

FCUCC Issues and Wants and Initial Prioritization

Based on our conversation with TKWA on February 6, the BTF has been asked to state our wants and needs as problem statements. The purpose of this document is to share clarity around needs, wants and a loose prioritization of these needs. The Building Task force is asked to add to this list, then as a group, prioritize.

Tangible goals from RFP

1. **Want - Access for all** - Create multigenerational access to all facilities and grounds (improving in all areas of potential remodel to meet current accessibility standards).

Problem Statement: FCUCC structures were built before ADA and other accessibility needs were deemed important. People who use the facilities range from having limited access in many areas to very challenging access (e.g. CYF building).

2. **Want - Narthex issues** - Address space issues in the Narthex. The current Narthex is not configured for the roles it fulfills today. This is resulting in a negative experience for many of our members. Review the current usage. Consider reconfiguring the Narthex, Chapel, Library and administrative areas to better align with the desired use of our members. Consider improvements to create a more visible and welcoming entrance and covered drop-off. Question - could this become the social hub of the church space-wise in place of the fellowship hall? All church fellowship needs to accommodate up to and over 200 people (currently accommodated in fellowship).

Problem Statement: When the church was constructed, the narthex was a significant improvement over the previous (Red Brick Church). The Red Brick Church had a limited space vestibule for hanging coats and transitioning into worship. It is not believed it was designed to be the “center” of the Sunday (and other days) social hub. Today, the narthex is used for coffee socials following church and space is tight considering the competition for space on Sunday morning. Sunday items that use space include but are not limited to: Library tables, special use tables to support ministries, and coffee serving tables, and the name badge kiosks (four).

3. **Sanctuary modification** - Complete an acoustical audit to optimize speech and music. Current concerns around hearing the spoken word. Consideration of technology and audiovisual enhancements. Continue study of seating in configurations to provide increased access.

Problem Statement: Since an acoustical audit (12 years ago?) members have indicated It can be challenging to hear the spoken word in the sanctuary. This is a long-standing issue since the sanctuary was built. Another potential issue is the inability to utilize audio visual screens to support sanctuary activity. It has not been attempted possibly due to its potential clash with the simplistic design of the sanctuary (opinion).

Congregants have indicated they are willing to support visual tools in worship but do not want screens always visible.

4. **Conference rooms and meeting spaces** - Analyze and recommend optimal size and number of meeting rooms for staff, ministries and community, keeping in mind that we hope to have spaces available for more community use.

Problem Statement: It is understood that accessibility issues preclude increased use of the CYF building for meeting space and/or continued use for children's ministry. On the sanctuary side, known public meeting space (that is set up to be meeting space) includes the library, Common Grounds lounge (informal meeting space), and the Isaiah room in the basement. The upper lounge functions currently as a meeting space (heavily used), but the layout is not optimal for flexible meeting space. The Isaiah room has been converted temporarily for dedicated use, but otherwise is used as a storage space with no air handling ability. The Chapel is also used for meetings but only utilizes heavy chairs and no tables. The Upper Lounge is most used, but with constant setting and resetting and is often too small for the group using. Staff also use Upper Lounge as a coffee room although without good equipment.) Technology is not consistent or optimal in any of the meeting rooms.

5. **Optimization and renovation of fellowship hall/kitchen** - Update both spaces to be inviting and functional including audiovisual upgrades. Consider options for renovation that will increase flexibility of both spaces including options for storage elsewhere.

Problem Statement: The fellowship hall in the lower level (Originally a "U" shaped room) has never provided an optimal space for large group fellowship (aside from the wonderful views). Many years ago the Amistad room (currently used for bells practice and storage lessened the capacity somewhat. The fellowship hall will accommodate 200+ people but the room still has significant limitations. First, it is still configured as an "L" which precludes line of vision for the entire space during presentations. Second, the Kitchen serving hall is small and traffic flow for serving becomes better utilized by serving in the west end hallway of the River Room (northwest 1/3 of the fellowship hall. The kitchen functions as well as it can (for its footprint), but we are not sure that this could be considered a "commercial kitchen". The location and lack of certification may

lead to the inability for the church to rent out use of the facilities for community events. Finally, renovation is challenging due to the asbestos tile that is in the lower level.

- 6. Optimization and renovation of CYF building** - Consider renovations that will maximize usability of the facility for staff, ministries and community. (Note: community use is unknown at this time - this could range from whole building lease to small offices to occasional meetings. Need discussion around this wild card. There is one tenant now using only a corner of one room.) Consider CYF functions remaining in the CYF building or relocating to the sanctuary side of the complex. Sunday child-care during service requires parents of young children drop them in the room at the furthest point from the sanctuary. Parents may be hesitant to walk their very young children across the bridge to the CYF for care during service. Improve accessibility for all users. Create inviting entrances with appropriate signage to welcome the public.

Problem Statement: The CYF building while built at the same time as the sanctuary was considered a “bare bones” addition. As such it dramatically lacks in accessibility and proper air handling and other “infrastructure” issues. In addition, historically, there has been movement between the CYF and the bridge which resulted in several mitigation efforts which seemed to have helped. One issue that continues to need addressing is the drainage system from the CYF to the ravine. Specifically, in the lower level southeasternmost room, there have been water intrusions into the room. In addition, as the building was constructed in a modest fashion, no effort was ever put in to create an inviting entrance from the east side of the CYF building.

- 7. Office configuration and location** - Consider feasibility of combining and locating all staff offices on either the sanctuary side or the CYF side.

Problem Statement: Historically (throughout the previous campaigns), it has been desired to have staff located in a single area of the campus. The current space configuration makes it challenging to move all staff either to the CYF side or the sanctuary side.

- 8. Multifunctionality of office and meeting space** - Consider and recommend the possibility of combining single-use spaces into multi-use spaces (e.g. Library functioning in the same space as the Upper Lounge; or Welcome Center and Admin offices).

Problem Statement: There is a belief (not supported factually) that there is not enough meeting space on the sanctuary side. If studies indicate that there is enough meeting space, this may no longer be considered a problem.

9. **Good stewardship of our land, facility, and environment** - Consider a goal of becoming carbon neutral through the possibility of adding items such as solar, geo-thermal and others.

Problem Statement: It is always desired to become more earth friendly and seek to reduce utility costs.