

Hello Vineyard!

It's November already and we're slowly but surely getting closer to construction on the building. Thanks for your patience and please read on for the full update!

BUILDING:

If you were at church the last couple of weeks, you may have noticed something new in our side yard!



Adding a staircase to the hillside takes care of what had been some hazardous erosion, but it's also part of the preparation for construction. Once demolition begins for the new addition, we will lose access to the indoor stairs, leaving the hillside as the most direct way to access the lower level from the main level for several months. We are already planning to move the nursery up to the Lounge during construction, but for you elementary parents and anyone parking in the lower lot, losing the indoor stairs will be a challenge! These nice, new outdoor stairs (with handrails and a new gate to come) will allow everyone to traverse the hill easily and safely.

As for construction, we've received approval from the Des Peres Planning and Zoning Board and are nearly ready to submit drawings to the Architectural Review Board. Detailed HVAC, electrical and plumbing designs are also mostly complete. Once we have finished construction documents, we will apply for building permits! While some costs are now fixed, our general contractor is getting ready to bid remaining big-ticket items like structural steel, concrete, and carpentry/drywall. With so much variability in construction costs these days, please pray that God would continue to lead us to good contractors and good materials at favorable prices.

While the construction process has gone more slowly than we had hoped, we're reminded that we can trust God's timing and provision on this project as we do in all of life!

PARTNERSHIP:

Now that one of our Partnership Commitments has been fulfilled by purchasing the van for CAC, we are turning our attention to our other projects in development. In October, a small group of VCCers gathered to discuss ideas for the **orphan care ministry**. Many shared their heart for fostering/adopting or supporting foster care workers and families. We're currently exploring ways that we can support foster/adoptive parents in our church and surrounding community and support and minister to kids who have come from hard places. If you are interested in joining these discussions, please contact Anna Schulte at queenanna25@gmail.com.

RESPONSE:

If you're a committed part of our church and you haven't turned in a response card yet, we'd love to hear where you're at in this process! Whether you're not quite sure where to start, have run into some obstacles, or just haven't gotten around to turning in a card, we'd encourage you to keep going to God and don't hesitate to ask questions in the process. Remember that our goal is not just a monetary one, but is instead for each person in our church to have an authentic conversation with God about the response He wants each of us to have.

If you are newer to the church and want to learn more about the project, we'd love to tell you all about it! Check out the expansion website and read the Project Booklet to get started: www.stlvineyard.org/expansion. When you're ready to respond, be sure to read the "Responding" section, starting on page 31.

You can learn more about the project and record your response any time by going to the project website and clicking on "Online Response Form", or www.stlvineyard.org/expansion/respond. If you'd like to talk to a pastor as you are processing your response, don't hesitate to contact David or one of the Leadership Community Pastors, listed below.

November 2017 Update:

Total Responses:	54
Prayer Commitments:	48
Partnership Interest:	11
Total Fund + Commitments:	\$687,738

Leadership Community Pastors:

David Stark (david@stlvineyard.org)

Caleb Chou (calebchou@gmail.com)

Bill McKay (bill@stlvineyard.org)

Bob Tarr (bobtarr02@gmail.com)

Debi Stark (debi@stlvineyard.org)

Irene Chou (lucire78@gmail.com)

Kitty Cramer (kittycramer1@yahoo.com)

Dannielle Strassner (dcstrassner@gmail.com)

If you have any questions about the Expansion Project or this update, email expansion@stlvineyard.org, or talk to one of our Project Team Members:

Caleb Chou (calebchou@gmail.com)

Debi Stark (debi@stlvineyard.org)

Jerry Orf (jorf1950@aol.com)

Thanks!

The Project Team