

MORE THAN BRICKS AND MORTAR

The Campaign for a New Hellenic Center

Our culture will thrive for generations to come in a new Hellenic Center. This architectural drawing is a conceptual look at the new Center; the design will be finalized only after approval from our congregation.



In the 1950s, a proud group of Greek immigrants built our beloved Byzantine church. They weren't wealthy, but their faith was strong. Even though it took more than 25 years to pay off the mortgage, they took the risk. They knew the sanctuary was an investment, and a gift that would bring great pride for generations to come.

Without their foresight, what would our community look like today?

OUR TURN TO GIVE BACK

The Greek Orthodox Church is built on two pillars: worship and fellowship. We have a beautiful church for worship, but nowhere large enough to share a Greek meal or celebrate milestones together.

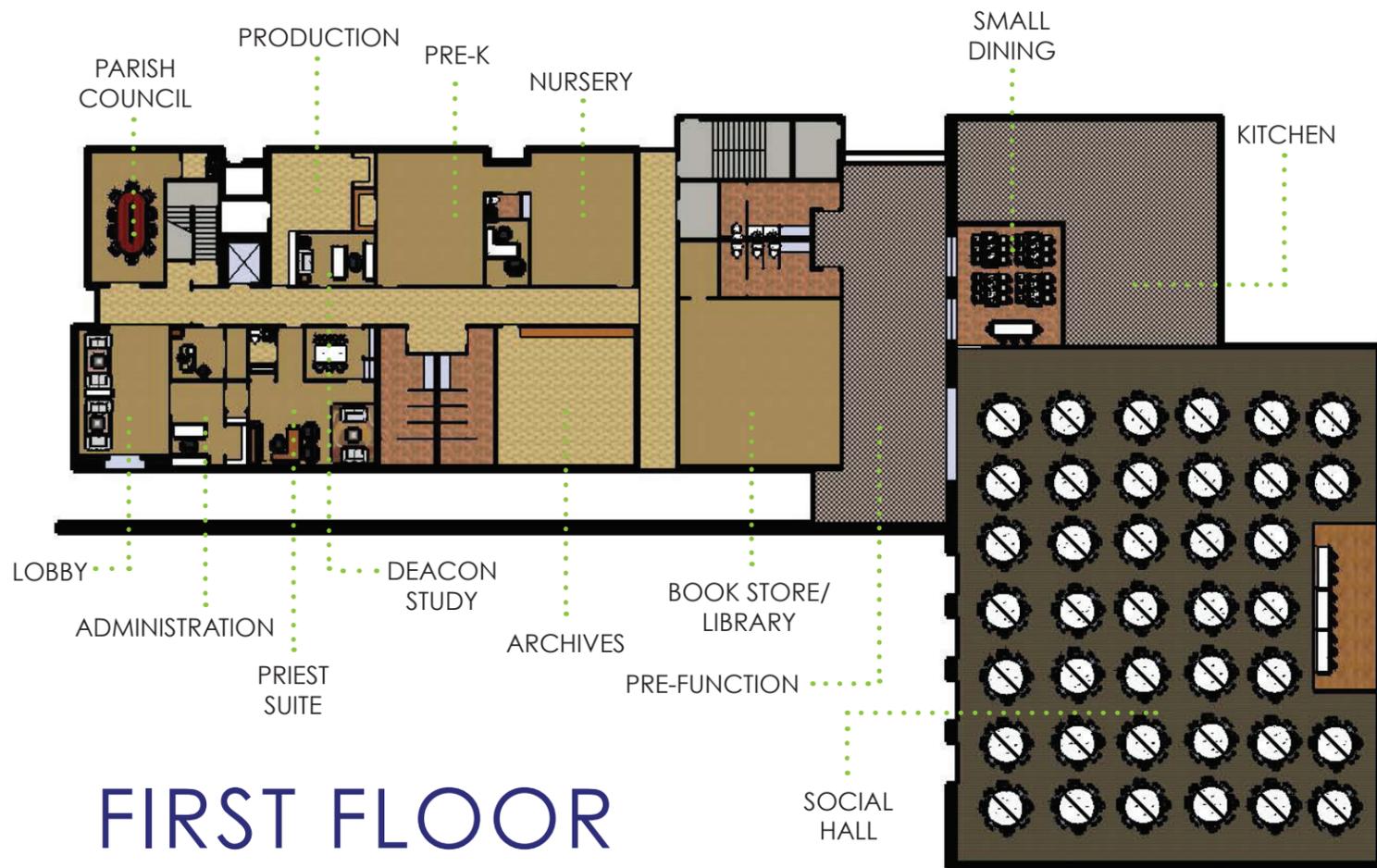
We don't have a place that encourages our youth to gather together. There's no space for young and old to come together and keep our traditions alive.

