

Testimonial

We are Dorothy Hammett and Brad Kosiba. We began attending Community Church about the time that Charlie Kast arrived as the first UU minister in the '90s and finally joined some years later after moving closer to Chapel Hill. With our 3 sons in the Children's RE program, we quickly became aware of the shortcomings of the Jones Building on Sundays for both Children's RE and Coffee Hour activities. And as our boys grew from Sunday School into Youth Groups and OWL, the lack of rooms with adult seating grew even more apparent. Lots of kids meeting in spare spaces, moving things back and forth around Sunday coffee hour. It was highly creative, but always a bit of a circus.

After four years away from North Carolina, we returned in 2011 to a beautiful rebuilt Sanctuary... and the same old dingy spaces for RE - full of kiddie furniture that didn't fit so many of our kids, youth - and adults! Spaces for church activities with youth/adult seating remained only "2 large" (Sanctuary & Community Room) or "2 small" (Straley & Kirby rooms), slim pickins' with nothing at all in between. To help effect a change, Brad joined the Space Planning task force. We wanted to see our spaces better fit our growing congregation, especially our lifespan RE program which had grown to include SEA, Covenant Groups and more.

When the first capital campaign happened, we contributed what we felt was our fair share. We wanted to see the project funded and built, investing funds and time as Brad continued serving on the Building Task Force. Once we saw the building actually rise up out of the ground and considered possible impacts of another construction loan on church budgets, we decided to make an additional contribution to help Close the Gap.

After years of planning, renovating and construction, we have more rooms for youth and adult activities in our renovated Jones classrooms. And soon we will have amazing new medium-sized spaces in the Jones addition. Spaces new and old will become fully accessible with our new lift. And since the original project scope was pared back to fit our means in a tough economy, we hope to begin addressing other needs once the Gap is gone.

We are an urban church in a vibrant college town, directly adjacent to campus. After accounting for our own needs, we hope that our church can better serve the wider community as a venue for meetings and events which complement our values and principles. This will allow us to better engage the wider community and acquaint more folks with our incredibly special congregation - a win-win for all.

To the Jones Addition and Beyond! Dorothy and Brad