



Long's Chapel United Methodist Church

Church Council Meeting

February 16, 2016

6:30 pm

Jennifer Rogers

Subject: FW: February 16 Church Council Agenda
Attachments: 02.16.2016 Church Council Agenda.pdf; ATT00001.htm

From: Lori Prickett <pastorsaide@longschapel.com>

Date: February 11, 2016 at 10:58:39 EST

To: Carol Burrell <cburrellusa@att.net>, Chuck Wilson <pastor@longschapel.com>, Emily Hall <hallemilyeddsmp@bellsouth.net>, "Hunter Plemmons" <hunter.plemmons@gmail.com>, Jamie Francis <jamienfrancis@gmail.com>, Jeanne Heath <bamamama_32806@yahoo.com>, "Jennifer Rogers" <rogersbliss@att.net>, "John Terrell (BWNaturals@yahoo.com)" <BWNaturals@yahoo.com>, Justin Lowe <justin.lowe@longschapel.com>, Kim Powers <khpowers@bellsouth.net>, Kit Ervin <kitvin@prodigy.net>, Mark Teague <mark.teague@jmteagueengineering.com>, "Tim Phelan (timfphe@icloud.com)" <timfphe@icloud.com>, Tom Fogarty <craftysandy@bellsouth.net>, Torry Pinter <churchadmin@longschapel.com>, Lynn Carpenter <officemgr@longschapel.com>

A Message from Tim Phelan:

February 11, 2016

Blessings to all Church Council members,

February 16th is the date for our next worship meeting in which business is conducted. Kim Powers and Kit Ervin have graciously offered to provide a soup dinner for any council member who would like to have a quick bite before our meeting begins. So as your schedule allows, please come beginning at 5:30PM for a time of fellowship and a delicious soup dinner. Our regular meeting will begin promptly at **6:30PM**.

This will be a meeting devoted to discerning God's will concerning the next step(s) forward re: building committee/architects Master Plan. This promises to be a blessed meeting. Ruth Haley Barton states in her article Finding God's Will Together, "discernment is the capacity to recognize the presence and activity of God." She continues in the article that, "the heart of the discernment process is listening; to God, to each other, and to what's going on in the depths of our own souls."

The agenda is attached. As you can see, we will begin in prayer, followed by reviewing, agreeing, and signing our Church Council Covenant. Then, Jim Matthews will lead us in our time of discernment concerning the building committee master plan. As previously requested by the Leadership Develop Team, please review chapters 9-11 in Ruth Haley Barton's book Pursuing God's Will Together before our meeting.

So as we prepare our hearts for our worship time together, let's pray that the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be in our midst. Let's listen to hear and learn the question(s) God has put on hearts concerning the proposed Master Plan presented by the building committee/architects. Remember, every one has a voice. Everyone deserves to be listened to. We also need to remember to be kind to our selves as we go forward in this new adventure of servant leadership.

We do have additional SPRC matters to discuss. However because in the interest of time for all Council members at the February 16th meeting, it will be necessary to have a special called meeting as soon as possible. Can we meet again on February 23rd or March 1st?

I'm grateful for your willingness to serve on Church Council. Looking forward to serving with you and excited to see what God will do in us and through us. Our servant leadership journey continues.

Your brother in this journey,
Tim

Jennifer Rogers

Subject:

FW: Tuesday Evening, February 16, 2016

From: Chuck Wilson <pastor@longschapel.com>

Date: February 15, 2016 at 22:03:20 EST

To: Carol Burrell <cburrellusa@att.net>, Emily Hall <halleemilyeddsmp@bellsouth.net>, Hunter Plemmons <hunter.plemmons@gmail.com>, Jamie Francis <jamienfrancis@gmail.com>, "Jeanne Heath" <bamamama_32806@yahoo.com>, Jennifer Rogers <rogersbliss@att.net>, "John Terrell" <bwnaturals@yahoo.com>, Justin Lowe <justin.lowe@longschapel.com>, Kim Powers <khpowers@bellsouth.net>, Kitten Ervin <kitvin@prodigy.net>, "Mark Teague" <jmteague@bellsouth.net>, "Tim Phelan" (timfphe@icloud.com) <timfphe@icloud.com>, Tom Fogarty <craftysandy@bellsouth.net>, Torry Pinter <churchadmin@longschapel.com>

Subject: Tuesday Evening, February 16, 2016

Good evening Church Council. Tomorrow we gather for an historic occasion. At Long's Chapel, we've always sought to know and do the will of God, but we never been as intentional about it as we are now. On Tuesday evening we will seek, as perhaps never before to place our own preferences aside and seek to hear and then do the will of God. I've never done anything in any church quite like what we are preparing to do. Frankly, I'm nervous, anxious, scared, but very excited. I'm going to be in learning and growth mode.

