

Can You Dig It?

This phrase was popular sometime ago and meant “do you understand” or “do you except” something. For us it initially meant should we start thinking of expansion, then it meant dipping in or digging into our pockets to support expansion, and eventually it meant to actually dig into the ground.

Today we look outside of the fellowship hall and see a basement completed, the first floor in place, and the bricks going up. We have accomplished the Turkey Supper amid the construction mess, and are getting along with our neighbors while digging, laying concrete and planting trees. There are many people from the congregation involved at the volunteer level that are digging into their time, resources and talents,

performing the best job they can do for the good of not only the congregation, but for the community as a whole. We are making space and providing ministries and expertise for those ministries for the immediate and long range future of Franksville United Methodist Church. It has caused some uneasiness at times trying to meet all expectations both inside and outside our church, but as the Turkey Supper proved, when people come together for the good of others we find a way.

As we held our monthly Church Council meeting for October, we celebrated that financially we were in the black about \$800 in our operating budget and we have continued to spend less than our budget calls for. To

me it signifies the continued support of this congregation for this expansion. There are and will continue to be peaks and valleys along the road of our construction. When concerns are raised, for example the concerns of the United Methodist Women’s group presented at the council meeting, those concerns will be addressed and will reflect the best that can be done within the cost constraints of the project for the benefit of the majority of people and ministries. This kind of continuing open communication demonstrates the on-going support this project needs to be successful.

We as a church promised ourselves we would continue the ministries we’ve done and continue to do well during this expansion or we wouldn’t go forward.

I’m proud to say, from my viewpoint, we have kept that promise, and then some, by digging down in our efforts to keep moving in God’s direction. It really proves the point that the church is not a building, but the people who worship in the building. As long as we continue our ministry, using God as our Mentor, our reason for moving forward, we cannot fail. Times are tough, but so are the people of our congregation and with God’s strength and love we will complete our step to the future, continuing our statement of “OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS” to all who enter.

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Gil Mann
Council Chair

