



November 22, 2022

NOW, let's move to the "next level" of expanded ministry, building-wise and staff-wise!



Olson Lodge (back side to show basement) – 10,240 square feet. Sleeps 80 in 5 bunk rooms with kitchenettes, offices, storm shelter, kitchen, meeting rooms, bathrooms with ADA and Family, reception, inside stairs and elevator, deck & patio

Freiberg Bath House located by the Lamberson-Mohler camper caves and corn maze – 760 square feet - Men, Women, Family (ADA in all areas) showers, toilets, sinks

Please appreciate where we are now and dream along with us about EXPANDED "Next Level" Ministries:

- **Since 1959 Camp Fontanelle has been a beacon of God's love that "transforms lives through Christian community"**. Now we have [nine sleeping options](#) and at least [twenty-eight activities](#) for kids, all developed by inspired leaders, churches and church groups working together to mutually support church and camp ministries.
- **Donor support is critical to the Camp's ability to do God's work.**
 - **Capital Campaign** - Supporters have donated \$3.66 million to date to build the much-needed Olson Lodge (soon to be ready for use) and the Freiberg Bathhouse (in use). With the project's expected cost being \$4.06 million (without elevator), we expect to take an approximate \$400,000 loan from the conference. This assumes we postpone installation of an elevator to minimize the loan. So the estimated needs to completely finish this project are twofold:

- (1) **Loan repayment** by new donations of \$300,000 plus existing pledge payments of \$100,000, and
- (2) **Elevator**-Caring donor(s) that step forward providing approximately \$120,000 to install the elevator. We do have the shaft constructed “waiting” in place. We have a large group of kids with cancer coming for a special camp next summer with some of them being in wheelchairs. **It will be important to have an elevator for these special kids to use. This will help provide a BEST experience that hopefully brings them back in following years! And there are others of us that find elevators helpful! We are looking for matching grants to provide “incentives” to donate. CAN WE RAISE “ELEVATOR” PLEDGES BY THE END OF THE YEAR? Let us know your ideas, please.**

- **Operating Budget** (not including construction cost for the new facilities) – For the first time our operating costs in 2022 will exceed \$600,000 for the year. We have been busy doing considerable deferred fixup work on buildings and equipment, including purchase of a used tractor with loader that can push snow, maintain roads, work with tree maintenance, etc. Additionally, price inflation for food, fuel, and other goods has impacted the cost to operate the camp. For the foreseeable future these cost pressures will continue to impact operations as we move to the **next level of ministry** --- meaning full year-round use of the new facilities for camping and retreats, including additional staffing. We recognize the need for efficient work and innovative marketing as well as steady and expanding donor support for ministry at the “next level”.
- **What gives us HOPE that Camp Fontanelle can operate at this “Next Level” of Camp Ministry?** Mostly, it’s the inspiration we draw from our staff, volunteers, supporters, and conference team. Here are examples from the Branching Out capital campaign:
 - **Dale and Fern (now deceased) Olson** led the way with a major gift allowing planning and fundraising to begin. Additional donations from Dale together with major donations from an **Anonymous Donor** have provided 32% of pledges to date.
 - After these two donors, the next **19 donors in the range of \$35,000 - \$150,000** have provided 34% to date. Notable examples in this group are **Stanton UMC** (from their Freiberg endowment – on the closing of the church), the **Rev Dr Larry Coleman** in recognition of his ministry calling at Camp Fontanelle, **Bellwood UMC** and **Madison Trinity UMC** from their missions funds, **Van and Jo Timberlake** as a planned gift from their estate (as members of the Camp’s Giving that Grows Society), **Fremont Area**

Community Foundation and Rupert Dunklau Foundation, Sid Dillon Chevrolet, and certainly others, but we will stop there.

- Finally the **623 donors below \$35,000** have provided the remaining 33% to date --- demonstrating that ALL levels of giving are needed to make a successful project.
- **Campaign and building team members** who have stuck with the project for the duration --- seven years and counting –as we will continue fundraising until we have our loan paid off.

- **We are grateful for 32 UM Churches that have inspired us by responding to our *Branching Out Generous Church* invitation of \$150 per average attendance, some several times \$150.** Individuals, groups and church-wide collections in these churches have provided 66% of pledges to date. We would like to recognize them here by district (parenthetical is the number of times their support exceeded the \$150 level – e.g., (2) means \$300 per attending member].

BLUE RIVER DISTRICT: Beatrice Centenary (1), Dorchester (5), Friend (1), Hallam (1), Lincoln St Paul (1), Lincoln Trinity (1).

ELKHORN VALLEY DISTRICT: Ainsworth (1), Johnstown (1) Bloomfield Christ Memorial (1), Elgin (1), Laurel (1), Madison Trinity (6), Norfolk First (3), Pierce (1), South Sioux City St Paul (2), Stanton (25), and Beemer (3).

