

January 19, 2021

Update: Capital Campaign and Churchwide Renovation Project

We had such a successful campaign and were able to raise \$595,509.18 in cash and received an additional \$315,000 worth of pledges. All in, we are just shy of \$1,000,000. Wow! Your generosity is amazing and God's ability to move through your faithfulness gives witness to just how good God is.

Late in 2020, the trustees and church board met and considered next steps.

As you likely remember, to renovate our entire church, the cost would require an investment of \$3,000,000. Entering into this campaign, we knew that this project would be done in phases and likely take 5 to 10 years to complete. Thus after completing the campaign, we narrowed the scope of phase 1 work to include:

- **The Backyard**- An outdoor gathering space that would consist of two new awnings, complete redesign of our parking lot, new exterior lighting, relocating our existing playground, and much more. The goal is to create an invitational outdoor space in downtown San Angelo.
- **The Table**- The new heart of the church where everything connects. This space will have coffee and beverages and be set up as a place for people to connect.
- **The Children Space**- An updated children's wing that could be used for a daycare and ministry opportunities on weekdays. Additionally, we would create a "Kids Check-in Center."
- **The Sanctuary**- Updating the historic sanctuary to meet the needs of both traditional and contemporary worship styles utilizing technology.
- **The Storehouse**- A flexible-use ministries space used for fellowship dinners, and more importantly the food pantry.
- **Downstairs Restrooms**- An updated and reconfigured space to accommodate handicap guests and members.
- **New Office Spaces** -Relocating the existing offices to include office space downstairs and upstairs.
- **HVAC** - updating the HVAC in the sanctuary.

To complete this phase, the project would cost 1.9 million dollars. After continued discussion, based on pledges received, we have decided to divide our scope of work into phases 1A and 1B.

- **Phase 1A:** The backyard, the table, the children's space, the storehouse (a modified plan), downstairs restrooms, new offices, and HVAC (if funds allowed – HVAC cost is \$140,000).
- **Phase 1B:** The sanctuary and the storehouse

The projected cost of **phases 1A** is \$1.1 million and **phase 1B** \$800,000. We believe that God is calling us to do phase 1A and 1B **NOW**, but like many things, we are unsure how. In faith, we have moved forward with completing architectural designing for 1A and 1B with the hopes that resources will become available.

We also understand that there are mixed feelings about the design of the sanctuary and believe that it is best practice for us to spend more time praying (listening) for the "right" plan for phase 1B.

Next Steps

Plans for phase 1A and 1B have been submitted to the city, loan applications are being reviewed, and architects are preparing hard quotes to present to church leadership with a price maximum guarantee. Once this is complete, we will finalize next steps, and move into construction. We are hopeful that we can break ground on phase 1A mid-March or early April.

We Are Not Alone (Central Christian Church of Weatherford, TX)

I am sharing a link to a video clip that our designed-to-build architecture firm produced. They recently completed a project with Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Weatherford TX. In this video two members of CCC shared their experiences of their church's wider renovation project and how God was able to use their faithfulness to do a "new thing." They are also honest about the challenges they faced.

Video Link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTcYE2VmuX8&feature=youtu.be

It brings me great joy to know that we are not alone. Our challenges and celebrations mirror the experience of CCC of Weatherford. Take a look at the video and give thanks to God for God's faithfulness in the project of CCC and together let us look forward to experiencing the same goodness, here at First Christian Church.

A Word of Thanks

Thank you so much for your support on this project. Without your faithfulness, none of this would have been possible. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions and if you have not pledged, it is not too late. You can give online at www.fccsanangelo.org/donate/capital-campaign or call the church office for more information.

Lastly, I want to extend a special thanks to Lynn Alexander, the chair of our Capital Campaign and share my gratitude for Duff Hallman and Theresa James, for they have been faithful to meet with architects weekly to work through the tedious task of finalizing construction documents. I also want to extend my gratitude to the church board, the trustees, 2020 Nominating Committee, and the various small groups that have met to help with design decisions.

Thank you... Great things are to come.

Blessings,

T.J. Shoop-York