

Introduction

Greetings from the Building For the Future (BFF) Committee! You first heard from us back in July, and then again in October, regarding our upcoming project. Now, in 2018, we want to expand our communication with you and invite your continued engagement as we move forward with this exciting project. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or suggestions. We continue to invite a dialogue as this project gains momentum.

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Initial Stages

As you are aware, we made an initial presentation to the congregation requesting general feedback and specifics on what should be included in the renovation and expansion project. We took that feedback and developed a series of conceptual drawings, which we presented to the congregation in October. Those drawings have formed the basis for our plan, with minor modifications. **The Vestry, on the recommendation of the BFF Committee, has contracted with Jerry Campbell, of Episcopal Church Foundation, to advise us** as we complete the discernment phase of this effort and move through the feasibility study and active fundraising portions of the campaign.

Costs and Considerations

The current estimate for the total cost of the project is \$1.3 million. This is based on a cost per square foot of \$185 for a 7,000 square foot building and includes all costs. However, material and labor costs are constantly fluctuating and may be adversely affected by the fires in Santa Rosa and Southern California. We are in the process of selecting a General Contractor who will provide initial estimates and guide us through the process of selecting options and finishes that will affect the final cost.

Hafer House

After more than 18 months on the market, at various prices, we are in the process of negotiating with Rogue Retreat for a lease/purchase of the property for the purpose of establishing a women's shelter. They will initially pay us \$2,000 per month and assume all utility costs, including utility costs we would normally pay for our office use. They are currently applying for a grant so that they may purchase the property for \$400,000 that grant and purchase process could take up to a year to complete. In the meantime, we will have the lease payments as income.

A Good Start – the Olive Landsburgh Bequest

Olive Landsburgh, a former and long-time St. Mark's parishioner, passed away in April 2017. A victim of polio when she was 20, she nevertheless lived a long and active life, slowing down only towards the end and becoming unable to come to church due to her mobility difficulties. She was a member of the Eagle Point School Board for 12 years and she was involved in many community events. She generously bequeathed \$400,000 for the purpose of enhancing the ministry of St. Mark's and specifically the accessibility of our buildings. Combined with the \$600,000 raised from our previous "Building for Ministry" capital campaign, we now have \$1 million towards the Building For the Future Campaign.

A Space for Expanded Ministry

There are many ministries at St. Mark's that would be enhanced with the renovation of current spaces and addition of new spaces. Those ministries include:

Food Pantry – We will have dedicated food pantry storage, including a loading dock, facilitating setup and cleanup of the Thursday food pantry.

Sunday School and Youth – We will have inviting, bright, airy, flexible classroom spaces rather than our current basement rooms.

Social and Hospitality – Our new commercial kitchen and larger parish hall will give us more space for coffee hour and special events, as well as a place to hold classes.

Administration and Finance – Our new offices, adjacent to the church, will give our staff ready access to the church and other spaces, increasing their efficiency and effectiveness.

Music Ministry – With a dedicated Music Minister's office and a music storage and small rehearsal space, we will easily be able to build on the excellent program we have.

Accessibility and Visibility – Reconfigured outdoor spaces and a new elevator will facilitate access for those with walkers or wheelchairs and the outdoors space will be well lit and welcoming, with attractive plantings and signage.

***Please join us at the Annual Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, January 28
in the Parish Hall as we introduce the full project to you
and invite your participation.***