SANCTUARY REPAINTING UPDATE. January, 2021

Two applications for funding for the repair of plaster and repainting of the sanctuary have been submitted; one, in November, 2020 to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for $100K in matching funds and one, in January, 2021 to the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (CFGNH) for $15K. It is unclear when we will receive decisions from either,

In their pre-development report and budget (February, 2020), Canning estimated the cost of repairing plaster and repainting the sanctuary in the historic 1886 grisaille/trompe l'oeil décor, and the narthex and stairwells plain to be $475K. Because of the high cost, the project has been divided into two phases. Costs for Phase One will run about $250K. The Phase One scope of work in the SHPO application comprises the entire ceiling, cornices, north wall and the re-installation of the plaster capital above the chandelier. Funds from the TCFGNH can be used anywhere in the sanctuary.

Because the pre-development grant went out to bid, the State has allowed us to hire Canning to do the work without going out to bid again as Canning's body of work and reputation in the field of decorative arts is nationally recognized. (See their website). Many of you may have met the Canning VP, David Riccio during his presentations at the church. The Canning report and budget can be found in the church office and are available electronically on request.

A designated Sanctuary Fund has been set up at the church and several very generous donations have already been received from parishioners and from interested persons in the wider community. Even though a formal Capital fundraiser for the repainting will be launched once funding from the SHPO is secured, persons interested to contribute to this effort can do so at any time. Make checks payable to the FCCW and write Sanctuary Fund on the memo line. The Fund currently stands at $27,400.00 so we have a ways to go.

Thank you for your interest in this matter

B. Joyce Simpson

Trustee