



## Building Project UPDATE • October 16, 2022

I have some exciting news to share about the progress of our building project! Jesse Hopkins, the architect who initially developed our conceptual visuals for the new church and social hall, has been selected as our project architect. Not only is he most familiar with our project, but from the initial interviews prior to the Feasibility Study, Jesse really understood and captured our vision of what we felt our needs and desires were. I believe his passion, interest in this project, the fact he is local to the area, and is Catholic, will greatly benefit us and makes him the right fit for our project.

The next step is to hire a contractor to handle the construction project management. This entails the contractor working with a number of sub-contractors to build the building. They take responsibility for overseeing the construction project and working with all the individual parties who will be involved. They may also do some of the construction themselves, in areas where their company has an expertise. This will allow us to have a hand in choosing which sub-contractors are used. Our desire is to have many of our own parishioners who are licensed, bonded, and qualified trades people involved in the construction.

Here are the next steps we will take to select a contractor, and the timeline we plan to follow:

**October 2022 – February 2023:** Refine the conceptual plans for phase one (Church, Gathering Space, Social Hall). This step will allow the contractors to make proposals to manage the project.

**March 2023:** Request For Proposals to 3 construction companies (Rice Lake, Nor-Son, Hy-Tech).

**March 2023:** Selection Committee reviews RFP's, interviews the three, and awards the contract.

Once the contractor is selected, we will begin the design development phase of the project which will ultimately produce construction documents. This will involve the contractor and the architect working together based on our input to develop detailed plans. This is the step when the questions you have asked, and suggestions you have offered, will be carefully considered. Construction documents are much more detailed than conceptual plans. They are what the contractors/sub-contractors will use to build the church. The further we go in the process of design, and especially once construction has begun, the more expensive it will be to make changes.

That is why we want to have the contractor and the architect work together as a team to develop the construction documents, so that they are on the same page, and so they can share the vision and bring their ideas to help get us the best product at the best price. Site planning will begin very soon. This will entail soil sampling and a survey. It is exciting to be moving forward and we appreciate all those who are helping make this project a reality. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions that this update does not answer.

In Christ – Fr. Eli