

FEBRUARY 2019



# HOPE CHURCH PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



## What's happened since the last update?

A lot. The task force has been working hard at financial modeling, capital campaign planning, seeking land development opportunities, design work, keeping the project on track, and keeping you informed. There are a few highlights that stand out for us.

We are told by experts that the three basic steps prior to launching a successful campaign involve raising awareness, deepening understanding, and generating interest. Judging from the feedback, we are well on our way. In fact, we are blessed by the level of questions, input, and offers to volunteer. The comments are very helpful to us and all reflect the deep love we share for Hope Church.

We were pleasantly surprised by a “problem” we encountered. It is the type you like to deal with. We received a few lead gifts toward the project and found ourselves scrambling to set up a process to handle them.

Pastor Dave, Gary Bormes, Cesar Castillejos, and BJ Skoog attended the National Prayer Breakfast with about 50 others in the Minnesota delegation, led by Art Erickson of Urban Ventures. One important benefit of this exciting experience was networking with other church and non-profit leaders about our unique opportunity in Richfield.

Lastly, Vanman Architects made great progress toward our goal for a master plan this spring, based on initial design meetings and the contributions made in the survey, open forums, and conversations. Previously all the work has been in outline form. Now, they're working on the exciting part - ground level 3D views of what the church might really look like.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What will be the financial impact of the ongoing operation of the church and our programs?

We anticipate a positive impact. The operating efficiencies of new construction and a smaller footprint should result in considerable savings over our present costs. It is possible that we would even be able to carry some debt to make the improvements without any effect on our budget.

### What other scenarios have been considered? Has thought been given to keeping things the same, and repairing or updating only what is needed?

Considerable thought has gone into this over the span of many years. It is, indeed, a very wise approach to consider what we have, and adapt it to our current and projected needs and uses. In 2008-2010 a taskforce did just that and proposed a solid plan for the time. However, we couldn't carry it out and risk the investment in property that was in dispute with our denomination at the time, the PCUSA.

(over)

## Frequently Asked Questions

---

That has since changed. We made a settlement for our property and changed denominations.

But, our situation has also changed. A closer look today at the scope of problems we need to address and the extent of the opportunity we have before us, led the us to take a different approach.

We need to fix four problems. They are deferred maintenance costs, the high cost of operation, the overall size of the facility compared to our actual usage, and the disconnected layout. At the same time, we have an extraordinary opportunity before us to put our excess land to good use.

So, we began instead by imagining our eight acres as a blank slate - no buildings, parking lots, or fences, just raw land. We then challenged ourselves to think like a new church plant, consider what we would be doing in a new building to carry out our mission and achieve our vision, then go to work on the ideal structure to support all that.

With a design plan in hand for space that is updated, functional, attractive, and built to suit, our process will be to map out the steps and phases to get us there.

### What is being planned for the Preschool and School Age Care program?

Hope plans to continue to operate a preschool and a school age care program. This helps propel the vision of the church to go Wider in the Kingdom as we reach out

to young families - both the ones already here and the ones on the way.

### Are we going to repair the parking lot, and improve parking for the elderly, handi-capped, and our guests?

Be assured that parking lot repairs are an important part of this project. The church parking lot is a guest's first experience with Hope Church. We intend for our parking lot to be safe and welcoming to all who drive in. Adequate reserved spots for guests and handicap vehicles will be included in the new design.

### Is consideration being given to environmental stewardship, such as geothermal heating and cooling or the use of solar power?

Throughout the entire project the Property Development Taskforce has discussed what it means to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to Hope Church. All ideas will be considered. This also includes recycling tools, equipment, and fixtures that are still useful or could be sold for additional revenue.

### How can I help?

Most importantly, please pray. We need to keep before us, this bold, strategic step we are preparing to take at Hope Church. This is all about supporting our calling to create a crossover community, and our preferred future where those at Hope and those on the way will go deeper with Jesus,

wider in the kingdom and closer in community. Please join us in praying to that end.

Please consider joining the prayer team led by Judie Ritchie. Email her at [judie.ritchie@gmail.com](mailto:judie.ritchie@gmail.com). You will receive weekly prayer requests for your personal prayer time. And, there are opportunities to gather periodically to pray in small groups.

---

Questions and suggestions can be directed to: [property@hope-pc.org](mailto:property@hope-pc.org).

