



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

SPECIAL RECOVERY EDITION

April 10, 2011

A Milestone in the Recovery

Church Mutual, our insurance company, will cover the claim to repair the sanctuary! We hold a "replacement" policy with a \$500 deductible. In communicating their decision, Church Mutual indicates they have accepted a proposal by Dajon Associates of Hackensack, the firm that erected the emergency shoring towers in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. While ultimately it is up to us to select the construction company, we agree with Church Mutual that Dajon is an excellent choice, based on Dajon's reputation in the industry, their experience specializing in repairs of this type all over the country, and the past work they have done for us.

Members of the Recovery Task Force met with representatives of Church Mutual and Dajon on April 6 to discuss the scope of the project. Dajon is prepared to begin work immediately. The Church Council will meet with a representative of the firm tomorrow evening.

Many questions remain about the repair process; however, the news that insurance will defray a significant portion of the cost is very good indeed. Even though it's Lent, this deserves a hallelujah!

Hallelujah!

Initial Repair Sequence

Repairs will begin with the removal of the chandeliers from the sanctuary, but the pews only if necessary. (Where will they go? We don't know yet.) The plaster ceiling will be cut to install additional shoring. Access holes will be made along the north and south side walls at the truss bearing to evaluate what's happened between the truss and the wall. Any obstructing plumbing, electrical, framing or HVAC will be removed.

Once the engineers can see exactly what structural failures have occurred, they will have a clearer idea about how to fix them. At present, the repair design is preliminary, but it calls for installing wood and steel plate truss reinforcements as well as 1" diameter tie rods and ½" diameter sag rods in the mid-section of the sanctuary, with the tie rods anchored on the exterior of the building to draw the masonry walls in.

The Recovery Task Force believes we should take full advantage of this opportunity to improve the sanctuary and they are exploring how to accomplish that objective simultaneously. Improvements may include a full interior painting, new carpeting, refinishing pews, installing a sound system, HVAC duct work, and replacing the lighting controls.

How long will it take?

The likely date of our return is uncertain until the contractor begins the engineering process. Rest assured, returning to our sanctuary quickly is at the forefront of everyone's mind.

No matter how long it takes ... God is with us, all the time. All the time, God is with us.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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