

“Every Meal a Celebration”

What an appropriate theme for the new Kitchen & Dining Complex project at the Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center! For many of our guests, and perhaps for you, meal times at a conference or retreat event are a special time to share not only a good meal, but more importantly, our lives together. There is nothing quite like seeing three and even four generations laughing and talking around a table.

As we get closer to starting construction, I want to update you on the progress we have made and remind you of ways you can be involved to help see this new building become a reality.

A lot has happened in the months since we last updated our friends on this project. Our two architects, Steve Winstead and Ron Kief, have nearly finalized construction plans for the actual building after having to do a slight redesign of the roof due to code issues. Extensive discussions with engineers have centered on designing a stable foundation to take into account current earthquake and flood considerations in our area (sound biblical?!).

Our volunteer landscape architect, Mark Hadley, has presented us with two beautiful, preliminary proposals for landscaping around the building. We are working our way through the myriad decisions about things like lighting, carpet, paint colors, furnishings, etc. that go into a project of this size.

A key task has been assembling as accurate as possible estimate of cost. With all the variables, this has been a challenging task. With volunteer labor factored in, our closest estimate is now \$3.04 million for the total project. With construction needing to be done in two phases, Phase One will be about \$2 million and Phase Two roughly \$1 million.

As of now, we have \$720,000 in a special project account, and another \$120,000 pledged over the next 1-2 years. We estimate we need about \$175,000 more in hand to begin construction in the fall. We are proceeding on the basis these funds will come in. A key check point will be the submittal of the design of the building and landscape plan to our local Design Review Board this summer. If approved, site work could begin after Labor Day.

Every project over the years has included stories--miraculous stories at times--of how God has provided exactly what was needed at that moment for each particular project. This is a very exciting time as we embark on the largest project in our history! We look forward to sharing with you the stories of how God meets the needs this time, through His people, in the days and months ahead. For those that have begun to financially support this project, your gifts have brought us closer to the funds still needed to start construction.

We will keep you posted on the progress of this significant investment in the future of our ministry to guests of all ages. Of course, you can always get an update on our website as well. Let's **celebrate together** what God has done and will do!

Jeff Carlsen
Executive Director