



February 1, 2016

Stephen R. Montgomery  
Pastor

Dear Idlewild family,

Anne H.K. Apple  
Associate Pastor for  
Pastoral Care and Evangelism

I bring you greetings with heartfelt gratitude for you and the way that I continue to witness grace upon grace in your lives. As I said last week, there is not a day that goes by that I do not give thanks to God for you.

Margaret Burnett  
Associate Pastor for Outreach  
Ministry

As we enter the closing weeks of our More Idlewild capital campaign, allow me to share some new information that has sharply focused where we're heading with this once-in-a-generation campaign.

Rebekah Abel Lamar  
Associate Pastor for Christian  
Formation

Simply put, we listened — both to Idlewild members and to those who are doing great work in Memphis. The model we once envisioned for early childhood education has evolved — and in our favor, too. Instead of going it alone, we're seeing the opportunity to partner with organizations, and perhaps another church, to accomplish some of our goals.

Corinne Nienhuis  
Parish Assistant

Denton McLellan  
Parish Associate

Walt Tennyson  
Parish Associate

In the revised plans, the space requirements of the early childhood education component have changed. Because of this, a new, relocated gymnasium is not necessary; the existing gym can remain where it is. Recreation will remain, now and forever, a vital part of the church's mission.

Stephen R. Haynes  
Theologian in Residence

Barry Oliver  
Director of Music Ministry

Incorporating this new concept, we're planning major changes to the Jones Building that will focus on versatile, multi-purpose space — including updates to the current gym. The architectural team is working on those tweaks. The plans will absolutely still address long-needed updates to our building to make it more welcoming, more efficient — and much more able to be passed down to future generations.

Elizabeth Houston  
Director of Children's Ministry

Frank Kelly  
Director of Youth Ministry

Ashley Gordon  
Director of Recreation  
Ministry

Our fundraising goal remains \$12.5 million. I'm thrilled to report to you that we stand at almost \$9 million raised. As we stated from the beginning, Idlewild will not take on any debt to complete this project. We'll mold our plans to meet the amount we raise.

Betty Anne Wilson  
Chief Administrative Officer

**The More Idlewild campaign will close on March 31. So I ask you this: If you haven't yet pledged, will you consider making one?** You can pledge online at [idlewildchurch.org/moreidlewild](http://idlewildchurch.org/moreidlewild), complete a pledge card that can be found in the brochure rack across the hall from the church office, or you can call the church office at 726-4681 and we'll send you one. You will have an opportunity to talk with the More Idlewild team in the coming weeks on Sunday mornings. Please don't hesitate to let a member of the More Idlewild team or me know if you have any questions at any time.



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901-726-4681 / Fax 725-4535  
Recreation 725-4165  
Children's Center 725-7941

I have to admit that I am extremely excited about these new plans. What a great way to celebrate 125 years of service to the Memphis community. *Now is our time to be More Idlewild for future generations.*

In Christ,

Steve