

*What does God require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. — Micah 6:8*

## In Gratitude

Sunday was great moment in the life of our church. At the close of worship we recognized all those who have spent the last year renovating old Finlator Hall. Of 100 volunteers, nearly half stood on the chancel steps as the congregation expressed gratitude for their dedication and labor in the transformation of old Finlator Hall into beautiful and functional space for our youth and music ministries.

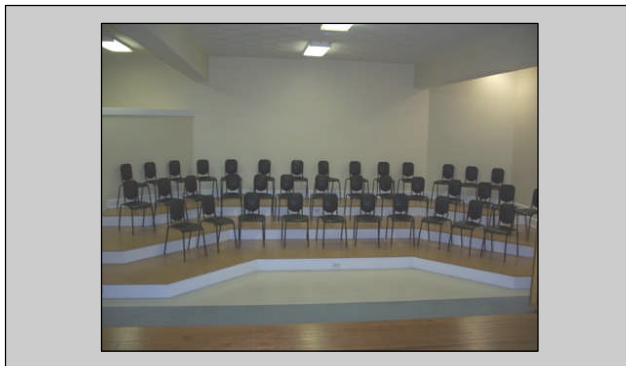
Standing among them were the project leaders, Janet McCormick and Donnie Walker. In appreciation for their leadership, Janet and Donnie, along with their two children, Lacy and Alex, were presented four chapel chairs, given in their honor by the volunteers. It was a moving and spirit-filled moment.

You may find the following facts interesting:

- ◆ Volunteers logged over 7000 hours on 35 scheduled work days.
- ◆ Five-plus truckloads of materials were donated to Habitat for Humanity.
- ◆ We received \$1500 in donated materials.
- ◆ The project received \$1500 from the sale of materials for recycling and reuse.
- ◆ In total, the project cost was \$3 per sq ft. (6,000 sq. ft. with a \$20,000 budget).

This project gave witness to the truth that Pullen church is a church that will not be limited by its financial resources when it comes to making real our hopes and dreams for our community. It is my prayer that all the beautiful space we have recently created will be enjoyed for many years by our church, and that we will find ways to share it with the wider community. May our space be a gathering place where people meet to engage in the work of doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.

—Nancy



### The Holy in the Ordinary

Holy is the time and holy is this place,  
and there are holy things that must be  
said.

Let us say to one another what our souls  
whisper...  
O Holy One, cast your tent among us;  
come into our ordinary lives and bless  
the living!

Forty days stretch before us,  
forty days of hungering after faithfulness,  
forty days of trying to understand the  
story,  
and then, Holy Week...  
O God, if every week were holy...

These forty days stretch before us,  
and those of us who believe  
yearn to feel Your presence,  
yearn to be Your people;  
and yet, the days fill with ordinary things  
with no time left  
for seeking the holy.

Spiritual contemplation is all right  
for those who have the time,  
but most of us have to make a living.

Most of us have to live in the real world  
where profanity splashes and blots out  
anything holy.

Where, O Holy One, can we find You in this  
holy mess?

How, O God, can we find the holy in the  
ordinary?

—Ann Weems  
*Kneeling in Jerusalem*