

Building Project Update

There is a substantial amount of exciting news this month. Firstly we are happy to announce that we have engaged Themeli Builders from Holliston, Massachusetts as our construction managers (CM) for the building of our new church. The Development Committee, made up of seventeen volunteer parishioners of St. Demetrios, chose an extensive search, vetting and selection process to arrive at this important choice. We are so grateful not only for the profound talent available to the project from these parishioners, but for the countless hours given generously by them. It is truly a humbling experience to see such capable people working in harmony for the good of the church!

Speaking of harmony, Themeli has all the important traits of an extremely strong CM, and they also share with our architect, Yervant Nahikian, a reverence for the special undertaking of building our new place of worship.

Over thirty parishioners attended the Zoning Board of Appeals hearing where our right to build our dome to the design height of 64' was affirmed unanimously by the ZBA. We are grateful to these vigilant stewards of our church for being there and showing their support.

We are fast approaching \$3.7 million in pledges with almost \$2 million collected, and continue to reach out to all our parishioners to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime project to realize our common dream and the mandate of the General Assembly.

The **Ground Breaking Ceremony** will take place after liturgy on **May 15th**! We are grateful to have His Eminence, Metropolitan Methodios join us on this memorable day where we mark the beginning of a new phase of our development. Please mark your calendars, rain or shine, we want everyone in the pictures for history is going to be made on this day.

Within a few short weeks after groundbreaking, you will see some very significant activity relative to the commencement of construction: temporary storage containers will begin arriving on site, volunteers will begin removing material from certain offices and store rooms in our church, the preparation of the temporary worship space in the all-purpose building will commence, you will receive notice of the **Last Liturgy** to be celebrated in our existing sanctuary, the following week we will all worship for approximately the next year in the temporary space as construction will begin on our new church.

Stay in touch by reading updates in the Vine and very soon you will be notified that our church's website, www.StDemetriosWeston.org will have a new section devoted to information on the construction project, including project updates, webcams focused on the construction in progress, and much more.

Peter Bassett