

## **Building Humanism from the Inside Out** **Issue #9: The Dance Begins**

Welcome to the newsletter of **Building Humanism from the Inside Out**, the First Unitarian Society Capital Campaign. In today's edition, we focus on the first stages of the construction process: demolition.

### **Construction News**

Spring is in the air, and the pace of construction work has picked up. That primarily means the work of demolition, or clearing out the old to make way for the new. Here are some highlights to help keep you informed:

Upper Assembly Level (aka 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor): In the hallway of the Program and Office Wing, the coat racks and the flooring have been removed.

Lower Assembly Level (aka 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor): Temporary partitions have been erected to allow wall demolition and construction of the new elevator lobby and coatroom. Also, you will notice a new, plywood "fishhouse" at the bottom of the first stairwell to the Lower Assembly Hall. It will allow excavation for restroom plumbing, which will commence within the next month.

PLEASE NOTE: This temporary structure narrows the passageway but does allow access to the stairwell and to all open rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Therefore, during busy times it may become a bottleneck. At such times, people may find it easier to use the other stairwell, the stairwell that leads past the women's restroom on the landing.

Groveland Avenue Level (aka 1<sup>st</sup> Floor): In the next 2 weeks, we expect to begin major wall demolition, which will create access to the new elevator and will allow us to rearrange classrooms.

Patio and Playground: The 2000 gallon oil tank was removed from the ground beneath the patio (and thankfully, no ground contamination observed)!

Miscellaneous: The dumbwaiter leading up to the Dietrich Room kitchen, unused for years, is being removed. Progress can sometimes be found in small and unexpected places.

NOTE: For members with keycards...PLEASE note that they will NOT work at the Groveland entrance until further notice!

## **FUS: the Flexible Unitarian Society**

Our building will be open throughout this project, but some activities will be moved around to accommodate construction. Case in point: Gaia Democratic School now occupies the Chalice Room for instructional purposes. So, on Wednesday night, the AA group that normally meets in the Chalice Room every week moved over to the Lower Assembly Hall, and the FUS Chorus that normally rehearses in the Lower Assembly Hall waltzed on up to the Dietrich Room.

No doubt we will all have stories like this to tell by the time we celebrate the end of construction in the fall.

Thanks to the work of our Director of Facilities Tim Roehl, the Project Management Team, and FUS staff and volunteers for making these smooth adjustments seem effortless.

### **Staying Informed**

Keep an eye on the floor plans that have been mounted on the walls of the gallery outside the Upper Assembly Hall. They will be updated with the latest news of construction work and room availability.

Your questions and comments are always appreciated, so please send us a message at [fustomorrow@gmail.com](mailto:fustomorrow@gmail.com).

And continue to watch your email and check the [Capital Campaign website](#) for the latest info. Facebook users: check out the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis page for photos and info.