

Sanctuary Restoration Update. December 15, 2021

The John Canning Company completed Phase One of the sanctuary restoration on schedule the week of December 6, 2021. The scaffolding was removed December 13/14th. This week, the organ will be reassembled and tuned, Christmas decorations and poinsettias will be displayed, and normal church activities will resume in the sanctuary.

On January 23, 2022, a capital budget proposal from the trustees to hire Mr. Edwin Catalan to repaint the trim work in the sanctuary (windows, shutters, doors, wainscoting, balcony, pillars, organ box) and to repair and repaint the narthex and three stairwells will come before the congregation for consideration.

Once the State Historical Preservation Office receive the Canning completion report with photographs of the new décor and paid invoices from the FCCW, they will pay us the \$100,000.00 grant. At that time, Canning will be sent their final payment and the church's 'temporary loan' will be reimbursed. All being well, SHPO will allow another matching grant application to be made for the Phase Two decorative work (sanctuary walls and apse/chancel). Input from the congregation will be sought as to whether or not to include pew restoration, upholstery, and carpeting in this Phase Two application. Sanctuary Fundraising will continue until the Phase Two decorative work is completed.

Because of the high quality of the decorative work we desired, the Phase One cost was \$250,000.00. \$110,000.00 came from State and community grants, \$70K in gifts came from the congregation, and \$70K in gifts came from the wider community. No FCCW operational or capital funds were used for this Phase One work. The Sanctuary Committee is extremely grateful for the generosity of everyone who contributed and to those who helped us reach our Phase One financial target. Please come in person to see the restored ceiling, rosette, cornices, and north wall. The décor is glorious (Luke 2:14).

Wishing you a blessed Christmas

The Sanctuary Committee

Quote of the month: "Similar churches look bright, fresh, classic, and handsome, but they do not look like the First Church of Christ in Woodbridge."