



May 8, 2019

St. Simons Presbyterian is preparing to embark on a yearlong renovation of our sanctuary and existing Ashantilly Wing. While the Building Committee and Session finalize plans for the project itself, a separate team called the **Renovation Transition Team** has been formed to help ensure a smooth transition out of existing spaces, into temporary spaces, and finally back into a newly renovated sanctuary and Ashantilly Wing. Part of our job is keeping YOU – the congregation – informed along the way. We will do that by publishing regular *Renovation Updates* such as this one. Please find us at any time to ask questions or share ideas. But most importantly, join us in praying for our church as we prepare to enter an exciting new chapter in our ministry together.

- Renovation Transition Team

Who's Who?

Renovation Transition Team: The Renovation Transition Team (RTT) is responsible for planning the smooth transition of all the ministry functions of the church out of existing spaces, into temporary spaces, and finally back into a newly renovated sanctuary and Ashantilly Wing. The primary focus of the RTT is the congregation. This group will serve as the chief liaison with staff, ministry teams, and congregants to plan all the logistical aspects of moving ministry and materials out of existing spaces (i.e., sanctuary and Ashantilly Wing), setting up a temporary worship space, updating signage and procedures, and troubleshooting logistical issues that may arise over the course of the renovation.

Members: Leslie McCracken (chair), Rev. Annie Arvin, Anne Aspinwall, Ben Bryson, Leslie Carlton, Rev. Alan Dyer, Rhonda Hambright, Tom Haughney, Walter Lynn, Suzanne Morrison, and David Stewart.

Building Committee: The Building Committee was elected by session to represent the congregation during regular meetings with the architectural team, contractor, and various consultants. This group handles all details pertaining to the construction and renovation itself.

Members: Tom Baltzell, Matt Hodgdon and Karen Schmidt.

Ussery-Rule: Robert Ussery and Cory Rule are leading our architectural and design team. Ussery-Rule is a highly regarded firm on the island with extensive experience both in residential, commercial, and religious spaces.

RH Tyson Construction: RH Tyson Construction has been working in southeast Georgia and Florida since 1996. On St. Simons they recently completed work on the Southeastern Bank and St. Willams Catholic Church. RH Tyson has been hired to complete the Music Attic Connector project this summer (see back) and may be considered to serve as contractor for the full renovation.

Upcoming Timeline

<p>May 20, 2019</p>	<p>Organ Removal Begins <i>Our organ will be removed from the sanctuary by the A.E. Schleuter Pipe Organ Company. This must be done well in advance of the renovation itself in order to allow the pipe organ company to get precise measurements of the organ chamber space and complete their design process. The sanctuary space will appear no different once the organ is removed since the pipes are already "hidden" behind the screen at the back of the choir loft. The removal process will take place between Sundays and will not disrupt worship. We will use our electronic organ moving forward.</i></p>
<p>Mid June to Mid July 2019</p>	<p>Music Attic Connector Project <i>Session has approved the construction of a small hallway between the "Music Attic" space (located directly above the Britt Room) and the existing youth suite. Currently the Music Attic is accessible only by a single steep stair case, which greatly limits its ability to be used by various adult ministries. By constructing a connector hallway, the short and long-term functionality of the Music Attic will be enhanced by allowing it to be accessed by the existing elevators that service the youth suite. Having additional accessible space will be especially important during the sanctuary renovation when several key ministries of the church (music, Sunday school, Hunger Action Team) will be displaced from the Ashantilly Wing. This month-long project will be completed by RH Tyson construction.</i></p>
<p>August 2019</p>	<p>Renovation Begins <i>Ussery-Rule is hopeful that construction documents and permitting will all be complete in time for a construction start sometime in August (specific date TBD).</i></p>

FAQ's

- Where will we worship during the renovation?** During the renovation we will worship in the Social Hall. The Renovation Transition Team is planning how to setup the space but also how to make it feel as comfortable and worshipful as possible.
- Who do I talk to if I have ideas, thoughts, concerns about specific elements of the renovation?** Members of the building committee as well as pastors and staff are ready to receive suggestions and answer questions. Please remember that while all suggestions and ideas are welcome & encouraged, session is the elected body responsible for final decisions regarding all aspects of the renovation.
- How long will the renovation last?** We anticipate the renovation to last at least 12 months.
- How much will the renovation cost?** The projected cost of the renovation is currently \$4 million. The capital campaign has set a goal of raising \$4.5 million to allow for any overruns and provide for the future maintenance needs of our campus.
- What will happen to the library?** The final step of the renovation will be moving the library to the existing Chapel room on the Delegal Dr. side of the church. In that larger space, the church library will become a multi-function library, sitting, and meeting space with lots of natural light from the Memorial Garden. Key reference materials will be placed in a temporary library area (location TBD) during the renovation with the remainder of the books stored until the end of the renovation.
- What can I do to help?** Give of your time, talents, and resources. Volunteer to assist the RTT with specific tasks (emptying closets, inventorying materials, etc.). And last but not least, PRAY!