

**Building Team Report to the 2024 Annual Parish Assembly**  
**Brendan Hayden**  
**February 23, 2025**

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2024 saw the completion of our parish school and multi-use building. Certificate of occupancy for this building was granted in early September, just in time for classes for the youngsters. Our first “official” feast day meal was held in the new parish hall for the Nativity of our Lord on January 7th, 2025. We upgraded our campus’ internet service to fiber optic cable. Improvements were made to the parish maintenance and storage building, including building an insulated workshop/garage with a restroom that will be available for volunteers during the Russian Festival. The electrical infrastructure in the barn is in the process of upgrades to meet building code and power the festival refrigeration equipment. Heavy duty security doors were installed in the church building and the barn. The septic drain field expansion for our future church building was built and approved by Washtenaw County - an unsung and unglamorous but large achievement. Our asphalt parking lot had thousands of feet of cracks filled with MDOT rubber to extend the life of our valuable paving. An armada of state of the art asphalt maintenance equipment (usually reserved for large public projects) was deployed to our small lot, thanks to a generous Greek Orthodox paving contractor with connections. A large berm is in the process of installation along the highway to reduce traffic noise on the church grounds.

MANY parishioners and friends pitched in to help on monthly work days and bonus volunteer days. The sisterhood showed up in force to complete the painting of the interior of the school building. (And thanks to our sister Lori for about ten extra days of paint touch-ups.)

Several contractors donated significant time and resources - including Pete from Suburban Electric Services, Daniel from Hope Construction and Landscaping, Steve from Excavators INC, Nick Talmers of Cranbrook Site Work and Paving. Please remember these contractors when you need work done on your own property.

Our parish treasurer Mr. Fisenkov kept up with a multitude of invoices to keep our contractors paid on time.

A Protestant believer from Lansing named Lee Ostrander told me that he received a call directly from the Lord to help me complete the school building, and we did indeed complete the bulk of the difficult commercial carpentry work together (along with Lee’s brother Ronald) during the summer of 2024 - at minimal cost. Glory to God! Please pray for them both.

Finally, the site plan and architectural design for the new church building was approved by Lima Township during this past year. Site work and the first phases of construction can commence in 2025, the extent of which will depend on fundraising efforts.

Special thanks to Fr. Gregory and Jack Mitchell for delegating expeditiously and bestowing upon the parish building team the trust, confidence, and support we needed to complete these significant infrastructure improvements. May many generations of our parish enjoy inhabiting and utilizing the building we completed in 2024 through collaborative efforts. More to come!