



September 2006

Dear Members and Friends,

It's a celebration! All the hard work over the past decade of those on the Long-Range Planning, Building Committees, and the College Street Task Force culminated at Celebration Sunday, September 10, 2006. We arrived in procession, brought dirt from 1802 E. Superior Street, brought dirt from West Winona and we blessed our sacred site on College Street. Thank you everyone who gave his or her time, talent and/or financial support to make this happen. And especially to Alan Zeppa whose vision and willingness to prod us with stimulus is turning what looked impossible into a reality.

Neighborhood Meeting – Neighbors from Lyons and Missouri streets met with members of the Task Force Wednesday evening, August 30. Those in attendance were amiable but understandably concerned about increased traffic, the impact our building would have on their property values and security at the construction site. They were pleased to learn that our footprint would be small, our methods sustainable and that we planned to park construction crews onsite, rather than on Missouri or Chester Way.

White Pines – On the morning of September 7 we harvested the fifty-year-old white pine. Now the Aesthetics Subcommittee will make sure it remains viable by turning it into something meaningful like benches in the entry atrium, a table for our chalice, a lectern, or markers on an outdoor memorial trail. A tree service will work with Steve Erban to transplant five remaining white pines, that the Green Sanctuary was unable to transplant during their August work party, onto the 25-foot College Street setback.

Building Green – Our “green” building is causing quite a stir in the community. Underground parking and an intensive greenroof eliminate over one acre of hard surface runoff. The landscaped earth berm provides planting areas as well as significant heat loss reduction. And, the 45-degree sloped roof design over the worship space serves as a solar collection area. There is so much news that we ARE the news. Did you catch the *Duluth News Tribune* article September 9 Linda Hanson wrote for the “People of Faith” section?

Timeline – We are in the “Bidding and Negotiating” phase. Your Task Force with Steve Erban, the architect, is soliciting and reviewing bids, negotiating contracts and lining up materials. By the time you read this, the City should have approved our drawings. By the last two weeks of September the footprint will be cleared and the land shaped for driveways, parking lots and berms. By October 31 footings and slab work will be complete. By November 30 utilities will be installed and services connected, just in time before the snow flies, so we can move our work indoors!