

Alexandria First Presbyterian Church

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May 17, 2018

Dear Members and Friends,

One year ago this Sunday, we proudly committed our pledges to the capital campaign, *Renewing God's House; A Great Heritage, A Great Future*. On that Sunday, the support of our congregation was truly overwhelming, showing just how generous and committed you would be to our capital campaign projects.

For the past year, the Buildings and Property Team, working closely with the Capital Campaign Leadership Team, has been working very hard to finalize plans and move ahead with the projects. This included working with an architect, soliciting bids, meeting with contractors, reviewing bids, and discerning a path forward.

At a special Session meeting on May 2nd, a recommendation was made to proceed with the project, utilizing *J.E. Maier Carpentry and Contracting, Inc.*

The Session reviewed the Maier bid, and compared it to the other bids received. The entire process was made more difficult due to the construction bids being significantly higher than the previous estimates received. But the Session pushed forward, developing a plan to move ahead, even though we did not fully meet our campaign goal.

Initially, the Session didn't want to prioritize the projects included in our Capital Campaign. They hoped they could do them all. But since we do not have the funds to do all of the projects at this point, the plan that Session formulated prioritized what would be done, as well as the funding. The Session decided they did not want to seek a loan for more than we have pledged at this time; very thoughtfully deciding to work within our means, not spending money that hasn't been pledged. To accomplish this, the Session decided not to include the elevator and the manse refurbishment in the plan, at this time. However, the Session remains fully committed to these projects and would like to accomplish them. If additional pledges or donations are received, the Session would gladly add them back into the plan.

Meanwhile, we have a lot of excitement to look forward to as the remaining projects will begin soon. It'll be nice to see all of our hard work begin to take shape!

On May 20th, following worship, the architectural plans will again be available in the fellowship hall and members of the Building & Property Team and Connections Team will be available to answer questions.

In Christ, Nick Hatch, Pastor Pat Keefe, Connections Team Chair