

September 21, 2016

Dear Idlewild Family,

We are writing to update you on the work of the Building Committee. Thanks to the generosity of more than 400 donors, almost \$10 million has been secured through the More Idlewild campaign to completely renovate the Jones Building, make improvements to the Sanctuary Building and construct a new, more welcoming and accessible entry and foyer.

Even though we don't see bulldozers and scaffolding yet, the project is progressing in a methodical and appropriate way. For the past several months, the architecture team of brg3, led by Steve Berger, has been meeting with various groups, such as Worship and Music, Youth, Recreation and Outreach and Children's ministries, to clarify and update the needs and best solutions for the church.

The team has been considering the civil, structural and mechanical engineering requirements of the project and assembling the appropriate specialists to address these requirements. In addition to thorough assessments of programmatic and functional needs, renovating older buildings requires "pre-design studies" to assess the existing condition of the building systems and structure. One of the more interesting challenges has been converting the original, hand-drawn blueprints from the 1928 and 1960 buildings into an "as built" digital format both to preserve the plans and to be able to utilize them in the design of the new project.

All of this is to say that the project is moving forward. Design work will continue through this calendar year, and we anticipate having a general contractor selected early next year to assist with pre-construction activities. The preliminary schedule projects construction will begin in the fall of 2017. Phase one of construction, which includes the new Children's Center, will most likely be completed in June 2018, and we expect the final project to be finished by the end of 2018.

You will continue to receive regular updates. We are all anticipating the day when we see our vision realized, and to that end, the Building Committee is committed to keeping you informed of our progress. As a congregation, we are building the future together — for Idlewild and for Memphis.

Best,
Kirk Bobo



Co-Chair

Steve Valentine



Co-Chair

Building Committee members: Jeff Emerson*, Chick Hill, Betsy Hood, Albert Johnson, Mark Jones, Jamie Linkous*, Lisa Mallory, Charlie McCrary, Josh Poag, Elizabeth Rouse, and Joelynn Sullivan; **staff liaisons:** Doris Hurdle, Rebekah Abel Lamar, Steve Montgomery, and Ginny Moore. (*Will resign from the committee if his company is selected as general contractor of the project.)