

Thank you Father

“Our Journey to Parkside” continued. Talk number five. My last visit to this ambo was on September 14th just after "Ground Breaking". A lot has happened since then! I hope you all have been able to keep up with our progress by visiting our web site, viewing the "Journey to Parkside" bulletin board outside the parish hall and reading articles in the Sunday bulletin and the "Breathe of the Spirit" The "Breathe of the Spirit" had a great aerial picture of Parkside rough graded, taken in November by Bob Pitchford. We plan to take another aerial shot in early summer to show all the walls and roofing. Our website has new pictures posted daily organized by each week by Bernie Schwitzgebel and construction progress reports by Joe Meyer. Please do not miss out on our exciting construction experience.

The Warren County Planning and Zoning commission approved our Detailed Design Plan last October 16th. We continue to move forward in obtaining the last required building permits and off-site easements as we enter into discussions with the County concerning the Smallhouse roadway improvements. We would like to have the roadway work done in the Spring and Summer of this year. As you know the County has agreed to pay for half of these roadway improvements. We will then coordinate our utility connections, including the Force Main sewer and the completion of the Spirit Boulevard entrance onto Parkside.

We held our fourth Project Team Meeting November 20th. We reviewed the completed Spirit I Construction Design documents, making final bid proposal adjustments and reviewed the progress of the Spirit II Schematic Design presented by our architect BCDM with TORCH and the church staff. PPSC also issued the Parkside Building Plan to serve as our OPR (Owner Project Requirements) This document can be viewed on our web page.

Geo Earthworks Inc. conducted our geo- thermal test well and issued their report in late December. BCDM is now completing the geo-thermal well field design and it will be issued by SMD for bids in the next few weeks.

Scott & Murphy was awarded the Spirit I concrete work at just below our construction estimate and has started the foundations. Yesterday we poured our first concrete footer, almost to the day a year ago PPSC was first named and organized. Scott Murphy and Daniel has issued the Spirit I construction design out for bids just before Thanksgiving. This happens to be an excellent time to build as Contractors really need the work during this slow economic period. This was proven to us when we opened the bids on December 19th. We received very competitive bids for all the work packages and are now in the process of making awards. We are also closely working with the Contractors as their suggestions to further reduce cost and add value can be substantial. Based on these bids we can now forecast Spirit I to be built for our approved budget of \$6.044MM. This is about \$250K less than our construction estimate which was established last August.

The lump sum awards will become the basis of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) by SMD which will be established at our next Project Team Meeting on January 19th. The GMP should be supportive of the approved current budget and that the actual cost of Spirit I comes in below budget. I'll let you all know in February how well we did with the GMP.

Parkside will be a "Green Project". Just to refresh your memory, 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 acronym for "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" We have found Brian Clements or I should say, Brian has found us. He is a parishioner, an architect and also (how lucky can you get) a LEED Approved Professional and is our leader of the "Green Team". The "Green Team" is comprised of parishioners that want to help the Project Team to build Green and become LEED certified. Spirit I has been formally registered with the USGBC and our construction design has just been submitted for their review. We are now in the midst of a long process to become recognized by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) as being LEED certified or eligible for higher recognition.

We have also retained the Facility Commissioning Group (FCG) as our commissioning authority to formally commission Spirit I to ensure that we do achieve all the maximum energy efficiencies as designed.

Working on a LEED project is new to all of us and is new to South Central Kentucky. More and more new buildings in Warren County are now wanting to build "Green". We certainly want to demonstrate as an important part of our faith, that we are good stewards in conserving energy and being respectful to the environment.

BCDM has completed the Church, Spirit II Schematic Design in December and is now starting to work on the Design Development phase which is to be completed by the end of March. The Spirit II Schematic Design estimate is now being developed and will be finalized during the next Project Team meeting. Hopefully this estimate will be less than the current Building Plan estimated cost of \$ 7.6MM. We will use the actual Spirit I "as-bid" unit costs to provide accuracy of the material and labor costs.

The latest Spirit I forecasted cost, based on actual bids and awards, and the Spirit II Schematic Design estimate will be used by the Finance Committee in their recommendation to the Parish Council to proceed to borrow funds to build the Church now or to wait until a later date. The decision of the Parrish Council next month will, in a very large part, be determined not only by our pledge commitments, but also in our faith and prayers that the Lord is providing us with this wonderful gift for the future.

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 Brian Clements our LEED leader and Joe Meyer of SMD our Project Construction Manager. They are all very busy building Spirit I so we all can get to Parkside (next year this time) Safely, in a Quality facility, that is Cost effective, and on time as Scheduled.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support.