The time is finally right to build that place. Our church is the strongest it's been in 20 years thanks to the dynamic and robust faith and love of the community. New families join each month. And more than 99% of our congregation approved the building project at the January 2016 General Assembly.

It's our turn to move forward in faith and leave our own legacy. Turn the page to see what a new Hellenic Center will mean for our community.

HOLY TRINITY CIRCA 2022

The year is 2022, just five years from today. Take a look inside the new Hellenic Center to see the many possible ways our Greek heritage and Orthodoxy could be flourishing in Charleston. A new Hellenic Center will breathe new life into our community by supporting our ministries and providing a place for greater fellowship, but only if you and I support the More Than Bricks and Mortar campaign today.



FIRST FLOOR

SOCIAL HALL

Almost 350 people pack the Social Hall for the *Vasilopita*. Finally, we have a place big enough to hold our whole family—without reservations and without turning anyone away!

On Thursday nights and Saturday mornings, the Hall is transformed into a basketball court. Our newly organized men's team is on a winning streak; our boys and girls are learning their fundamentals for the upcoming Winter Youth Rally. Last December, we hosted the Metropolis WYR, and as a result, it motivated our youth to host a neighborhood volleyball camp.

Next Saturday, the Social Hall will fill with wedding well-wishers. The Social Hall is booked nearly every weekend, bringing valuable revenue to the Church!

PATIO

A group of close friends share the latest news on the patio. *Yassou!!!!*

SMALL DINING ROOM

The *Papou Squad* gathers to celebrate a member's 95th birthday. They still meet three mornings a week to help with the church mailings, fussy as ever about their favorite coffee.

KITCHEN

The smell of Greek pastries fill the neighborhood air as mentors teach young members to make *spanakopita* and *moussaka*.

In Spring, organized chaos will overtake this well-stocked kitchen. Festival volunteers say the new kitchen makes their Greek food taste even better. It must be true: attendance is at an all-time high.

CLASSROOM 1

On weekdays, students from a charter school fill the classroom.

After school, children laugh as they learn Greek. Attendance at Greek School is stronger than it has been in 30 years.

CLASSROOM 2

A group of seniors listen to a program about Paul's journey to Corinth.

ARCHIVES

How the Greeks Shaped Charleston just went on display in the Archives. Since the *Post & Courier* ran a story about the exhibition, Charlestonians—even those who aren't Greek—have been stopping by.

LIBRARY

New books just arrived in the spacious Father Nicholas Trivelas Library, and many have already been checked out.

