

Thank you Father

“Our Journey to Parkside” continued. Talk number four. The last talk was July 13th. Needless to say a lot has happened, but I will say what has happened anyway and more importantly what is going to be happening, especially next week.

First of all I want to say the Ground Breaking Ceremony was absolutely wonderful and Jane Wilson our PC president did an outstanding job of organizing and conducting this event. We all can be very proud of our church leadership and ourselves in making this once in a life time event a memorable one. Everyone brought their shovels to dig a little bit and that was really neat, but did you happen to notice my shovels parked near the entrance. Yea! We are going to dig a lot and move some serious dirt starting next week!

The Parkside zoning efforts are now successfully completed. The Warren County Board of Adjustments granted approval of our "Conditional Use Permit" on July 24th. You can view the documents on our web page. We are now legally able to use Parkside for all our intended ministries.

The Parish Company Sign-up day was held August 12th which identified sixteen companies that would like to participate in helping to build Spirit I. They will be included in our bidding and work strategies.

The design of the Site Development Plan by Civil Engineer Michael S. Evans was completed during August and is now issued for construction. Our County Site Work permit has just been obtained, so you know what that means?

**We are now READY to start construction!** And I emphasis **READY**. That's the key! We are not scrambling, we are not rushing into this just to make a date. We know what we are doing and the Project Team is fully prepared to start construction and safely complete as scheduled. Eight months ago we circled this

date, just as we have circled the date to begin moving into Spirit I during February of 2010.

Holland Inc. from Bowling Green has been awarded the Rough Grading Contract as the low bidder among five others. These bids were competitive and favorably below our cost estimates. We plan to have Parkside completely rough graded to the designed contour lines moving more than 34,000 cy of soil, in addition another 18,000 cy of topsoil will be stripped from approximately 15 acres and stockpiled for future use, (if you need some topsoil? we got it). All the storm water piping and environmental structures will be installed, establish the temporary construction entrance (located where we now enter Parkside), cut-in all boulevard and parking areas and place the base stone, and final grading and hydro seeding of the detention pond areas. All this work is expected to be completed by early November. The onsite U/G Utilities (water, sewer and gas) will be coordinated with the building foundations that are scheduled to start in December in support of getting out of the ground. I think you get the idea, we are no longer just talking the talk we are now starting to walk the walk.

We just concluded our third Project Team Meeting this last Thursday. We re-examined the cost estimates of Spirit I provided by SMD now based on the completed Design Development documents. Our current forecasted cost of \$ 6.3MM remains unchanged from July as it is compared to the current approved budget of \$6.044MM. All Project costs are continued to be challenged. I assure you only the essential building costs are included in the budget and being cost effective is our number concern without compromising Safety and Quality standards.

The Project Team has determined that our heating and cooling mechanical system will be Geo Thermal. We will soon install a test well and run conductivity tests as required to determine the feasibility of installing the required 40 wells at a depth of 400 feet to heat and cool both Spirit I and Spirit II.

Parkside will be a "Green" Project. The US Green Building Council which is the governing body for Green Building construction has a certification program called LEED. That's L-E-E-D. LEED is an anachronism for "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" The Project Team has concluded that Spirit I is physically capable of being LEED certified. In other words we are doing all the right things. However, there are extensive administrative time and costs involved to document and comply to their standards which we find to be prohibitive. Its not easy to become certified and deliberately intended to be so. Consequently there are presently no buildings that we are aware of, that are LEED certified in Warren County. Obviously if we were certified, we would become one of the first leaders in environmental construction for South Central Kentucky. Wouldn't that be a statement! A solution to our situation could possibly be in finding someone having the passion and time over the next two years to immediately come forward to manage, coordinate and help us to produce documents in compliance with a regulatory type agency. If we have such a person as that, I think we could achieve certification. Regardless, we are committed to being good stewards of our limited resources in building as "Green" as possible and be at least LEED Like.

BCDM our architect has completed the Design Development phase of the Project and is now well underway developing the actual construction documents to be used by SMD to go out for competitive bids for all of the Spirit I work starting in mid October.

BCDM will also be starting the actual Schematic Design of Spirit II in October as their Contract will soon be amended to proceed accordingly. The Spirit I Building Plan is updated and now ready to be re-issued as part of the Parkside Building Plan which will include the TORCH Master Plan for Spirit II. The Spirit II estimated Building Plan cost is \$ 7.6MM which is approximately \$900K greater than the approved March Business Plan. Both Spirit I and Spirit II costs will be further refined and formally reviewed with an updated Business plan presented to the Parish Council in February 2009 for their approval.

Please continue looking in the Sunday bulletin and in the quarterly newsletter the “Breath of the Spirit” for Spirit I and NOW Spirit II updates. Our web page **Journey to Parkside** will continue to be updated with lots of construction pictures taken by Bernie Schwitzgebel. There is a link from the Holy Spirit web site to the **Journey to Parkside** web page.

Please stop and talk with me and any of the PPSC members Charlie Gries, Jack Thomas, Donnie Cook, and Tim Minor. Also please don't forget to talk to Joe Meyer of SMD our Project Construction Manager. They are all very busy building Spirit I so we all can get to Parkside **Safely**, in a **Quality** facility, that is **Cost** effective, and on time as **Scheduled**.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support.