I know you join me in being so very prayerful for our time together. In preparation, I'm praying a version of the "Hours" by praying a Breath Prayer each hour/on the hour during my awake hours: **"Oh God, give to our Council wisdom and guidance."** In addition, I'm offering additional prayers on behalf of Jim Matthews as he will be our guide (Discernmentarian). If you can, please join me in these prayers for tomorrow evening.

Remember the words of our mentor, Ruth Haley Barton: **"The best thing we can bring to leadership is our own transforming self."**

I count it such a privilege to share in the leadership of our transforming fellowship with you.

Dr. Charles (Chuck) W. Wilson, II
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Church: 828-456-3993
Cell: 336-848-5085
www.longschapel.com
pastor@longschapel.com



**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
LONG'S CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

DISCERNMENT PART I

Those who gave of their time and abilities:

Church Council Members Present (10) Carol Burrell, Kitten Ervin, Tom Fogarty, Jamie Francis, Emily Hall, Jeanne Heath, Tim Phelan, Hunter Plemmons, Kim Powers and Mark Teague

ExOfficio Present (1) Pastor Chuck Wilson

ExOfficio Present with no vote (2) Pastor Justin Lowe (Associate Pastor), Torry Pinter (Church Administrator)

Guest Present (11) John Bickerstaff, Jim Breitmeier, Ashley Calhoun, Paul Ervin, Adele Gildersleeve, Dave Gildersleeve, Preston Jones, Sonny Lescalleet, Jim Matthews, Lynn Pinter and Dwayne Wiseman

Recording Secretary (1) Jennifer Rogers

OPENING:

Tim Phelan called the meeting to order, lit the Holy Spirit candle and read several scriptures from the books of Matthew, John and Philippians. Tim also provided the devotion and prayed for the Holy Spirit's guidance, wisdom, direction, revelation and unity.

REVIEW AND SIGNING OF COUNCIL COVENANT: *(attachment 1)*

DISCERNMENT PART 1 – MASTER PLAN STUDY FOR LONG'S CHAPEL UMC:
(attachment 2)

God questions answered during this phase of discernment;

- A. Is this Master Plan what we want Long's Chapel UMC to look like?
- B. Should the Council authorize the Building Committee to spend \$67,500 to request further architectural development of the Master Plan study? (Issue 6) *and* Should the Council authorize the Building Committee to spend \$7,000 for civil engineering? (Issue 7)

Both questions were *agreed* upon.

Jeanne Heath closed the meeting.

Next Church Council is March 15th, 2016 at 6:30pm

Long's Chapel United Methodist Church

Church Council Agenda
Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 pm

- Welcome and prayer
- Review and Signing of the Council Covenant (attachment 1)
- Holy Communion
- Introduction to the Discernment Process
- Discernment A. and B. (attachment 2)
- Instructions for Next Steps in Discernment
- Dismissal with Prayers

* additional attachments

- Building Committee: History and steps (attachment 3)
- Facility Maintenance (attachment 4)

Long's Chapel UMC Church Council Covenant

Foundational Belief

We believe that Christ is alive and He desires to lead His church. If Christ desires to lead His church, His will should be sought. If His will should be sought, it can be sought. If it can be sought, it can be discerned, and if it can be discerned, it deserves to be obeyed.

Foundational Identity

This Church Council seeks to be a transforming spiritual community of men and women gathered around the presence of Christ for the purpose of discerning and doing the will of God. As we give leadership to the body of Christ called Long's Chapel UMC, we will be guided by God's Word as revealed to us in Holy Scripture. "Holy Scripture will be the primary authority in our discernment process. Attempts to grasp its meaning always involve tradition, experience and reason." (2012 United Methodist Book of Discipline ¶105)

Foundations for Discernment

Knowing and doing the will of God is at the heart of our Council Community. Spiritual discernment is the spiritual practice we will use to determine God's direction for us. What follows are some possible (not meant to be exhaustive) areas for discernment:

1. Decisions that shape the identity, mission, policies, values and direction of Long's Chapel United Methodist Church (LCUMC).
2. Decisions about allocations of significant resources (money, time, human resources, organizational energy and focus).
3. Decisions about key personnel (staff, council members, key volunteers).
4. Decisions that affect the pace and quality of life for the LCUMC Staff Community and the entire congregation.

Guiding Scriptures

Romans 12:2

² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Mark 12:29-31

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.' ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Philippians 2:2-5

Long's Chapel UMC Church Council Covenant

² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.

