



Dear saints of Idlewild,

Among the many, many traits that Idlewild has, one that I treasure the most is the way we have always built upon the past and faced the future with confidence and faith. We have lived in that biblical tension between God urging the people of God to remember... "Remember that I brought you out of the land of Egypt and into the land of promise"....and to move forward without fear because "Behold, I am doing a new thing."

As we embark on a \$12.5 million campaign, we face the same challenges that our forbearers faced in 1921 when they began to envision building a new church, a larger church; indeed, a cathedral just a few blocks west of their current building. There were many arguments against it, but they forged ahead with faith.

Standing on their shoulders, we find that it is time to harness the same faith, foresight, and courage they had as we envision the future of Idlewild. To put it bluntly, our current facilities are hindering our ability to serve our members and the greater Memphis community.

Our campaign is not about bricks and mortar to build more Idlewild, but it will enable us to "be" more Idlewild...to be more welcoming, more celebrating, more serving, more caring, and more learning.

I am thankful that through the years Idlewild has always embraced the responsibility that we have been given to share the Gospel of God's love within our walls and within our greater community. It is my most fervent prayer that generations from now, our grandchildren and their children will be able to say the same about us.

Joyfully....and prayerfully...yours,



Stephen R. Montgomery
Pastor, Idlewild Presbyterian

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