

## The sanctuary raised and our church built

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, the laborers build in vain" (Psalm 127:1).*



**Our church is being built!** Over three years ago, we made a decision to build a new sanctuary. We knew it would take time and sacrifice. What we did not know was that in building a new sanctuary we would also be building a church filled with many ministries.

In the last three years, we began a recycling ministry that has raised \$7,000. We began a prayer ministry that lifts up the concerns of the church and world. We have a monthly prayer calendar. Our technology team designed a new website empowering the ministries of the congregation. Our choir is strong. The fellowship teams are busy. Our youth ministries are alive and active. We have wonderful Sunday School teachers. We have a Greek class. We just completed another amazing VBS. Our financial committee is implementing best financial practices. Our deacon and elder boards are developing. The Lord has been busy during these past few years. Our church is being built!

**The sanctuary is being raised!** In the last three years, we have also worked hard to build the new sanctuary. Construction on our sanctuary will begin in September. Below is an update on the progress:

- *Capital Campaign* – Our campaign is 26 out of 36 months complete (i.e. 72% complete). We have raised \$369,000 of our pledged amount \$520,000, which is 71% of our pledge. Praise God! If we push hard, we will not only meet but exceed our pledged goal.
- *Building Permit* – Last January, the Planning Commission of Westminster approved the new sanctuary. The plans are currently in “plan check.” Our permits will be ready by August.
- *Contractor* – We selected Lambard Enterprise to build the sanctuary. Their original bid was \$2.5 million. The building committee made modifications to the plans (removed stone facade, mosaics and special glass) in order to lower the cost to \$2,050,000. Thanks to the Building Committee for their hard work.
- *Construction Loan* – We had a setback with our construction loan. Co America Bank postponed their non-profit lending division. We switched lenders. Thrivent Financial will underwrite the construction loan. Our loan is for \$2 million.
- *Long-term loan* – Thrivent Financial will also underwrite our long-term loan. The loan amount is for \$2 million paid over 25 years at a rate of 6.5%. There are no prepayment penalties with the loan.

As you can see, hard work has occurred these last three years. The Lord is building the house. Please continue to pray for and participate in the ministries of this church. With your continual support and participation, we will see the sanctuary raised and our church built.

With love,  
Pastor Russ