MISSOURI RIVER DISTRICT: Blair First (3), Elkhorn Hills (6), Fremont Calvary (2), Hooper Faith UMC (2), Fremont First (5), Gretna (1), Omaha First (1), Omaha Rockbrook (7), and Springfield First (1).

PRAIRIE RIVERS DISTRICT: Beaver Crossing (4), Columbus First (6), David City St Luke's (1), Bellwood (14), Brainard (1), and Rising City (1).

- **We are not done AND our vision is to move to the “next level” of ministry** at Camp Fontanelle. We are counting on our existing and new supporters to continue the journey into this vision.
- **Will you please join us through support** of our operating budget, finishing the Branching Out campaign, or stepping forward to help with the elevator project? **A response form is included on the next page.**

Thank You, God Bless, and Merry Christmas,

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THIS IS WHY--- in the words of the campers:

"This week I felt God more than I have in a long time. I decided to strengthen my relationship with Him."

"The (Counselor's) sermon moved me in such a big way. Words cannot explain how grateful I am for her."

"I felt God pushing me towards ministry through worship and conversations that I had."

"I felt his presence more than I ever have before. It made me feel welcomed and loved."



Yes, I/we would like to help Camp Fontanelle move to the "next level" of year-round ministry, by pledging/donating as follows:

Name(s) _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Church (optional) _____

- Check here if you would like information about naming rights (Gifts of \$500+).
- Check here if you wish information on leaving a legacy or estate gift in support of Camp.

Branching Out Capital Campaign to finish the Olson Lodge:

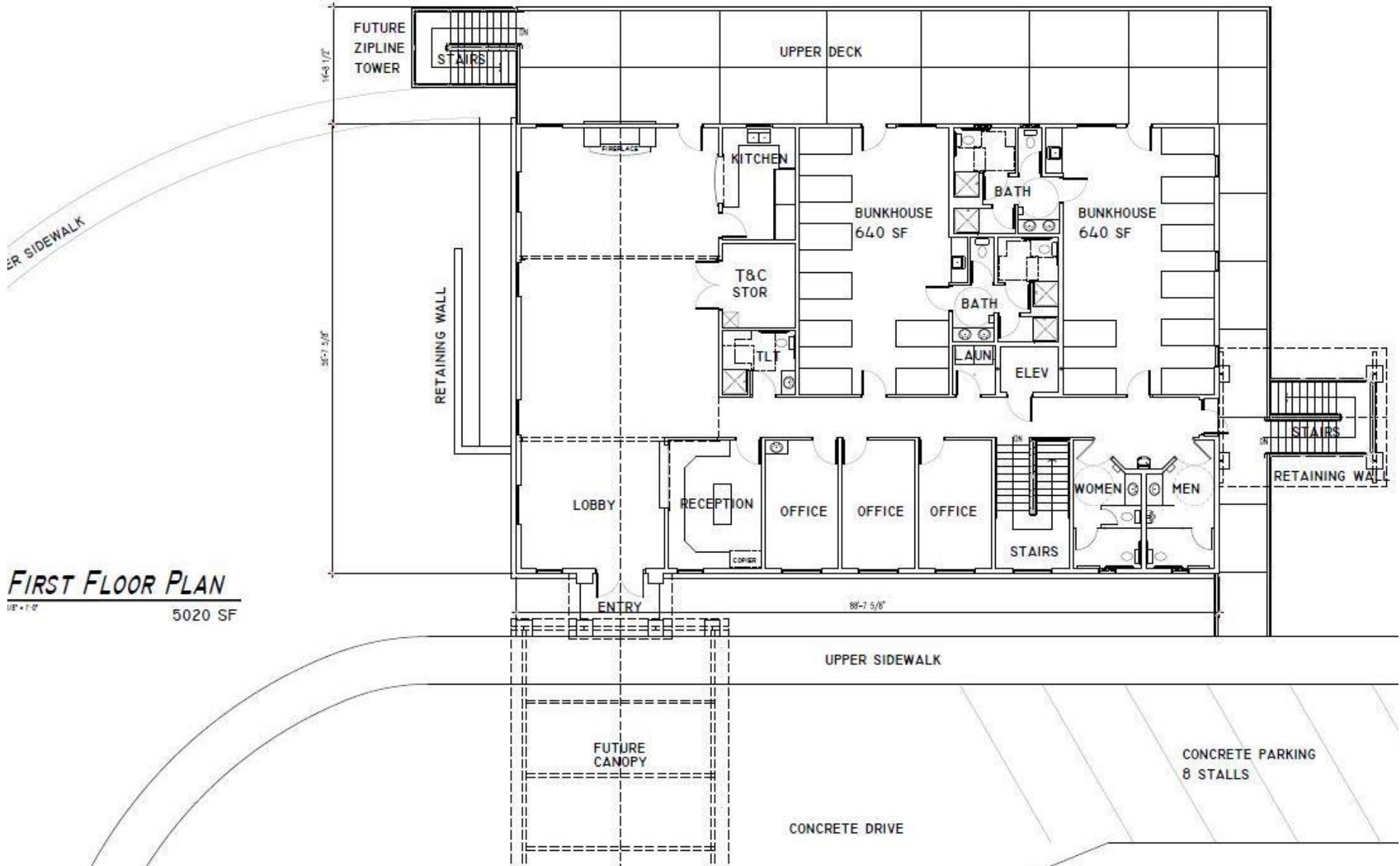
- Pledging \$ _____ per year for _____ years of _____ to _____
- Donating \$ _____ at this time (enclose check payable to Camp Fontanelle-Branching Out)
- Pledging/donating \$ _____ toward installing the ELEVATOR as soon as possible (please note)