John 20:21

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Galatians 5:22-25

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

2 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

Long's Chapel UMC Church Council Covenant

Values and Principles

The Church council commits to these values and principles:

Love God	Love People	Live Sent
1. Christ-centered leaders transforming into the image of Christ	4. Respect others	5. Building Trust within the Body of Christ (Long's Chapel council and congregation)
2. Spiritual community centered around the presence of Christ		6. Supporting the Mission and Vision of our Church
3. Discerning God's will		7. Commitment to our responsibilities as the Church Council

Practices

By these practices, we support the values and principles:

Love God	Love People	Live Sent
1. Look for Spiritual Fruit in our deliberations.	14. Open communication	23. Doing God's will is how we live sent.
2. Seek Scriptural authority for our decisions	15. Listening to others	24. Perseverance
3. Discerning God's will is how we make decisions	16. Clarity of speech	
4. Build community reflective of the unity of the Trinity	17. Trust in one another	
5. Uphold the vows of membership we made before God	18. Support inclusiveness in the Council and the congregation	
6. Personal "rule of life"	19. Growing together	
7. Fixed-hour prayer	20. Grace to others	
8. <i>Lectio Divina</i>	21. Caring for each other	
9. Silence	22. Honoring decisions we make	
10. Christ candle		
11. Bathe every issue in prayer		
12. Intercessory prayer		
13. Holy Communion		

Updated February 16, 2016

Long's Chapel UMC Church Council Covenant

We, the undersigned, do covenant together as the Church Council of Long's Chapel United Methodist Church to uphold the values, principles, and practices stated above in our personal lives as well as in our corporate life together.

Having signed this document, I agree to be accountable to these brothers and sisters should they believe I am not upholding this covenant. I trust my brothers that they love me and desire to live a life that honors God and Jesus Christ and this covenant.

This covenant may be modified only if it is our collective discernment to do so.

Signature:

Date:

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | <u>Charles W. Wilson</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Charles Wilson |
| 2. | <u>Jeanne B Heath</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Jeanne Heath |
| 3. | <u>Emily Hall</u> | <u>2/14/2016</u> | Emily Hall |
| 4. | <u>Carol C Burrell</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Carol Burrell |
| 5. | <u>Mark Teague</u> | <u>2/14/2016</u> | Mark Teague |
| 6. | <u>Katharine A. Ervin</u> | <u>2-16-2016</u> | Katharine Ervin |
| 7. | <u>Thomas R Fogarty</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Thomas Fogarty |
| 8. | <u>Justin M. Lowe</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Justin Lowe |
| 9. | <u>Torry Pinter</u> | <u>2/16/2016</u> | Torry Pinter |
| 10. | <u>Kim Powers</u> | <u>2/16/16</u> | Kim Powers |
| 11. | <u>Hunter Plimmors</u> | <u>2/16/16</u> | Hunter Plimmors |
| 12. | <u>Jamie Francis</u> | <u>2-16-16</u> | Jamie Francis |
| 13. | <u>Tim Phelan</u> | <u>2-16-16</u> | Tim Phelan |
| 14. | _____ | | |
| 15. | _____ | | |

Issues for Council Discernment
On the Master Plan Study for Long's Chapel UMC
Labeled Q4 - 2015
By Blue Ridge Architects/Aspen Group

Understanding the Issue

The Building Committee is asking the Council to concur with the Master Plan Study and for approval of additional funding authorizations.

The Building Committee, in their presentation document to the Council on December 1, 2015, said, "If the Council concurs that the proposed building program cost-effectively addresses the necessary facilities upgrades needed to support LCUMC's vision, then additional funding authorizations will be needed for moving forward."

In June 2014, the Council (the large council) unanimously agreed that the Building Committee should proceed with addressing the "Top 5 Issues" below:

1. Space for informal, unplanned gathering/fellowship (coffee & gathering area). This will be our church's "front door."
2. Adequate space for existing classes/groups and for growth. In addition to 9:40 Sunday morning groups, overcapacity issues also occur on weeknights. We also need to include a consolidation of age groups in similar geographic areas.
3. Convenient movement of people to/from classrooms, worship and gathering spaces; and improved signage.
4. A flexible multi-purpose space suitable for worship, meals, and other large gatherings (for us and for the community).
5. Design of space and technology to fully support the ministry plan (i.e., business and production spaces).

The Master Plan Study is to be held accountable for addressing each of these needs to some standard.

It is clear that the Council needs to discern whether the Master Plan Study addresses the "Top 5 Issues" identified by the LCUMC's vision. Once this is discerned, attention will be directed to the various requests for funding.

Note: The Council is not being asked to select a Phase Option, only whether the full Study Plan addresses the 5 issues to the Council's satisfaction..

Framing the Question

What standard should be used for concurring with the Master Plan Study?

According to the Building Committee, approval of the Master Plan Study is contingent upon whether it cost-effectively addresses the needs approved by the Church Council.

