

# December Update

Our masons have been hard at work through all kinds of weather this month! They had a small start last month but now you can really see the layout of the basement.

They started with the elevator shaft. Scaffolding and tarps surrounded the build site to protect the progress from the elements as well as ensure proper curing of the grout. The temporary heated shelters allow the masons to continue laying block in the cold weather. This elevator is important to this building in many ways. It will allow us to better facilitate those who are already in our programs that struggle with stairs or those who have been shy in coming out because we did not have this available for them. We also look forward to the new possibilities this elevator will bring as we host more nursing home/assisted living picnics, field trips and other programs throughout the year.

Around the same time as the elevator shaft was going up, the insulated concrete forms (ICF) was filled with concrete on the northern basement wall. These walls are 14 feet tall and are 12 inches thick! After only one minor hiccup the north wall is now finished.

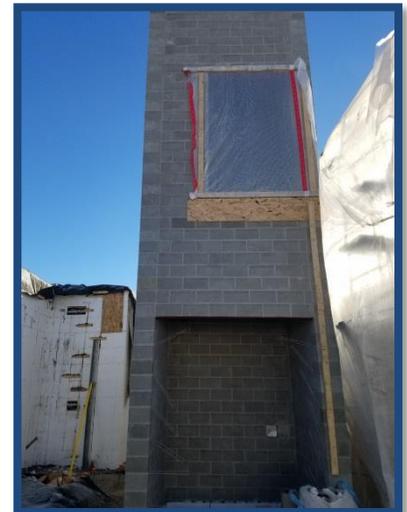
Phase one of the elevator shaft was completed and phase two will not occur until after the actual elevator equipment/cabin is installed and they can return to close up the bottom opening more. Currently, the masons have moved onto the south exterior wall and the interior walls. Their temporary heated structures were moved from the elevator to these areas. Though you can not see the physical walls yet, you can see through the tarps just enough to make out the doorways of each space. It is really exciting to see the basement taking shape!

## Up Next:

Once all the walls are up they can bring in the decking for the first floor and start to close the basement off. Once this is completed, they can heat the space and lay the basement flooring.



Scaffolding around elevator shaft 12/4



Completed 12/19



Masons hard at work on interior wall 12/19

**Reminder: If you would like to give to this project, all gifts are tax deductible and can be made safely online. Pledge cards are also available.**