



***Keeping Up with The Vision** is a monthly column designed to provide you with up-to-the-minute information about our exciting renovation process. This is where you can find all that you need to know to conveniently access all of our programs and activities during the construction phases. You can also follow all the noteworthy developments as they unfold over the coming year. Keep up with the progress as we strengthen Adas' ability to meet the social, intellectual and religious needs of our wonderful congregation.*

Forrester Construction Company begins Phase 1

The Renovation is underway! After a series of competitive bids, *Forrester Construction Company* has officially been chosen to lead the construction efforts for our **Vision of Renewal** renovation campaign. As one of the Washington Metropolitan area's leading commercial general contractors, Forrester Construction has earned an industry-wide reputation for consistently delivering exceptional construction services on projects ranging from national landmarks to reputable religious and cultural centers. Their past clients include including the Pentagon, Ford's Theater, Washington Hebrew Congregation, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Forrester is also an award-winning company, receiving many local and national awards from the Associated Builders and Contractors, Washington Building Congress, Design Build Institute of America, National Association of Industrial Office Properties, and Mid-Atlantic Construction. We are very excited to have such seasoned hands leading this exciting year-long process.

Phase One of the construction process has begun thanks to the generous support of our donors and members. A construction bridge loan has been established through the Bank of Georgetown. This loan is not in any way incumbent upon the building. Adas Israel has taken on no mortgages or put up any collateral to fund phase 1. The loan was established by way of the generous pledges we have received and from the support of our community.

In the coming months, the *Gewirz Beit Am* will officially open its doors with an entirely re-envisioned atmosphere and practical usage of the space. The room will be expanded and saturated with natural light. It will emphasize the many ways the community gathers, having transformed into a vibrant environment used for worship, meals, celebrations, school programs, classes, meetings and other activities. All events usually planned in the Gewirz Hall have been temporarily relocated, including our daily senior lunch program which is meeting in the Youth Lounge.

During this first phase of the renovation, a temporary wall has been erected isolating the Gewirz Hall from the rest of the building. A construction trailer and portable restroom will be placed on the Connecticut Avenue Plaza so workers will not need to be in the building or schools.

Phase Two of the renovation will transform Kay Hall and the adjacent areas, as well as the Smith Sanctuary, and is due to begin in mid-December. Similar to the Gewirz Hall phase, the sanctuary and Kay Hall will be sealed off by a temporary wall to separate the workers from the rest of the building.

Phase three, the lobby/Kogod Chapel/gift shop renovation, will commence in April. More information about the relocation of entrances, exits and various activities will be released over the coming months.

So after a decade of dreaming we are finally underway. We are enormously excited to have begun this historic initiative to give ourselves and our children the gift of Renewal. Thank you for helping us to achieve the congregation's vision for the future. And please join us as we celebrate our accomplishments over the coming months. *B'Shalom.*