

nion University Hendersonville will have a permanent home after construction of a 24,000-square-foot facility to be located off the intersection of Indian Lake Boulevard and Maple Drive.

Classes have been meeting at First Baptist Church in Hendersonville since the fall of 2008. The new facility will be the first permanent university presence in Hendersonville and Sumner County and is expected to be ready for classes in January 2012.

Union University and Hendersonville city officials formally announced the plans for the new building at a dinner in mid-November.

Construction begins on a campus in Hendersonville

"This permanent addition to Hendersonville's landscape will serve both our city and Union well for many years to come," Hendersonville Mayor Scott Foster said. "I warmly welcome Union's permanent campus and wish them a great deal of success here."

Cost of the building is expected to be nearly \$6 million. TLM Associates Inc. will provide the architectural and engineering work for the facility. Union benefactor and Union Foundation board member Jim Ayers of Nashville will develop the project for the university through his affiliate Ayers Asset Management.

"We are grateful beyond words for the kindness of our dear friend Jim Ayers," Union University President David S. Dockery said. "He is a longtime supporter of the work of Union University, and his generosity will allow for the continued expansion of programs in Hendersonville in a timely manner."

"Union is thankful for the partnership and support provided by First Baptist Church to help launch the Hendersonville program," Dockery said.

"This new building is certainly an opportunity for us to increase our visibility in the community and our ability to serve the greater Mid-State area,"

said Charles Lea, executive director of Union University Hendersonville. "Union has been readily embraced by Hendersonville and Sumner County and the surrounding areas."

UNION UNIVERSITY HENDERSONVILLE AT A GLANCE

Graduate Programs: Master of Christian Studies, Master of Education, Education Specialist and Doctor of Education

Undergraduate Programs: Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership

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