NURSERY

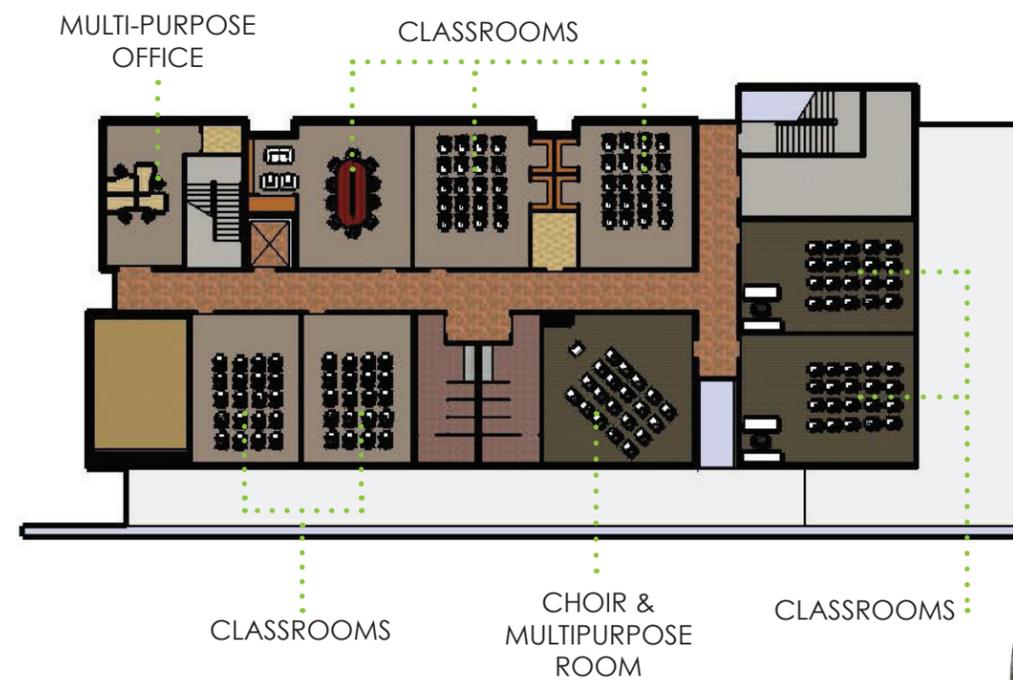
Ever since this new nursery opened, more young families have started coming to worship.

GOYA

Fifteen teenagers plan their next GOYA retreat. After the meeting, some will learn Greek dances while others will play basketball in the Social Hall. Growing up together, they'll keep our faith and heritage alive.

MUSIC ROOM

The new Holy Trinity Orchestra is practicing for Sunday worship. When they're finished, the Choir will rehearse for their *Spoletto* audition.



SECOND FLOOR



"We don't grow unless there's space to grow."

Standing on faith, our Orthodox family broke ground in 1950 to build our beloved Byzantine church.

MANAGING THE MORTGAGE

The more the campaign raises, the less our mortgage will be. Annual payments will be funded in part by:

- + A growth in stewardship stemming from membership growth.
- + Increased proceeds from a Spring Festival that is better supported by a new and larger kitchen.
- + New rental opportunities: weddings, baptisms, charter school, camps.

RENOVATION IS NOT AN OPTION

Construction experts estimate that renovating the existing Hellenic Center will cost the same or more than building a new one. It needs a new roof, plumbing, and electrical work, and safety upgrades to comply with seismic and wind structural codes. And a renovated Center will still be too small to accommodate us all.

A SENSIBLE AND STRATEGIC APPROACH

Our new Hellenic Center will be a welcoming and modest building, not a lavish structure. Including construction and furnishings, its current cost is estimated at \$8 million.

The New Building Committee (NBC) has planned carefully to avoid over-burdening the Church with unnecessary debt. Approximately \$900,000 is already in a fund dedicated to the new building. The More Than Bricks and Mortar campaign—with your investment—will raise at least \$3.1 million in addition to what is already in the fund today.

The balance of the building's cost will be financed and paid over many years—the same way our sanctuary was built. The more we raise in this campaign, however, the lower these payments will be.

YOUR INVITATION

Construction will begin only after we have secured \$4 million in cash and signed commitments as mandated by the General Assembly.

It's our turn and our responsibility to reach as deep as we can to ensure our faith and culture will be alive and thriving 50 years from now. It's up to us to foster the growth that has been given us by the Lord.

Not every generation has this kind of rare opportunity. You and I have a chance to leave our own legacy, just as our forefathers left for us. Your investment in More Than Bricks and Mortar is that opportunity.



A new Hellenic Center will ensure that our traditions are passed on to future generations.