

Building on the Cornerstone

January 2026 Update

Work is expected to begin in late February on the landscaping and hardscaping changes all around the church property for the **Building on the Cornerstone** project. The goals are to make the property **safer, more attractive, and easier to maintain**. The work will include:

- New concrete walkways in front of the church, replacing the current brick walkways
- New lighting all around the outside of the church
- New plants all around the church, replacing almost all of the current trees and shrubs. The new trees and shrubs will not grow as large and will require less maintenance
 - This includes new landscaping in the courtyard and around the back entrance
- An irrigation system
- Repairs to brickwork on the front porch
- A pad for a future lift beside the front porch

The church has entered into a contract with a landscaping and hardscaping company to design and do the work. **The landscaping company has created the design and chosen the plants based on their extensive professional expertise and our objectives.** The design incorporates a wide variety of perennial plants to **provide color throughout much of the year and require minimal maintenance.**

Once the work begins, it is expected to take about one month. During this time, expect that there may be some disruption (e.g., walkways closed for a brief time), and that the property temporarily will have a “work in progress” appearance. This is unavoidable for major construction but will lead to an improved property. **Church services and events will continue as usual during the construction.**

The church has met our original fundraising goal. It may take another \$10,000 to complete funding for the irrigation and for a new rail on the high side of the front porch. If you wish to contribute, write a check to the church with ‘Cornerstone’ on the memo line. Thanks to all who have contributed to help make this project a reality!

If you have questions about the project, please contact Jeff Barnhardt or Phil McLain.

Design Images

The following 3-D images were generated by the landscaping and hardscaping company. Note that these do not capture all the changes, as there will be new landscaping all around property including the back entrance and the fellowship hall entrance. **The designs were created by the landscapers using their professional expertise and experience, to meet our goals of a low profile, low maintenance, visually appealing landscape.**

Sanctuary entrance. Walkways are new and more narrow. New plants and lighting:



Courtyard. Plants are all new and smaller than today's trees. There will be two new benches:



Back and West Ave sides. Plants are all new and smaller than today's trees. New lights all around:

