

St. John's Mural Opportunity

Dear fellow Providence UMC members,

The St Johns campus and the “new” What’s Next headquarters (fellowship hall) has an exciting opportunity for you! We continue to update the fellowship hall on a frugal budget to be a clean, safe, functional space for What’s Next and the church. An opportunity has developed to use mural art to tell several powerful stories. As you can see in the attachments above a mural depicting past and current members of What’s Next has been applied to the entry walls of the new What’s Next space and church fellowship hall. It is one mural on the three small walls as you enter the building. It is a welcome addition and creates a vivid, colorful story of the What’s Next ministry. The design and actual mural has been paid for by one of your church members and was approved by the trustees of the church. A second mural depicting the past leaders of our St. Johns UMC, and the diversity of the Oakhurst community is also shown above in the “community mural”. The floor to ceiling location for the mural in the hall of the fellowship hall is also depicted in an attachment. This mural tells a powerful story of the St. John’s church, the community, and relationship building among all people. It is a perfect symbol of the past congregations at St John's and what we hope to build for the future of this campus. The Bible verses (noted at bottom of mural) from Mark describe the “living water” that connects us all. The characters in the mural design are sketches of the following:

1. Pastor Sam who was the first minister of the Cambodian congregation at St John's
2. Mr Waddell who built the fellowship hall in the late 50's
3. Our own Tyris Washington teaching keyboard lessons to our own Tyreese Johnson
4. A female member of St Johns congregation
5. Three young children from Oakhurst Elementary
6. A neighborhood volunteer coach and mentor
7. A local hairdresser
8. A local cook
9. Xavier Caldwell who was the young man that started the relationship ministry by asking the question “ What’s Next?” eleven years ago
10. Two additional images are being considered

The design of this mural has already been funded and has the trustee’s approval. THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!!! The cost of the mural is \$5,800. The congregation at St. Johns has been asked to provide a small donation. We would like individuals at PUMC to donate the remaining amount. The ask is for \$150 per family until we have reached our goal. This would be approximately 30 to 35 families gifting the requested amount. We hope this gift would be an additional gift above your current giving to the church, What’s Next and a possible future capital campaign for the St Johns sanctuary building. The mural celebrates the past and promotes the future of what this church and campus community could become.

I hope you will consider making a gift. If so inclined, please make check to Providence United Methodist Church (memo: St. John’s mural) and please send to Carlos Canarte at our church office. A quick email to me dennyhammack@gmail.com indicating your interest in participating would also help speed up the project. Please don’t hesitate to contact me via this email or phone with any questions you may have. I am also excited to offer a tour of our progress so far on the St. Johns campus. Please contact me if you are interested. Thanks so much for considering this and God Bless.

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