

CORE CONCEPTS FOR THE PROPOSED BUILDING PROJECT

Central United Methodist Church (Rev. 7/24/08)

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PURPOSE:

To develop a ministry facility that facilitates the Church's Mission to offer Christ's unconditional love as we reach up to God, reach within ourselves and reach out to our community.

CORE VALUES:

Intergenerational, multi-purpose, accessible, connecting with the architecture of the current building and introducing strong elements of hospitality, group gatherings, meaningful conversations, community service, comfort and experience of the Holy. Attention to the arts, families and student culture around the church should be evident. "Green" and/or renewable resource design will demonstrate the church's commitment to faithful stewardship of the earth and its resources.

TIMING:

LATE SUMMER-FALL 2008:

Architect secured
Ministry Interviews
Renderings developed

JANUARY-MARCH 2009:

Financial feasibility study
Congregational interpretation

SPRING 2009:

Architect plans secured
Congregational Vote to approve
Contractor bids

SUMMER-FALL 2009:

Capital Campaign developed
Bids and permits secured

SUMMER 2010:

Possible construction to begin

BASIC ELEMENTS OF PROJECT:

Large community, gathering space for multi-use including (but not limited to) small conversation areas, hospitality, food service, contemporary worship, lighting and sound for large groups.
Multi-use classroom/small group space for adults and youth
Children and Family Center space, accommodating a full day childcare facility
Possible Office Suite for Shepherd's Center Central (in consultation with SCC Board)
Office suite for new and existing staffing/ancillary groups with boardroom
Mission areas which might include bunk rooms, shower facilities
Enhancements to hospitality space adjacent or connected to the sanctuary (main worship space)
Redevelopment of existing spaces for accessibility, hospitality and updated aesthetic.

(PLEASE TURN THE PAGE FOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE PROPOSED BUILDING PROJECT)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE PROPOSED BUILDING PROJECT (Oct. '08)

Q: What is the progress of the proposed building project?

After a thorough search of architects specializing in church and education architecture from the Kansas City metro area, the Building Committee has narrowed their search to two local firms with principal architects who reside and work in the midtown area. The Building Committee, assisted by Tom Holley, a long time Central member and corporate architect, will be doing on-site visits of projects designed by the two firms and will be making a final selection by mid-October, when the firm will be announced to the congregation.

Q: What happens then?

The architect team will be contracted to lead the church in a 'programming phase' which includes meetings, interviews and conversations with ministry teams, groups and individuals to survey how new and improved space, which is more functional and efficient, can serve the needs of the church in fulfilling its ministry plan. Of particular interest is that either firm understands the presence and place of Central's building in the landscape of the Brookside area. They are both committed to developing space that serves the needs of our ministry and preserves the integrity of the church's aesthetic and presence in the community.

Q: What are some key ideas that are emerging from this work?

The Core Concepts on the opposite side of this sheet provide many of the priorities and goals of a proposed project. It is essential that the building be better configured for large group gatherings, easier access to restrooms and childcare areas, and greater accessibility for all generations and abilities. There are eight entrances to our building with corridors that don't connect to one another. There are levels that are not served by accessible restrooms or the elevator. Many times, people familiar to our church building enter in the West doors and newcomers enter in the sanctuary doors, making it nearly impossible for community building to happen. There are windows, doors, etc that are extremely energy-inefficient which utility bills reveal. There are problems with water backflow and run-off that need to be addressed.

Q: What has been done to address some of these issues now?

The Trustees continue to develop timelines, budgets and make arrangements for projects that may need attention before a large church building project. Already, they are addressing some plumbing solutions, completing some painting and repair projects to the sanctuary and chapel, and budgeting for other projects in 2009.

Q: Has the cost of this project been determined?

A: No. Until the architectural renderings and preliminary contractor bids are determined, the cost cannot be determined. Prior to a financial feasibility study (early '09) and mandatory all-church meeting (March '09), the project cannot be authorized and spending for construction would not be possible. Costs of the feasibility study and architectural renderings will be assumed by the operating budget and endowment, as guided by the Ministry Plan and managed by the Finance Committee.

Q: Who will conduct the financial Feasibility Study once the architect renderings are developed?

A: The financial campaign company, RSI, has been contracted to conduct the financial feasibility study. If the church proceeds, following an all church vote in late Spring 2009, with a Capital Campaign, Rev. Dustin Cooper, an RSI consultant and pastor in relationship with Central will consult on the capital campaign. The financial feasibility study, however, will be led by a different RSI consultant, to assure objectivity and bring expertise in feasibility work.

Q: Who can I speak with about questions I might have or information that I need?

A: Contact Roger Odneal, Building Committee Chair, Warren Green, Finance Chair, or Rev. Amy or any of the staff leaders at Central. If we don't know the answers, we'll help you get them!

Q: How can I begin to support this effort and Building Project?

A: Pray daily for the work of our leaders and those with whom God resources us for this work. To make a special or regular contribution to the Building Fund, designate a check to Central UMC, Building Fund, or contact Rev. Amy or Larry Taft, Endowment Chair, about an estate or stock gift or other planned giving.