



Mt. Carmel Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Faithful to the Generations — *A Vision for Our Future*

Issue #3

November 2014

A Chapter in Hospitality



The spiritual gift of **hospitality** is the ability to welcome strangers and entertain guests, often in your home, with great joy and kindness so that they become friends. Hospitality is supposed to include one's family (1 Tim. 5:8), friends (Prov. 27:10), Christians (Gal. 6:10), and strangers who may not be Christians (Lev. 19:34).

Expressing the gift of hospitality has always been an important part of our family life at Mt. Carmel. We love to celebrate the blessings of God and we do this very often, like all families, with activities that involve eating. Our church family loves to eat! And what's more, we've been blessed with having a lot of members who love to cook and bake. You might say that's "a match made in heaven."

Of course all this talk about food means that **our kitchen** plays an important role in the life of our family. As it currently exists, our kitchen is well-

equipped and has served our needs extremely well over the years. While we don't want to be guilty of trying to fix something that isn't broken, we do believe we can improve the overall

hospitality of our church home by relocating our kitchen.

By moving all of our kitchen equipment to the far end of our fellowship hall, adjacent to our "small kitchen," we can maintain all of the functionality of our existing kitchen while expanding our fellowship area and improving the overall traffic flow throughout the church.

While the relocation of our kitchen will allow for the better overall functionality of our building, it will also allow for some improvements to the ways we enjoy our food-centered celebrations. The addition of a serving counter in the middle section of the relocated kitchen will provide a more convenient and safer way, to distribute and receive meals. Although its location may change to the end of our building, the kitchen will remain at the center of our family celebrations for generations to come.



Q&A: These are some of the questions you have been asking

Q. *What are the construction priorities for Faithful to the Generations?*

A. Of course, we want to accomplish the project in its entirety. But, from a standpoint of priorities, we view the project this way: First and foremost is the repayment of our property loan. Second are all of the necessary upgrades that we've delayed for many years, including plumbing, electric, carpeting, painting, and wall-coverings. Third would be the complete execution of the proposed internal building ren-

ovations (kitchen relocation, narthex improvements, new bathrooms, and fellowship hall addition). Since we're not expanding our building space, all of these changes must be done consecutively. We will not be able to do only one or two of them without completing the rest. The remaining priorities include resurfacing the parking lot, constructing a new storage building, and making more improvements to the Youth Center.

Mt. Carmel

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If you have a question you would like to be answered in our next informational newsletter, please send it to the church office or drop it in the collection plate on Sunday.