

Our New Home

St. Martin's Anglican Church



1009 Prominence Way SW, Calgary
Crossing the River!

If crossing the River Jordan is our new metaphor then Covid19, asbestos, building code issues and a stalled land sale are the rapids that had the Building Committee paddling hard and losing sleep!

Our new home was originally constructed as a large house

with a vaulted atrium at its centre. In 2001 it was purchased by a congregation and extensively renovated to become a church. The walls of the Atrium were removed to become the Sanctuary and bathrooms were added. All of this work met the building codes of the time.



Unfortunately as the Committee worked with the Architect and Project Manager it was clear the building did not meet present code in some significant ways. Bathrooms were a major concern. None are handicapped accessible, there are not enough stalls and the sewer line near the back bathrooms was not the correct diameter. Updating would be very expensive work. As soon as any work requiring a permit was done we would have to meet all present building codes.

Quotes for removing the asbestos were coming in around \$50,000 and that did not include replacing all of the ceilings as well as disconnecting and reinstalling the lights.

The budget had increased significantly and we were nowhere near selling the land.

We could see that even with the \$300,000 bridge financing from the Diocese, without the land sale the renovations would have to be limited to abatement, replacing the ceilings, light fixtures, flooring and a fresh coat of paint.

This would mean after 20 years of effort our building would still have accessibility issues and not have a functioning kitchen.

So after much prayerful consideration we decided to step out in faith and continue with the building permit process and start the abatement. Work continued with the professional team to narrow down the scope and rework the budget.

By the beginning of June the abatement was complete and City Building Permits had been issued. However, we still did not have a signed land sale agreement.

Prayer requests were sent out. We held our breath and with a great deal of effort by Tom Martin, Praise Be the Lord the sale went through.

The Project Manager was given the go ahead to begin the tender process. Covid19 has made the design process much more complicated but it did have a bright side. Little new construction is happening so all bids came in under budget.

As Laurie McIntosh quipped "After 20 years of constant setbacks in this building work it is about time that something went our way!" And it did!

This Monday was the Kick-off construction meeting with the Project Manager, Site Manager and all the trades.

Praise God Construction is Now Underway!

We are looking forward to giving weekly updates on the progress as well as the design.

Free Firewood For The Taking



Clearing the grounds of our new church has revealed a large pile of firewood that is good for burning in a stove or an outside fire pit. If you or your friends would like some of this wood please feel free to collect it from under the deck on the south side of the building reached through a small gate from the parking lot. This wood pile has already been cut and also includes good kindling.

**If you are interested in the wood please contact :
Karly at 403-477-9076 or Laurie at 403-390-4961
for access to the site to pick it up..**

Arrangements must be confirmed in advance due to construction safety at the site.

St. Martin's Newsletter

This newsletter will keep you in touch with progress on our new home. Look out for future editions to tell:

- **Stories of St. Martin's**
- **More Landscaping – Work Bees**
- **Progress on the Reno**
- **News About our new and growing community.**

Contact Us At: lizcook10@shaw.ca and klastley@shaw.ca

Newsletter Preparation Note:

Currently, the newsletter is being prepared weekly. If you are contributing materials and photos for a future edition please email photos to either Karly or Elizabeth as small photos. The small file size makes it much easier to produce and distribute the newsletter. Thank you.