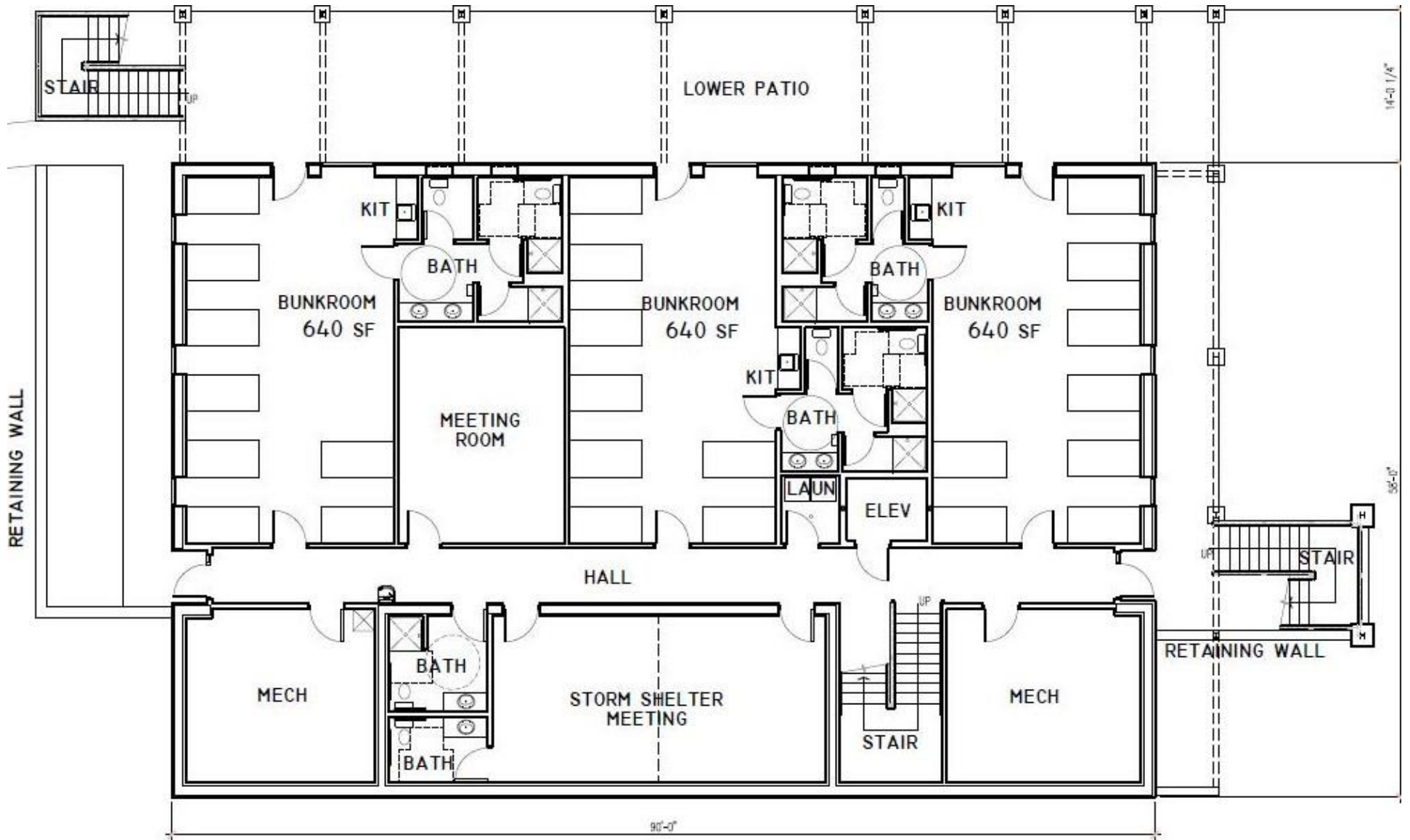
Camp Fontanelle Operating Fund to move to the next level of year-round ministry

- Pledging \$ _____ per year for _____ years of _____ to _____
- Donating \$ _____ now (enclose check payable to Camp Fontanelle-Operations)

The building designs:

- Put the new bunk rooms in the Olson Lodge and put the Freiberg Bath House up by the Lamberson-Mohler camper caves.
- Include an elevated deck, fireplace in the large room, nurse's station near family bath room/"patient" resting area.





