A Day Of Hopes, Dreams



SUN PHOTO BY LISA WARREN

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Thursday afternoon for the planned Christian Life Center under construction at Holston United Methodist Home for Children in Greeneville. The multi-purpose structure, which will house the new campus chapel, is expected to be complete by spring 2019.

Holston Home Breaks Ground On New Christian Life Center

BY LISA WARREN
STAFF WRITER

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Thursday afternoon for Holston United Methodist Home for Children's newest addition.

A Christian Life Center is being built on the Holston Home campus. The structure will sit along Wesley Street, just down the hill from the Holston Home Beacon School, facing the State Route 70/11E truck route.

Earth-moving work has already begun on the project, which is expected to be completed by spring 2019, officials said.

The expected cost for the 18,000-square-foot facility was not disclosed; however, Holston Home officials did note that the funds to cover its entire cost have already been raised from generous donors.

"God has provided," said Holston Home president and CEO Bradley Williams.

"Our vision is that every aspect and material used in this building will reflect Jesus," Williams said. "From the stone and timber to the beautiful glass, we want our kids and their families to see that he is strong and stable as well as warm and inviting."

Williams added, "It is so cool to dream about what God has in store



ILLUSTRATION SPECIAL TO SUN

This is an artist's rendering of the 18,000-square-foot Christian Life Center being built on the Holston Home United Methodist Home for Children campus in Greeneville.

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for kids and families that we haven't even met yet, and to imagine the part this facility will play in His plans."

The new structure will serve not only as the new campus chapel, but also in other capacities as well.

Holston Home board member Kent Bewley noted, "It's going to be more than a chapel."

Bewley, who served as the design team chairman for the Christian Life Center, said that new addition will be a multi-purpose facility, which will be used for both traditional and contemporary worship as well as for recreation and performing arts purposes.

"Although we are proud of the building and its design, we are most excited to see how God will use it to minister to others," Bewley added.

Holston Home Board of Trustees Chairman Bryan Jackson said, "Our strategic plan includes this facility and the interactions that young people will have with out Lord over the next 122 years."

Longtime Holston Home icon, the Rev. Charles Hutchins, who serves as director of church relations for the Christian-based ministry, called the new project "a dream come true."

Hutchins noted that he has hoped and prayed for a new worship center for Holston Home for more than 70 years. "And now on Wesley Street, where the cows once roamed, it has come true," he said.

"So see, if you live long enough, dreams do come true," Hutchins quipped.

In quoting from Romans 8:24-25, Hutchins said, "For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it."

A musical performance was presented during the groundbreaking ceremony by the Holston Home Youth Choir, under the direction of Abel Carrico, who serves as the Christian Life director. The choral members are comprised of students from the on-campus Beacon School.



SUN PHOTO BY LISA WARREN

Bradley Williams, president and CEO of Holston Home for Children, is shown during Thursday's groundbreaking festivities.



Bryan Jackson
Holston Home Board Chair



Kent Bewley
Design Team Chair



Charles Hutchins
Church Relations Director