



**BUILDING FOR  
THE FUTURE**



February, 2010

Dear Families,

As most of you are aware of by now, starting at the beginning of March, the construction phase of our Capital Campaign will begin. This is an exciting step that, when it is completed, will make our building more up to date, accessible, attractive, and user friendly. That said, for the next nine months or so, we will need to have some flexibility and make some programmatic adjustments. Members of the Children's Ministry Committee, Sunday school teachers and volunteers have been working on this plan for many months. We hope the plan meets the core values of our children's program, while allowing for flexibility and safety as the work proceeds. We hope this letter will give you some of the key information that you will need to know for your child's Sunday School experience here at Third Presbyterian Church during the construction time.

### **How construction will affect Sunday mornings**

Starting on **Sunday, March 7**, we will no longer be worshipping in our sanctuary. Our neighbors at the Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word have graciously offered us the use of their sanctuary. Because of their worship time (9:30am) we have adjusted our worship time by a half hour (**11:15am start**) in order to allow them time to vacate the sanctuary, and give ample time for our members to arrive and settle in.

Their programming and available space does not, however, allow us to have Sunday School in their building. Therefore, Sunday School classes will continue to meet in the Third Presbyterian Church education building. Believe it or not, it is actually only a three minute walk from the door that we will use to exit Incarnate Word to the farthest point in the education building (the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom on the third floor).

### **Traveling between the two buildings**

Our plan is to try to maintain our current Sunday program as much as we possibly can. On Sunday mornings following the children's message, children will exit out the side door of the Incarnate Word sanctuary and into a small lobby where they will be greeted by the teachers standing in an assigned position (that will be the same from week to week) with a color coded class sign.

Teachers will have class lists and mark attendance at Incarnate Word. Classes will walk along the side of the parking lot and across Arnold Park, entering the Third Church education building from the side entrance to the chapel (by the playground). Please note: In winter weather, it will be a good idea for children to keep their jackets with them in the pews so that they can have them for the walk over to the education building and back at the end of Sunday School.

At about 12:25, all classes will return to Incarnate Word where classes will go to coffee hour in the lower level of Incarnate Word. Families are asked to check in with teachers and pick up their children from coffee hour.

## **The Junior Choir**

The Junior Choir will continue to rehearse and sing in church each Sunday morning. We will meet at 10:00am in the Third Church Chapel for our rehearsal. At about 11:05 we will walk over to Incarnate Word to sing and participate in the first part of worship. After the Children's Message we will walk back to the Ed Building for Sunday School along with the other Sunday School children. To keep things simple, we will not be wearing robes during this time period.

## **About the Nursery**

Incarnate Word cannot accommodate our large number of infants and toddlers (their nursery is somewhat smaller than ours), so due to the age and mobility of the children in our nursery, drop off and pick up of children in that age group will happen at Third Church. As has been our practice, parents are encouraged to set their cell phone to vibrate and leave their cell numbers with our nursery staff so that we can easily contact you if necessary.

## **A note about snack**

Because of the time shift, we would like to encourage parents who bring snacks for Sunday School to bring a slightly more hearty and healthy snack than current practices. Suggestions might be: cheese and crackers, finger sandwiches, fresh fruit, bagels and cream cheese, etc. (Please be mindful that there are a handful of children with peanut allergies of varying severity in our program).

## **Communication**

Although the distance between buildings is not much more than the distance from the far side of our sanctuary to the far end of the education building, we realize that being in a different building feels much farther away than when we are "connected." Parents are encouraged to provide their child's teacher with their cell phone number, and set their phone to "vibrate" during worship in case of emergency. Rest assured that with one of our sextons in the Third Church education building and Incarnate Word staff in that facility, we will be able to be in touch easily.

## **Winter weather**

Although spring officially comes in March, we in Rochester know that sometimes snow comes in spring! With that in mind, we would, again, suggest that children keep their coats with them in the pew for the first part of worship. Our sextons will be sure that paths are clear of snow, and we will have many adults and teen helpers to guide the children safely across the street in all weather!

\* \* \*

Please don't hesitate to be in touch if you have any question or concerns. Consult the Sunday bulletin and visit [www.thirdpresbyterian.org](http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org) for updates.

Becky D'Angelo-Veitch  
[rveitch@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:rveitch@thirdpresbyterian.org)

Chris Lenti  
[clenti@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:clenti@thirdpresbyterian.org)

John Wilkinson  
[jwilkinson@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:jwilkinson@thirdpresbyterian.org)