

Week 3 – Feb. 24 - Mar. 3 Scriptures

Sunday	<i>Ex 35:21-29</i>
Monday	<i>2 Sam 7:1-3</i>
Tuesday	<i>1 Chron 22:11</i>
Wednesday	<i>1 Chron 28:20</i>
Thursday	<i>1 Chron 29:17</i>
Friday	<i>Neh 2:17-18</i>
Saturday	<i>Nehemiah 3</i>
Sunday	<i>Ex 36:2-7</i>

O Lord, Creator of heaven and earth;

We give you thanks for beautiful spaces

Where we live, worship, and serve.

We ask that you inspire in us steadfast spirits

As we seek to build fellowship, develop community, and serve our neighbors in this Place of Grace.

May our church home be a sacred space where we experience your grace and share it with others.

Empower us to give generously

So that we may be your hands and feet in this world.

Continue to guide us along our journey, serving others in your name.

Amen

5. How might tending to the hidden infrastructure of our church facilities be holy work? How might God want to “renovate” my heart and spirit as we work on FUMC’s building over the next year?

Place of Grace



This brochure offers an opportunity for daily meditation on the spiritual aspects of this capital campaign. Consider adding these meditations to your daily prayers from February 10 to March 3. Some challenging questions have been included as opportunities for digging deeper. Maybe jot down notes or write in your journal. Light a candle. Sit in silence with God.

Pray about and ponder this question:
How might God be using this building renovation time to renovate your heart and spirit?

Spiritual Renovation

Nestled in the hill country near Schulenburg are what is referred to as the “Painted Churches of Texas.” Last April, I had the opportunity to join a group of friends on a tour of these special churches, all built by 19th century Czech and German immigrants who had left everything behind and were striving to succeed in a new country.

Entering the sanctuary of each of these churches was a breathtaking experience: Stunning architecture, ornate murals from floor to ceiling, stained glass, statues, and hand-carved altars. No expense was spared, and everything done by hand.

And not just once: Several of the churches were destroyed following the Velasco Hurricane of 1909. One was destroyed a second time in 1917 by a fire and was rebuilt in 1919. It couldn’t have been easy to raise funds three times in less than three decades. This shows how important the church was to these early immigrants, who were willing to sacrifice so much to build their places of worship.

Sitting in the pew and taking it all in, I wondered if I would be willing to give so much to create such a legacy of love for my Lord as these early immigrants had done. And now I find myself at that very crossroad. How much will I sacrifice to ensure my church sustains its ability to serve as a ministry tool in our community?

Robin Pelton

1. How is a church building a spiritual tool? What other tools has God used throughout history to help build His kingdom?

2. How is FUMC’s physical plant a spiritual tool?

3. How do I care for other tools that are important in my life, e.g. my house, car, yard, tool box, clothes, computer, sewing tools, and writing tools? How do I honor my body, that other sacred space, which is also God’s temple?

4. How could the renovations in the Place of Grace campaign help FUMC to live more fully into its mission and ministry?
