

Fire Renovation Update
October 24, 2016

Education wing: painting is under way. Initial electrical work behind sheetrock is complete, with more to come after next stages of work. Carpet laying has begun, upgrading carpet to commercial grade to meet the significant building use. Upstairs reworked bathrooms (3 to 2 accessible): framing is done, flooring should go in soon, then sinks, toilets, high speed air hand driers, baby changing stations. Vestibule at the bottom of the stairs is in, a significant item on the security upgrades list. The big outstanding item is HVAC: the heating system. Seattle City code is requiring new equipment and ducting. The design has been submitted to the City for approval but is not yet approved. After that, the design needs to go to the insurance company for their approval and agreement to pay for it. We anticipate this process to take another several weeks. One approved, installation should take at least 2-3 weeks. That all needs to be in place and the work done before the education wing is ready to open.

Sanctuary/Narthex: focus has been on the education wing but electrical work has been underway, including low-voltage wiring and jacks (for Ethernet and sound system). Still to come: flooring repair and refinishing, organ pipes cleaning and tuning, painting, Library kitchenette, HVAC. There is probably at least 6-8 weeks more work needed for this space to be ready to open.

We are dealing with a current construction reality in Seattle. There is so much construction underway that workers are at a premium. Some downtown high-rise projects are paying workers a 40% to 50% premium to keep full crews. Great for workers, tough for other projects like ours.

In all this, we are talking about phases for the work: Phase 1: what needs to be done to reopen. Phase 2: what needs to be done before the work is complete and crews released. Phase 3: what things will we only do after the dust settles and we can finalize expenses and insurance payments, and go back and pick up some "hope to do" projects. So – work continues at a steady pace and as quickly as possible. At some point we will look back and say, "Whew! We made it through and we're stronger and better!" I am confident that day will come.

David Anderson