

Building to Serve – Connections

The Connections Team consisting of Beverly Clemmer, Jay Franklin, Tom McDonnell and Allison Taylor, will continue to update the parish on the status of our Building to Serve campaign. Through September, we are now 6 months into our 36 month capital campaign. We are pleased to report that at the six month point we have contributions of \$537,300, which is about 45% of our \$1,210,100 total commitments for the 36 month period. This is a great start to our campaign and having this much in advance will help us limit the amount of borrowing we need to do during the construction period. It is important that everyone try to stay current with their contributions through the balance of the three year period.

As was reported at a recent town hall meeting, the expected construction costs have risen to around \$1.9 million. At the end of September we had actually spent \$559,400 on construction. Our project construction team is working hard to hold down costs, but there was a significant increase in material cost from the time the original estimates were completed and when construction actually started earlier this year. There have also been some changes in project scope as the removal of walls and examination of tie-ins with the existing structure have gotten under way. One of the major increases was in the amount of upgrades necessary to bring our existing building up to current codes.

The ECOHS Preschool has already moved back into their space in the building and our nursery space has been rebuilt with a separate bathroom. We are experiencing some inconvenience with a lack of stairs and as the kitchen and bathroom areas are being reconfigured, but having the increased space and a commercial type kitchen should soon outweigh the challenges.

Thanks to all for keeping your contributions current and dealing with the inconveniences as we continue Building to Serve.

BtS Connections Team