



# WELCOMING ALL

For additional information about *Welcoming All*, including photos and videos, visit the Church website: <http://www.storrsconchurch.org> and click on the blue Welcoming All! button.

November 2010 UPDATE

**It's *more* than an elevator!**

## The Project Is Over ...

It was two years ago in October that a congregational meeting approved our \$1.1 million accessibility project. It was one year ago in October that we celebrated the completion of the elevator installation, changes to our church offices, and new, accessible restrooms. Together, as a faith community, we have made amazing accomplishments in the past several years, and much of it stems from the generosity of the members of the Storrs Congregational Church.

Over the past year, since the dedication of the elevator and opening of the new offices and second floor hallway between the Education Building and the Parish House, the contractors have continued to do work, completing small, unfinished or replacement work that needed doing. Now work by the contractors is complete.

The Building Committee reports that:

- We have completed contracts with Sarazin, general contractors; Rick Lawrence, architect; and Charlie Warren, owner's representative.
- Working with the Properties Board, we are tying up loose ends in three areas:
  1. Additional magnetic hold open devices on the second floor corridor of the Education Building and the auditorium near the elevator; additional motion detector lights in the stairwells of the Education Building and Parish House,
  2. Signage to replace paper signs that have been posted and provide a directory of floors in the elevator, and
  3. Painting of the stairwell to the auditorium.



The accessibility project has made it possible for more people to attend events in the Parish House auditorium, like the Heritage Sunday dinner following worship on October 17, 2010.

## ... But the Campaign Continues ...

The building project is complete, but we are soon entering the third year of the fund-raising campaign to pay for the accessibility improvements that have been made in the church's buildings. We rely on the continued support that comes from donors keeping up with their *Welcoming All* pledges.

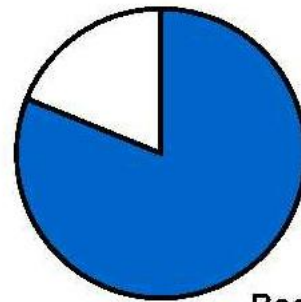
## ... With Another Big Announcement

And due to the ongoing pledge and gift support, the *Welcoming All* Committee is pleased to announce that, since our last report in the spring, more than \$104,000 in additional monies has been received for the accessibility project. That includes more than \$26,000 from the Donald Kinsman Memorial Fund.

This brings total receipts to over \$893,000, or more than 81% of our goal of \$1.1 million.

We are also happy to report that, as of mid-October, an additional \$102,000 in principal payments on our line of credit has reduced the outstanding balance to \$158,000 – less than half of the \$320,000 borrowed.

Again, your generosity in supporting the construction project, minimizing the need to borrow, and reducing the outstanding debt, is an impressive expression of our church's commitment to Welcome All!



Received to  
date 81%

## Offshoots of the Project ...

There have been wonderful consequences due to the *Welcoming All* project, with more people able to use our church buildings, and an increase in events held in the Parish House auditorium. But did you know there have been some additional facilities improvements that are post-project?

One direct result is the work being done to the Louise Crombie Beach Memorial Room in the Parish House. Based on a recommendation from the Space and Facilities subcommittee of the *Welcoming All* Committee, a task group was appointed by the Church Council and Properties Board to make needed improvements to the room.

So far, the task group has removed the old wall-to-wall rug and old wallpaper. Painting, floor refinishing, furniture repairs and reupholstering, updating the electrical fixtures, and adding some new furnishings are among the work that is being planned to again make this room a showplace for formal gatherings while also serving as a functional meeting space.

## Questions & Ideas Sought ...

As we soon enter the final year of the campaign, members of the *Welcoming All* Committee want to hear from you. If you have any questions or ideas for additional ways to welcome all, please contact a committee member. Committee members are: Pam Roberts, Paul Schur, Mark Roy, Jane Scott, Carol Jordan, Dick Roberts, and Stacy Malecki.



Louise Crombie Beach (center, standing) was the wife of Charles L. Beach, president of Connecticut Agricultural College from 1908 to 1928. She died in 1924, and the Memorial Room was dedicated to her memory after the Parish House (then known as the Community House) was built in 1926.