

Basement Update

8/23/26

Church family, I want to take a few minutes to give you an important update on the basement here at Harvest Springs.

First, thank you. Thank you for your patience, generosity, prayers, and willingness to walk through this process with us. The basement situation has been a long and complicated journey. What began with a flood over a year ago eventually uncovered mold and significant issues that required us to step back and determine the best way forward.

But today, we have some really good news. We are moving forward with restoring our basement. The Board of Administration has hired Detailed Construction Company to serve as the general contractor for this project. Detailed will be leading us through a design-build process, which means they will work with us from the design phase through construction, coordinating the various contractors and helping us develop a plan that is both functional and financially responsible. This is a significant step forward for Harvest Springs.

What happens next?

The first phase of the project will begin immediately. Over approximately the next two months, we will work with Detailed Construction and local architects to develop the design plan for the basement. This is more than simply deciding where walls and rooms will go. We want to take this opportunity to think carefully about how the basement can serve the ministry of Harvest Springs for years to come.

Once the design is complete, we anticipate approximately another month working with the City of Great Falls on permitting. That means that, assuming everything proceeds according to plan, physical construction will most likely begin in January of 2027. I know January may sound like a long way away, but important work needs to happen between now and then, and we want to do this right.

Making sure the basement is safe.

One of the most important pieces of this process is making sure that the mold issue is completely addressed before we begin rebuilding. During the design phase, we will work with the appropriate contractors to ensure mold is properly remediated from all affected basement surfaces before construction begins. We don't want to install new walls, floors, ceilings, or finishes in the basement until we are confident the underlying issues have been properly addressed. Our goal is to make it safe, healthy, functional, and ready for ministry.

How long will construction take?

Once physical construction begins, we currently anticipate that the project will take approximately six to nine months. Obviously, construction projects can encounter unexpected challenges, so we don't want to promise a specific completion date before the work begins. But our hope is that, as we move through the process, we will be able to give you increasingly specific timelines.

I also have another piece of good news to share. Although the entire restoration will take time, we don't necessarily have to wait until the entire project is finished before ministry returns to the

basement. Detailed Construction will work with us to identify ways to create a safe, usable portion of the basement so that we can hopefully begin having kids downstairs again for Sunday Harvest Kids programming sometime this fall. That doesn't mean the entire basement will be finished. It doesn't mean every room will be available. But our hope is to create a safe space where our children can once again experience Sunday morning ministry downstairs.

At the end of the day, this project isn't really about a basement. It's about people. Ultimately, it's about the mission God has given Harvest Springs: We lead lost people to center their lives on Jesus.

What can we do?

Now that we have some clarity about how we move forward, we want to keep asking you to do the same things we've been asking you to do for the last year.

First, pray. Please pray for wisdom for our Board of Administration and our staff. Pray for Detailed Construction, the architects, engineers, contractors, and everyone involved in this project. Pray for the design process. Pray for the permitting process. Pray that we will make wise decisions with the resources God has provided. And pray for God's protection and provision throughout the entire project. Most of all, pray that God would use this restored space for his purposes.

Our church has a long history of believing that God can take places that seem dry, broken, or unusable and make them places where life can flourish. That's part of the story behind our foundational passage in Psalm 107. The Psalm says that God *"turns a desert into pools of water, a dry land into springs of water."* The basement has been God's vehicle to help us clarify who we are as a church, including what we value and what we do. We believe God is springing new life from a damaged basement to produce a coming harvest of people centering their lives on Jesus.

Second, continue to give. We know that a project of this magnitude will require significant financial resources. We are incredibly grateful for what has already been given, and we will continue to communicate clearly with you about the financial needs and opportunities to participate in this project. If you are able to give toward the basement restoration, we invite you to continue online or in person, marking your contribution "Facility Renovations."

So, church family, we have some clarity, we have a contractor, and we are moving forward.

There is still a road ahead of us. It will take patience. It will take wisdom. It will take resources. And it will take prayer, but we are moving forward. And our hope isn't ultimately in a contractor, an architect, a construction plan, or even a restored basement. Our hope is in Jesus. He is the one who has been faithful to Harvest Springs through every season, and he is the one who will continue to lead us into the future.

So thank you for walking through this with us. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your generosity. And thank you for praying.