



MARCH 2021 BUILDING TOGETHER UPDATE



Garden Rooms progress



Artist's rendition of Garden Rooms



Plaza decking underway



Princeton Sentry Ginkgo



Sweet Bay Magnolia

“Planting” the Garden Rooms!

One of the most exciting features of our new construction is our garden rooms and the outside area around them. Steel framing of the walls and roof deck are now complete and the floor and roof slabs have been poured. The floor above the garden rooms will comprise the extended Sanctuary level plaza. On either side of the plaza will be two planters that each accommodate two Princeton Sentry Ginkgo trees. The Ginkgos will provide greenery on the new extended patio in the summer and feature golden yellow foliage for several weeks in autumn. Two lower planters are being constructed on either side of the terrace going from the garden rooms to the fountain level. These planters are each large enough to contain three Sweet Bay Magnolia trees that will feature creamy small blossoms in the spring and dark green leaves year-round.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

The layer of protection under the Sanctuary plaza failed many years ago which resulted in water penetrating into the main church building across the entire front of the building. Late last year, the failed membrane was replaced. Early this month, a flood test verified that the new membrane is adequately protecting the structure. Concrete repairs are now underway within the building to repair areas damaged by the many years of water penetration.

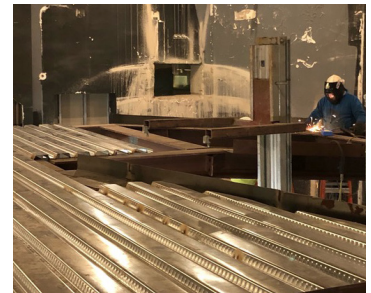


New Elevator

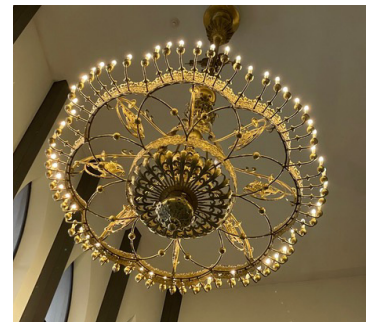
Elevator installation progress continues! The two new elevators are on schedule to be completely installed by the end of March.

The steel structure and floor decking to connect the two sides of the mezzanine level are in place. This new space where the former stage once was, will eventually form the mezzanine lobby near the central stairs and the bridge walkway to the new garden rooms and outside garden.

The historic chandelier in the Court of Flags, was recently placed on a winch/pulley system to be easily raised and lowered once the central stairs are installed below it. This month the scaffolding was removed after the chandelier was cleaned and re-wired for LED lighting.



Steel for Mezzanine floor



And there was light!

MISSION COMMITMENT



Compassion Protestant Society Staff and Volunteers



Beirut children with food and supplies

NPC's Capital Campaign Partner **National Evangelical (Presbyterian) Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL)** has especially appreciated our financial support in what became an unprecedented year of need. The Presbyterian church in Syria and Lebanon has been operating four Syrian curriculum schools in Lebanon in the towns of Min Elias, Minyara, Tripoli, and Sour. But in 2020, Lebanon was crippled by four simultaneous challenges:

- high disease caseload
- Covid-19-related economic setbacks
- an already collapsing economy, and
- in August, the huge explosion in Beirut.

Schools throughout Lebanon have been closed since the beginning of the pandemic so NESSL responded by opening up the refugee school facilities as distribution points for aid to Syrians in Lebanon and their Lebanese host communities, who are often among the poorest in the country. NPC provided funds through the Compassion Protestant Society's Project Hope, helping the most vulnerable families.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

A message from our Capital Campaign Continuity Committee co-chair **Clyde Taylor**:



Friends,

It may be a bit late for New Year's resolutions, but for those of you who have put off the opportunity to participate in National's capital project, it is definitely timely for you to join your co-congregants in this exciting endeavor.

You now see in the construction photographs the evidence of God's grace and blessing on this His congregation. Improvements and new facilities are on schedule. Our mission partners are thankful and grateful for the funds we are providing. Furthermore, the vast majority of the roughly 500 NPC member units who have pledged have contributed on schedule and made it possible to delay drawing on the approved line of credit for the project.

*We pray that those of you who are not yet a partner in our **"Building Together for the Next 50 Years"** project will prayerfully consider sacrificial support for this ministry mission.*

We are ready to assist you in any way possible. Just email or call our Director of Finance and Administration Leah Skrine at lskrine@nationalpres.org or (202) 537-7484.

Thankfully, Clyde

Email Us: BuildingTogether@nationalpres.org

Capital Project Steering Committee

John Neely (Chair); Mary Jo Pera (Vice Chair), John Lawlah, Susie Westrup, Diane Stewart (Facilities Director), David Renwick (Senior Pastor/ex officio)