



House of Hope Presbyterian Church 2014 Taskforce

Imagine More Goals & Objectives

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Facilitated by:
Carlo M. Cuesta
Creation In Common, LLC

651-647-4443 (phone)
651-917-2283 (fax)

carlo@creationincommon.com
www.creationincommon.com

Introduction

House of Hope's 2014 Task Force is a commission appointed by the Session to create a plan to ensure that the church facilities are restored in good working order by the 100th anniversary of the main sanctuary in November 2014. The taskforce was asked to look at programming that will drive any such restoration, to modernize and prepare the church for a significant number of years.

Since spring 2008, the 2014 Task Force has led a church-wide visioning and goal-setting process. Entitled *Imagine More*, this process has entailed a congregation-wide discussion that engaged over 300 congregants representing a wide cross section of the church's membership. As a result, a visioning document was created and shared with the congregation in June 2008. Feedback was solicited and the committee began to establish a set of strategic goals and objectives to be achieved by 2014. Again, church members were asked to provide feedback through small group meetings and one-on-one interviews.

This *Imagine More – Goals and Objectives* report is a significant milestone in the Taskforce's work. Enclosed are a set of strategic priorities identified by the congregation that sets forth a restoration strategy for the church's buildings and grounds.

It is with great gratitude that the 2014 Task Force wishes to thank the congregation of House of Hope for the investment of their time in this process and commitment to ensuring that House of Hope remains a vital and important home for faith and spiritual connection in the Twin Cities.

Goal I

We imagine an open and welcoming House of Hope.

- a. We extend a simple and unqualified welcome, in Christ's name, to all who seek to join us.
 - b. Our doors are open to a large, warm and well-lit gathering space leading to the sanctuary and other common spaces, providing accessibility for all, and bringing friends and family together.
 - c. Our neighbors recognize us as vibrant members of the community.
 - d. The glory of God is reflected day and night through our church's architectural significance and beautiful grounds.
 - e. Guests and members who enter are greeted and have easy access to our spaces and to information about our faith and our congregational life.
 - f. We share fellowship and ministry in our kitchen facilities, cooking and breaking bread, serving each other and welcoming our neighbors.
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2014 Objectives

A facility which meets and exceeds ADA guidelines.

- Elevators.
- Sound system with assistance for those with hearing loss.
- Accessible restroom facilities.

Easily approachable and accessible facility.

- Convenient and manageable ramps, walkways, and doorways.
- Directional signage.
- Multi-purpose landscaping; spaces for recreation and worship.
- Exterior lighting for safety & aesthetic reasons.
- The choir loft window illuminated so as to be visible from Summit Avenue.
- Digital monitors in gathering space that will list activities & locations for the day as well as for the week.

A large, open, and central space for welcoming people to church.

- Reception desk for Sundays and during the week.
- Art gallery space.
- Natural lighting.
- Close to parking.
- Easy access to other parts of the building. Possible "Hub and Spoke design" for access to other programming areas.

A place for receptions and fellowship after worship.

- Close to sanctuary; room for approximately 250 people.
- Accessible to kitchen.

Goal II

We imagine change while keeping traditions most important to us.

- a. Traditional liturgy and music combine with progressive, open-minded approach to faith and music.
 - b. Technology enriches the worship experience and extends it to those unable to attend.
 - c. The architectural elements of our sanctuary are highlighted so that they enhance our worship.
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2014 Objectives

Make improvements to Sanctuary.

- Good lighting within the sanctuary.
- Baptismal font to become more centrally located.
- Pulpit lowered.
- Enhanced acoustics for both worship and music.
- Audio & video available for streaming and download on-line.
- Audio & video for overflow attendance.
- Pews configured for space efficiency and optimal site lines.
- Additional space for an informal worship service.

Use technology to heighten worship and education

- Audio & video of adult education programs available for streaming and download online.
- Computer/TV access in each education room for church school/community programs.

Goal III

We imagine House of Hope as an intergenerational church with dynamic youth and adult spiritually-based education programs.

- a. Honoring the promises we make in baptism, our educational facilities promote intergenerational connectedness building strong bonds between our children and all members of our congregation.
 - b. Our facilities support a state-of-the-art youth program nurturing the spiritual growth of children from infancy through young adulthood.
 - c. Cornerstone programs, such as The Choir School, engage youth of our congregation and the community.
 - d. Our assembly spaces facilitate learning with current, up-to-date technology.
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2014 Objectives

Up-to-date and inviting classrooms.

- Children and youth education/activity areas are joined with the rest of the church.
- Nursery, toddler, and three preschool rooms are set up specifically for small children with tile floors, a carpeted play space, sinks, storage space, and in-room bathrooms.
- K – 5th grade rooms with soundproof accordion walls to allow for opening up the space for larger group sessions.
- Dedicate space for middle school classrooms.
- Air conditioning so the programs can be accessible in the summer.
- Wireless internet access.
- High-efficiency lighting.
- Large storage room nearby or within classrooms.
- Children’s library nearby.
- Sunday school director’s office nearby.

Open, inviting, and up-to-date spaces for Middle School, High School and Young Adults.

- Gathering space with comfortable seating and game room area. Space for 50. Includes work area for mission-related projects and after-school study area/youth library. This space is secure to allow for youth social gatherings and overnight “lock-ins.” Kitchenette that is accessible to larger kitchen facility.
- Small gymnasium that is flexible to double as other multi-use space.
- Outdoor meeting and reflection/meditation area.

A multimedia lecture room for presentations, music programs, and speakers.

- Comfortable seating for 300.

(Goal III, Cont.)

- High quality technical equipment for all types of presentations.
- Good site lines from every seat.
- Appropriate stage and audience lighting for lectures and presentations.
- An entry that offers an option of a registration area.
- Adjacent rooms for equipment storage and coffee service set up.

A state of the art, acoustically exceptional rehearsal hall for Choir School

- Rehearsal space for 100.
- Individual practice rooms.
- Excellent sound system.
- Storage space for instruments and robes.
- Dressing and lounge area for choir participants.
- Music library space.
- Office space for Choir Director.
- Wireless playback capability, a PA system, wireless web access, video projection capability, and projection screen.
- Space for music lessons & rehearsals that could be utilized by community non-profits (e.g. Walker West).

Goal IV

We imagine House of Hope as a community leader in “doing good together.”

- a. In living out God’s call to justice, we are engaged in service to those in need – both those living in close proximity to us as well as to those around the world.
 - b. We share our building and grounds with the community and other congregations.
 - c. Our kitchen not only strengthens fellowship but also provides meals to people that need a hand up.
 - d. We support seniors with programs, services, and facilities to enhance their lives.
 - e. Our environmental consciousness informs efforts to operate a physical plant that preserves our church’s beautiful architectural features.
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2014 Objectives

A kitchen facility for complete meal preparation.

- The ability to prepare meals for up to 300 people.
- Adjacent to a gathering space/dining hall .
- Located in an area of the church so it is easily accessible for use by community and neighborhood groups.
- Can be used by outside catering as well as volunteer-prepared meals.

A separate entrance for community service and outreach programs.

- A secure, inviting and well lit entry with nearby parking.

A multi-purpose community room with adjacent storage and restroom facilities.

- Maximize options for size of gatherings with flexible room dividers.
- Create large storage space for bedding and furnishing that can be used by Project Home and allow us to extend overnight hospitality to other groups.
- Restroom facilities with showers to increase their usefulness.

Create site plan alternative that investigates the future development of Church land to include senior housing.