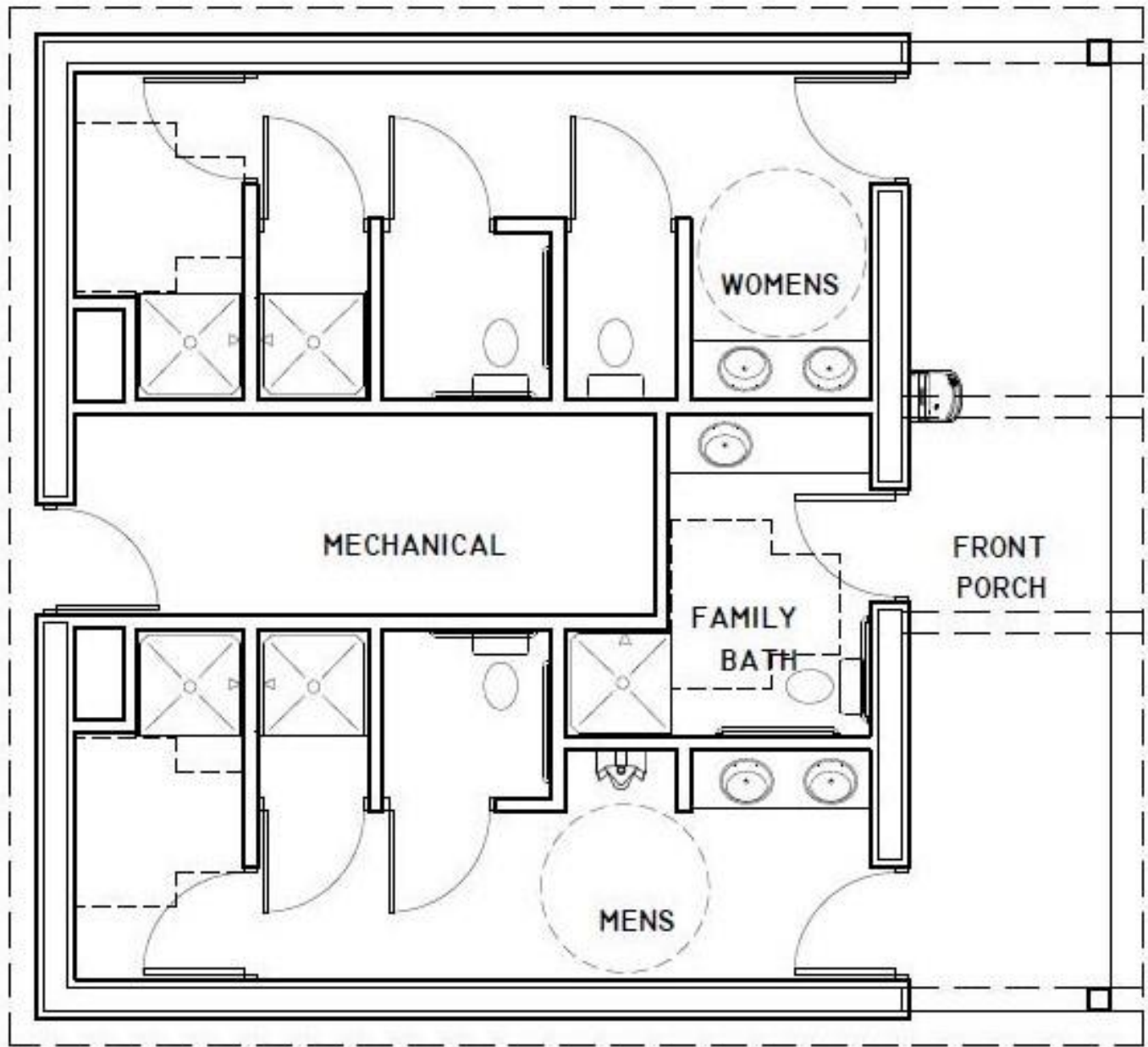
NORTH



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1'-0"

5220 SF



BATHHOUSE

1/4" = 1'-0"

760 SF