

MARCH 2018

the Grapevine



AUSTIN CAMPUS SANCTUARY DEDICATION



Update Provided by Pastor Jay Shailer

We did it! What an awesome day it was on Sunday, March 11, as we dedicated the new worship space at Austin. It was extra special to have Bishop Suzanne Dillahunt, Southern Ohio Synod, to worship with us that morning, along with the Praise Choir of both kids and adults to help lead us with the band. Thank you to Michele Borns and Kristi Wick in coordinating great music for our celebrations at both services.

It doesn't seem like long ago that we began envisioning what the Austin Campus might look like in the future, and now we are standing in that future which God has provided. It gives me hope and excitement to see where God is leading us as we continue moving forward. Our new sanctuary allows us room to breathe as we grow in mission and size at Austin.

If you haven't had a chance to see the new sanctuary, I invite you to come worship with us. It has truly been transformed to be a place that is much more worshipful. Our architect did a great job of shaping the space so that our eyes are drawn to the altar and ambo (Word and Sacrament), as opposed to the wide flat wall that used to dominate the room. There is plenty of space for the musical leadership to be up front, and one doesn't need to turn his or her head wide to the side to find them. The new orientation of the angled soffits and chair set up makes seeing the huge new projection screens easy, which allows one to see the altar and ambo in the same line of sight. The new chairs are big and comfy, and linking them together gives the appearance of a pew.

I want to thank Pete Moenter and Ryan Wiseman for their amazing gifts of woodworking. Pete created the new altar and ambo, and Ryan built the bench. Both inspired and beautiful, they are the centerpiece of the space. Thanks also to Dave Waldbillig and Dave Storie who did the staining and finishing of the new pieces.

I need to give a big thanks to Dick Lane. Not only did Dick coordinate the new sound and A/V for the sanctuary, but he was the everyday "boots on the ground" during the project. He fielded all the questions from everyone, and I doubt the project would have gone half as well as it did without him.

I want to thank Natalie Heimann for all her work on the project as well. She is the reason the space is so welcoming and worshipful. She chose all the finishes in the space, and the result speaks for itself.





There are many others I need to lift up with thanks as well. The construction team -- Brad Donaghue, Todd Holms, Todd Schluter, and Brian Wudke -- brought invaluable experience and expertise to the job, which helped the project to complete on time and on budget. I also need to thank council leadership through the Capital Appeal and construction, especially our past Congregational President, Carlin Heimann, and current Congregational President, Mark Chilson. These two gentlemen are the epitome of strong leadership, and have gracefully and humbly led Epiphany through this process. I also need to give a huge thanks to our Senior Pastor! There is no way I would have made it through this process without his stalwart grace and wisdom.

Thank you all so much! Without your pledges to the Capital Appeal and your support and prayers, this future we prayed for wouldn't be the present reality. I thank you all for your dedication to this, and the other Capital Appeal projects. Please continue your support. It is setting us up so well to focus on mission. Epiphany will continue to stay positioned to serve our neighbors, our community, and our world. These projects allow us to have a strong home from which we will continue to do great things in our Lord's name! -- Peace, Pastor Jay



MEMORIAL GARDEN

Update Provided by Pastor Charlie Woodward

Great progress has been made on the Memorial Garden behind the Far Hills parking lot. The retention pond has been cleared, as has the area on the back side of the property. A rock creek bed, a walking path, a wood bridge, trees and shrubs have been added. Irrigation lines have been laid, and sod will be coming soon.

The plans for the outdoor chapel are moving forward, too. Final plans have been created, and we will soon be selecting a contractor to build the roof structure.