

## **Building Project Update**

The contract with Clark and Leatherwood was signed in March, and the process of officially planning our building renovation has been underway since. This is a complicated project, and the initial background phase was originally estimated to require three to four months. Though it has been slowed a little bit by the general disruption of our way of life during this time, we have now completed the first phase of the project, which is called Schematic Design. This involved an official boundary and topographic survey of the rear of the property, contacts with the NCDOT, Town of Waynesville, and utilities vendors which traverse the property. The team also had conferences and a site visit with the contractor and Clark-Lanning architects. The civil engineer has completed the preliminary plan for the parking area, which includes a covered drive through entrance, and 51 new parking spaces on a generally level surface in the rear. The architects have rendered a beautiful design which turns the unused space above the covered drive into a 500 square-foot multipurpose room adjacent to our sanctuary. The Building Project Team has reviewed and selected designs from the options that were presented, and the Session has approved the team's recommendation.

The next phase of the project is underway. This is called Design Development—taking the drawings of how it will look and figuring exactly how the pieces fit together, so that bidding can take place and the actual construction can begin. This will take another four to six weeks, and the parking design, inclusive of drainage, rights-of-way, and landscaping will be completed first. The actual construction will probably start in early October with grading and site development. The building renovation itself should begin in early December. If the weather cooperates, we hope to have the project completed in July of 2021.

**Rick Croskery, Chair  
Building Project Team**