



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

SPECIAL RECOVERY EDITION

May 15, 2011

Congregation Votes Today

Immediately after worship today, the congregation will be asked to vote on opening a line of credit to fund specific improvements to the sanctuary. If approved, we will apply for a \$100,000 credit line from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. However, the Church Council has set \$35,000 as the limit of borrowing against that line. Jon Osborn, President of the Council, said, "That's as much as we're comfortable spending. We're trying to make the best choices quickly and give ourselves some breathing room before doing a fund-raising campaign later in the year."

After last Sunday's presentation by the Recovery Task Force and the ensuing discussion, the Council pared the "open wall" projects to include just these:

- Replacing the lighting controls
- Painting the air conditioning wall units
- Heating the choir loft
- Cleaning and rewiring the chandeliers

At this time, funding for refinishing pews and the sound system has been taken off the table. Advocates for undertaking the pew refinishing and audio work were disheartened, but they hope these items and others will be included in a capital campaign later in the year. "Shortly, Council will constitute a Visioning Committee to dream about what Good Shepherd might look like in the future," said Osborn, "and we'll consider the other building and ministry needs such as bathrooms, carpeting, and the kitchen when we're not under pressure."

To recap, now that Church Mutual accepted our claim for the roof, the Recovery Task Force identified other non-reimbursed work that could be undertaken in the sanctuary while the roof is being repaired. These are referred to as "open wall" decisions because they are projects that are sensible while the sanctuary is under construction.

Construction Plans

Members of the Recovery Task Force met with Dajon, the contractor, earlier this week. The project engineer was on site and he is beginning to develop a detailed engineering plan for the repairs. Some additional exploratory work will occur on the outside of the building. The engineering plan is expected on May 23, enabling materials to be ordered and the applications to be made for building permits. [At a meeting this week, the Glen Rock Borough Council agreed to waive 50% of the fees, estimated to be \$1,000 to \$2,000.]

While Dajon originally believed that tie rods and sag bars would be installed in the sanctuary to repair the building, now it appears that sag bars may not be necessary. The repaired sanctuary will have five permanent 1" horizontal steel tie rods between the windows, but probably no vertical sag bars down the center aisle. This is good news, indeed.

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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