**BUILDING GOD’S FUTURE:**

An Update On Building Plans To Support Our Church’s Ministry Action Plan (MAP)

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**

**TABLE TALKS**

**Question #1**

**When you think about expanding our building for ministry, what are you most excited about?**

* feeding the homeless population
* showers & facilities to offer to homeless, shelter emergency area (3)\*
* open a place for social/non-church events (i.e. wedding receptions, other events) (3)\*
* more area for Sunday fellowship
* more space for outreach (Helping Hands, + 2 Fishes) (4)\*
* being able to wash dishes
* having everyone upstairs on Sunday
* united space
* storage
* expansion of music space
* programs – direction of the Youth Program
* library – usable & available at all times
* kitchen! (including stove, oven..the kitchen consultant to guide us regarding what Vista requires) Service kitchen is smaller making it difficult for large meals that commercial kitchens could handle
* hospitality, new members can feel welcome (2)\*
* fellowship hall
* expand discipleship (smart classrooms) (2)\*
* larger nursery, more inviting and closer proximity
* LGBTQA meeting room
* Conference room for private discussions that afford confidentiality
* Staff conference room an added plus
* Coordinated efforts for all ministries
* Correction of things that don’t currently work well – HVAC, sacristy, nursery
* Education areas for children and adults with spaces that fit each
* Unification of the Congregation

**Question #2**

**What information do you need to fully support the expansion? Think through and discuss what information would get you to an enthusiastic “YES!”**

* The financial/funding plan (5)\*
* Realistic time deadline
* Complete details of design (i.e. kitchen details, where/what areas will be purposed for and what the flexibility
* What is a service kitchen vs a commercial kitchen, how can each be utilized for fit our needs.
* Will anyone in the Congregation be able to use the kitchen i.e. will youth be able to use it to pop popcorn for movie nights, etc?
* Dishwasher
* Washing machine/dryer for the homeless/interfaith shelter
* If there is no longer a “homeless issue” what would we use the space for then or how would it be repurposed?
* Upkeep/maintenance
* How do we use Cable without draining it and continuing outreach
* Security of the building, otherwise we are already at YES
* Transparent meetings, including home meetings to provide information about funding opportunities
* Need for additional people to be involved and on board so the majority of the Congregation supports the building project and funding sources

**Question #3**

**What ways do you see we could care for the maintenance and ministry needs of both our building and our programs? Where do you fit in as part of this process?**

* face the cost of paid maintenance (regular janitorial (2)\*
* there was confusion about what this question was asking, were we asking about how we maintain the facility.
* deep cleaning on a quarterly basis (2)\*
* building manager/admin needed (2)\*
* where would we be without Mr Cable (maintenance fund)
* people will need to step up

Note: no one at one table realized the Building Committee had thought about this

* volunteers
* security (2)\*

Note: there is a consensus that security is currently very lax. How do we increase security in a larger facility with more outside groups using space? How do we give access to groups (church groups and outside groups) to certain areas while keeping other areas secure? One fairly new member (Gerri S) said that her former church had a Safety Committee

* create a culture of proactive care of physical plant and help maintain the Church
* include some big-ticket items in these plans so the entire Church property is up to code and current standards (LED lights, stain glass window repair, parking lot light poles and improved sanctuary lighting system

**QUESTION #4**

**What do you believe are the most effective, appropriate ways to fund a building expansion for ministry?**

* Loans that are paid by using new facilities to raise money (i.e. moving nights, auction nights, fundraising (3)\*
* Some fundraising, not all Cable. Congregation must have “skin” in the game (3)\*
* Should come up with 10% of funds from Congregation and for maintenance of new addition

Note: Some folks stated they would be OK if we gave a capital campaign “a go” but thought that it would be difficult since we have so many members on fixed incomes. Some people don’t have “extra” money for a building campaign and it may take away from giving to other ministries

* 100% Cable funds (3)\*

Note: If the Congregation were to “implode” the Cable funds would go back to the conference so why not use it?

* 100% funding by Cable with a Capital campaign to refund Outreach Programs
* Loan from Cable funds (2)\*
* Designate a specific amount of money annually from Cable to be given to the community and worldwide outreach grants
* Develop a long range multiyear plan for increased contributions to the building fund to replace the money borrowed from Cable
* Combined capital campaign and Cable funds
* How do we bring in new members

Other comments included the following:

1. Must keep in mind that the building addition creates ministry.
2. The shortfall in the current operating budget must be addressed.
3. Must be mindful of maintaining staff.
4. Growth of Church membership, there were 20 new members last year perhaps 30 this year. Currently we have a stable attendance of 180-190 but we also have an increase in the homebound
5. First service is growing, particularly families, perhaps it’s the music
6. Second service will keep going as long as 30+ keep coming
7. One table noted that there was concern about unity and respect for differing opinions
8. No one really indicated that anyone brought any challenges with them, the tables appeared to be supportive of the building. They were there for additional information
9. Some folks brought “tradition” to today’s meeting
10. The consensus was that they wanted to get information, direction (we’ve been talking about the expansion for a long time and where will “I” fit in and how can I help)
11. There was a sense from long-time members who felt that some things don’t work well currently because they weren’t listened to during the first process.

There were 36 attendees at this meeting and the notes above reflect their opinions. The \* after the (#) indicates that this statement was given at more than one table and indicates how many tables had the same comment.

**PLANS FOR UPCOMING DESIGN CONVERSATIONS**

* Consultant Mary Scifres and her partner B.J. Beu will be facilitating a series of small group conversations with ministry leaders, staff and community partners about specific room and area designs to appropriately support ministry plans and dreams, and particularly the Ministry Action (MAP). These meetings will be open to any others who want to learn more about what plans are in process. Small groups will be reviewing & offering input into ministry needs & potential uses for the Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Music Suite, Nursery & Education Rooms, and Lower Level. Please contact the church office or Consultant Mary (mary@maryscifres.com or 253-307-6169) if you want to be included in one of these meetings. Meeting times and plans will be posted on the church calendar.