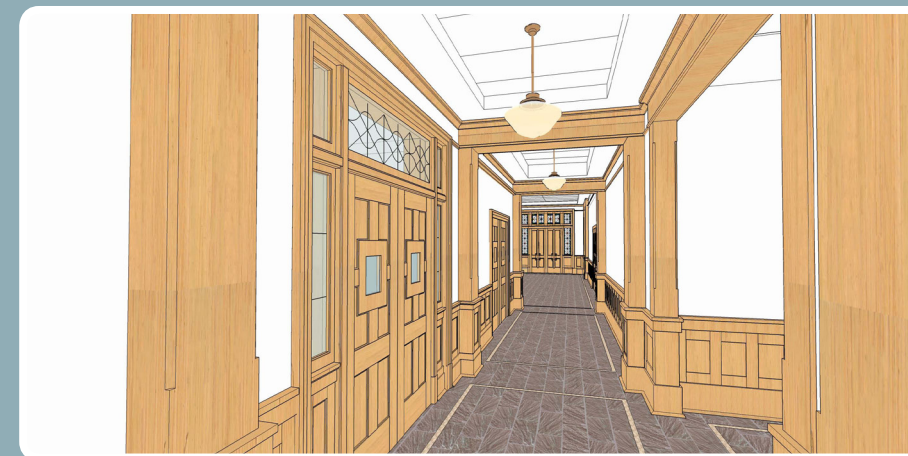
THE NEW FACILITIES

In the previous issue of the VIEW, we told you about our plans for the new chapel. In this issue, we would like to tell you about our renovation plans for the Fellowship Hall, the new Phifer Library, the parlors and auxiliary spaces.

The Fellowship Hall will have a warm wood theme through paneling, wainscoting and doors that will be enhanced by a new coffered ceiling. The room will be designed to handle everything from Nursery School “body movement” to meals or receptions to audio-visual presentations. A new Nursery School classroom will be located on the East side of the hall formerly known as the alcove. The Fellowship Hall will continue to serve as the central meeting room for the church, but it will be a warmer and more flexible place.

The new Phifer Library will be located in the old chapel. Decorated with rich wood hues to house our unique historical collection of books, it will serve as an ideal place for church members to read, hold small meetings or even hear the occasional book review.

The hallways will be widened and made uniform with matching tile floors, and both the men’s and women’s restrooms will be completely relocated and remodeled. The old parlor and the old library will become double



Corridor South View

parlors joined by a common door. These rooms will allow for maximum flexibility in their use for small meetings or receptions.

All of the renovations are designed to incorporate and complement the existing style and feel of our church, while at the same time greatly improving its design and function. We are grateful to the great many of you who have provided support for this project in many different ways, and we are excited about the improvements that are about to enhance the life of our facilities in 2012. Stay tuned!



Fellowship Hall West View