

Introduction to the Renovation Team Presentation to Session

The single most important reason for the renovation is the need for an elevator, which has been on the wish list of virtually all members of the congregation for many years. In addition to that need, has been the deterioration of the 1920s building, requiring as much as a million dollars in repairs, for space the congregation finds mostly unusable.

With the renovation, we not only will be able to reach most of the levels of the church by elevator, but we will also have an opportunity to build a much more attractive and functional chapel as well as open and inviting spaces between the sanctuary and the 1960s building. The renovation will allow the congregation to invite many more worthy groups to utilize our facilities; making major contributions to the community as we have done in the past with the Presbyterian Home, Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County, Health First, and the Computer Bank; which are organizations started and nurtured in our church building.

When we hired Pastor Susan, we finally had the good fortune of bringing on board a minister willing to take on the challenging goal of bringing accessibility to our facilities, thank the Lord.

The renovation team was tasked with working with an architect and builder to address the needs of the church. As we incorporated accessibility and the input from the congregation into the design process. One of these needs is the installation of an elevator. It's placement was a major driver in how the design would develop. The location of the elevator in the connecting building, between the sanctuary and the 1960's wing, helped us establish the traffic flow and placement of the chapel, history room, nursery and second floor lounge. During our discussions we identified other needs of the church we thought should be addressed during construction. Such as finishing the updating of the H V A C system, replacing windows in the 1960's building, remediating the water seepage along the alley and boiler room in the garden. All of which added cost to the project. The difficult decisions of what should be accomplished now is what we are putting before the session.

The cost of construction over the last 2 years has risen dramatically from inflation and supply problems. Working with The Samuels Group and O'shea Builders we are presenting a design that reflects a desire to address the needs of the renovation in a cost effective way. O'shea Builders has provided a cost analysis break down of the project to date. This analysis is based on the present scope and design of the renovation.