

## **You've been asking!**

Here are answers to some of your frequently asked questions related to storm repair and renovations to UUMC property.

### **WHERE ARE WE AS FAR AS RENOVATION OF THE SANCTUARY?**

Before work of renovation can actually begin the work of restoration after the hurricanes had to be identified. This has been an ongoing project since 2020. Insurance should pay for repairs of hurricane damage.

### **WHO IS IDENTIFYING THE HURRICANE DAMAGE?**

The ad hoc hurricane team was approved by the Leadership Council in 2020. The goal of this team is to do whatever is necessary to identify damage, work with insurance to repair damages, pay invoices for work that has been done, hire a construction company and oversee reconstruction while moving forward on the ultimate goal to eventually do the sanctuary renovation. The ad hoc hurricane team consists of Warren Allen, Randy Roach, Rev. Angela, David McCain, Larry Mason, Katie Stewart and Mickey Shannon, Janet Gilpin, and Mike Wittler. The team meets weekly.

### **HAS A CONTRACTOR BEEN HIRED?**

Ralph Lewing has been hired as the construction contractor for all remaining repairs and renovations at both the Patrick Street and The Bridge campuses. Ralph has also been involved in identifying the hurricane damage and giving the ad hoc team a projection of the costs to do repairs which will be submitted to the insurance company. He and his team are currently working with the architect, Randy Goodloe, to identify products to be used on the outside of the sanctuary that will coordinate with the front of the administrative building and day school. Lewing's scope of work will be the sanctuary and parlor.

### **WHAT ARE THEY CURRENTLY DOING?**

Lewing will begin on the outside of the building by giving the entire exterior a facelift. Interior work will begin with HVAC. Some of the HVAC work will be paid for by hurricane reimbursement. Some will be paid for out of renovation funds that are currently in the Capital Improvement LA Methodist Foundation account. Once they begin, some of this work may be done simultaneously.



### **WHAT ABOUT THE INTERIOR WORK?**

An ad hoc committee composed of members of both services will continue to work with the architect and Lewing as we get closer to making final sanctuary decisions. The plan has not been finalized. Colors, stains, paints, fabrics, seating, sound and lighting are all under consideration. The very first step will be asbestos abatement of the floor and Chancel. Allen Abshire is working with sound and lighting experts to determine what we need, what we will be able to manage with volunteers on Sundays and what we have budgeted.

### **WHAT ABOUT THE PRAYER GARDEN?**

The prayer garden will be remodeled in light of drainage issues. Everything in the prayer garden except the brick fountain will be removed to allow (after contouring )the best possible flow of rain water to the south west corner of the front of the prayer garden where the sidewalks will be lowered to accommodate water flow. Due to the multiple events of flooding that occurred in the administrative building this is necessary. It is the intention of the ad hoc prayer garden team to reuse statuary that has been donated in the past if at all possible. As soon as the reshaping has been done, new walkways will be poured from the front entrance to building entrances.

### **WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE CAMPUS OUT ON RED DAVIS MCCOLLISTER RD?**

Larry Mason and Mike Wittler have been the major drivers to get our second campus restored.. In addition to basic mitigation, there have been other challenges such as completely severed electrical, damaged well house, and easement issues with local government to maneuver to date. We now have a contract with Lewing who has completed the estimate needed for insurance purposes. It is the contractor's professional opinion that at least a portion of the current structure is unsalvageable, needing rebuild. Now that our Bridge gathering experiment has come to a close, Lake Charles is in a process of discernment to determine how God will call us to use this property in the future.

### **HOW ARE WE DOING AS FAR AS INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT FOR HURRICANE DAMAGES?**

One of the most difficult, time consuming tasks for the ad hoc hurricane team has been the administrative aspect of working with the insurance company without an in-house financial administrator. Every week, on Tuesdays, the ad hoc team meets to continue processing requests from insurance, validating expenses, copying invoices, and responding to requests that have caused untold delays. David McCain, Randy Roach, Warren Allen, Larry Mason, and Rev. Angela have spent untold hours attempting to satisfy insurance requests at the same time getting a very poor response from insurance when information has been requested.

Prepared by Mickey Shannon and Rev. Angela

To our knowledge, this information is accurate as of the date of this publication (9/18/2022)