



Happy New Year!

With the New Year upon us, the Funding Our Vision team is excited to actively engage the congregation in “Raising Our Faith † Building Our Vision”! Between now and Decision Sunday (Palm Sunday, April 14th), all of the congregation will be contacted – and many of us will be actively participating in the campaign. In January and the coming months, you will begin to see signs of the FOV work in the form of printed materials, banners, and announcements, as well as meetings and parties where we can re-connect in a more intimate setting and share our thoughts, prayers, wishes, concerns and excitement about Funding Our Vision.

We are blessed to have had multiple members already make initial donations in 2018, including some five-figure contributions. They did so eagerly, approaching us even before we’d formally launched the campaign! Building on our 275-year history at the center of the Hollis community, these generous givers have embraced the joy of generosity in responding to the need to renew our facilities, so that we can prepare the next generations of worshippers to be charitable, mission-in-action participants. We hope all of our members will experience this joy in their own response!

With substantial input from the congregation throughout, the Building Our Vision (BOV) team has developed a church renovation project for the Congregational Church of Hollis. This project is responsive to the vision of the Strategic Plan that was approved by the congregation in February 2017 to improve our Welcome, Worship, Learning and Service, as well as answer safety concerns of the town’s fire chief.

Fire Chief Towne is supportive of the BOV team’s concept for our church’s refurbishment plans to improve emergency egress, especially from the lower level, via on-grade exits from Hardy Hall plus two fire-rated stairwells on the east and west sides of the facility. A welcoming new lobby with seating area will be added in front of the elevator entrance to accommodate traffic that will be routed to the front of the church instead of using the west-side entrance. Other major improvements include expanding the chancel to the rear wall, and opening new windows to the north side of the meetinghouse as well as re-opening windows on the west side of the meetinghouse to look onto the new lobby. Our revamped kitchen will support new food-based ministries. And a state-of-the-art A/V system and reconfigured classrooms will enhance our worship and faith formation programs for young and old.

The FOV team truly believes that God has equipped us to attain the exciting vision our community has discerned together, and that God is inviting us to experience the joy of personal and congregational growth when we respond with bold faith. We are committed to using this campaign to raise the funds necessary to meet our vision, and to also to grow in our faith and deepen our relationship with God and one another as we embrace the joy of generosity. We want everyone to experience our excitement in preparing our church for the future. We look forward to joining with you in imagining innovative new ways to use our enhanced facility to connect us even more with one another and with our community at large. Please feel free to speak with any one of the FOV team members, or email your thoughts to FOV@hollischurch.org.

Sincerely,

Your FOV Team

Ed Wigfield, Holly Babcock, Peggy Gilmour, Kimber Harmon, Tom Hildreth, Dot Hyde, Ruth Kabel, Cindy Ryherd, Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Kara Tulley, Traci Weaver



Ed Wigfield - Campaign Chair, Ed@HollisChurch.org

Tom Hildreth - Printed Materials Chair, Tom@HollisChurch.org

Peggy Gilmour - Lead Gifts Committee Co-Chair, Peggy@HollisChurch.org

Holly Babcock - Lead Gifts Committee Co-Chair, Holly@HollisChurch.org

Cindy Ryherd - Publicity Chair, Cindy@HollisChurch.org

Ruth Kabel - Correspondence Chair, Ruth@HollisChurch.org

Kimber Harmon - Pre-Decision Parties Chair, Kimber@HollisChurch.org

Kara Tulley - Continuity Committee Chair, Kara@HollisChurch.org

Traci Weaver - Caring Callers Chair, Traci@HollisChurch.org

Rev. Tanya Rasmussen - Pastor, Pastor@HollisChurch.org

Dot Hyde - Church Council Liaison, Council@HollisChurch.org

Sarah May - BoV Liaison, BoV@HollisChurch.org