

January 25, 2018

Dear Idlewild members,

When the subject of the More Idlewild renovation project comes up, it's usually followed by the question, "when will it start?" I am thrilled to let you know that the Session voted last evening to move forward with the construction phase. We want to share a recap and update on the developments to date.

In the summer of 2016, following the capital campaign, the Building Committee began working with brg3s architects to develop plans for the building project. Since day one, our focus has been on improving our facilities so that Idlewild can be a more welcoming, celebrating, serving, caring and learning faith community in Midtown Memphis.

## **PRIMARY GOALS**

The **guideposts of the project** continue to be:

- Infrastructure enhancements (i.e., HVAC, electrical, plumbing)
- An obvious, welcoming entry
- Modern, accessible, flexible meeting, kitchen and dining facilities in the Jones Building
- Modern, accessible restrooms in Sanctuary Building and Jones Building
- A safe, state-of- the-art early childhood development center

## **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

- We have raised \$10.1MM to date (\$9.65MM in pledges and \$456K in one time gifts) thanks to 416 generous donors.
- The current project budget is \$10.9MM:

\$ 8,579,000	construction costs
180,000	removal of hazardous materials, testing, etc.
729,000	professional fees & expenses
510,000	owner contingency
718,000	furniture, fixtures & equipment
206,000	interest & administrative

- The difference in committed funds and projected expenses will be bridged in the following ways:
  - The project may not require the full contingency budget set aside for unforeseen expenses.
  - We anticipate being able to reduce the furniture, fixture and equipment costs.
  - Donors are being encouraged to pay their pledges early, thereby reducing interest expense on the construction loan.
  - Additional funds will be raised by asking some existing donors to extend their pledges an additional year and by securing new contributions.

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

- Linkous Construction will serve as contractor and has pulled the construction permits.
- The construction is anticipated to take approximately 11 months.
- The Children and Family Enrichment (CAFE) Board has determined that the new Idlewild Preschool will open in January 2019 (not Fall 2018, as originally projected). This way, they will be able to give parents a firm date when they can count on preschool for their children.

**CONSTRUCTION KICKOFF**

- The Building Committee will share more details at an information session for members soon.
- A project commencement ceremony will be held on an upcoming Sunday, during the benediction at the end of the 11:00 worship service.

For the past 18 months, the Building Committee has been meeting every month and working closely with the many people and companies involved. Now, it will be apparent to **all** that construction is happening and things are moving to make More Idlewild a reality. The Building Committee will continue to keep the congregation informed through regular updates.

Such a project does not happen without the contributions of many individuals. Please keep the Building Committee, the church staff and all the Idlewild community in your prayers as this journey continues.

Thankfully,

Pastor Steve

*Stephen R. Montgomery, D.Min.  
Pastor, Idlewild Presbyterian Church*

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*Building Committee: Kirk Bobo & Steve Valentine, chairs; Chick Hill, Betsy Hood, Albert Johnson, Mark Jones, Lisa Mallory, Charlie McCrary, Josh Poag, Elizabeth Rouse, and Joellyn Sullivan, members; and Pastor Steve Montgomery, Doris Hurdle, Rebekah Abel Lamar, Jenni Brooks, and Ginny Moore, staff liaisons.*

*Capital Campaign Committee: Larry Bryan, Kirk Bobo and Peggy McClure, co-chairs; Wendy Ansbro, Taylor Berger, Sissy Carpenter, Dennis Higdon, Mark Jones, Milton Lovell, Michelle Miller, Elizabeth Rouse, Anne Stokes, Steve Valentine, Kyle Veazey and Betty Anne Wilson, committee members; and Pastor Steve Montgomery.*