Is "cost-effectively" the standard by which Council concurrence should be measured or is there some other standard; such as "adequately" or "sufficiently" which should be considered along with cost effectiveness or instead of cost-effectiveness?

Example Question for Discernment: Does the Master Plan Study ^{Sufficiently} ~~adequately and cost-effectively~~ address (each of the 5 issues)?

Once the standard is agreed to, appropriate questions can be framed for discernment.

Issues for Discernment on Master Plan Study

Each issue should be addressed separately, strictly refraining from mixing other issues with the question at hand as discussion ensues and the council seeks God's guidance.

- Issue 1: Does the Master Plan Study (^{Sufficiently} ~~qualifier chosen in framing~~) address "Space for informal, unplanned gathering/fellowship (coffee & gathering area). This will be our church's "front door?"
- Issue 2: Does the Master Plan Study (^{Sufficiently} ~~qualifier chosen in framing~~) address "Adequate space for existing classes/groups and for growth. In addition to 9:40 Sunday morning groups, overcapacity issues also occur on weeknights. We also need to include a consolidation of age groups in similar geographic areas?"
- Issue 3: Does the Master Plan Study (^{Sufficiently} ~~qualifier chosen in framing~~) address "Convenient movement of people to/from classrooms, worship and gathering spaces; and improved signage?"
- Issue 4: Does the Master Plan Study (^{Sufficiently} ~~qualifier chosen in framing~~) address "A flexible multi-purpose space suitable for worship, meals, and other large gatherings (for us and for the community)?"
- Issue 5: Does the Master Plan Study (^{Sufficiently} ~~qualifier chosen in framing~~) address "Design of space and technology to fully support the ministry plan (i.e., business and production spaces)?"

Note: The discernment process on any of these issues could yield a determination that insufficient information or data is available for the discernment. If so, the Council will need to decide what information or data can be secured that will meet their need and how this affects the discernment process.

For example, the Council could decide they would like to see more detail in the Study Plan to determine if the Study Plan adequately addresses an issue.

Additional Funding Requests

Once the Council comes to the conclusion that the Master Plan Study does address the "5 Issues," attention turns to the Building Committee's request for addition funding authorizations totaling \$129,000, specifically:

1. \$67,000 to Aspen Group for further architectural development. The funding is needed to support the approval request as described in the Discipline.

2. \$7000 for civil engineering
3. \$55,000 for capital fundraising drive leadership

These funding requests are necessary to support the requirements in ¶2544 of the Discipline which are required "If any Church desires to:

- a.) Build a new church, a new educational building...
- b.) Purchase a church...
- c.) Remodel an existing church..."

Issues for Discernment on Funding Requests

B. Combined Issue 6: Should the Council authorize the Building Committee to spend \$67,500 to request further architectural development of the Master plan Study?

Issue 7: Should the Council authorize the Building Committee to spend \$7000 for civil engineering? \$74,500

Issue 8: Should the Council authorize the Generous Living Team to spend \$55,000 for capital fundraising?

Worksheet for Discernment Leaders

Purpose: To record the results of the discernment process and focus group and individual prayer. The completed worksheet can be retained as the group's official record of the discernment. **No names of group members are ever recorded.**

Date: 2 / 16 / 16

PART 1 – DISCERN GOD'S WILL

Get Ready!

A.

God Question: Is this Master Plan what we want Long's Chapel UMC
to look like?

Discernment Leader: Jim Matthews

Recorder: Jennifer Rogers

List the other voices that need to be heard: _____

List the information/data needed: _____

Record the guiding values and principles that relate to the question: _____

Get Set!

Record the results of the Test for Indifference (without using names), include the position that could not be set aside:

Number not yet indifferent: 0

Position(s) that could not be set aside:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Worksheet for Discernment Leaders

Purpose: To record the results of the discernment process and focus group and individual prayer. The completed worksheet can be retained as the group's official record of the discernment. **No names of group members are ever recorded.**

Date: 2/16/16

PART 1 – DISCERN GOD'S WILL

Get Ready!

B.

God Question: *Should the Council authorize the Building Committee to spend \$67,500 to request further architectural development of the Master plan study? - Issue 6

Discernment Leader: Jim Matthews and *Should the Council authorize the Building Committee

Recorder: Jennifer Rogers to spend \$7,000 for civil engineering? - Issue 7

List the other voices that need to be heard: _____

List the information/data needed: _____

Record the guiding values and principles that relate to the question: _____

Get Set!

Record the results of the Test for Indifference (without using names), include the position that could not be set aside:

Number not yet indifferent: 0

Position(s) that could not be set aside:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Go!

Record significant findings from listening to other voices: -----

Record significant findings from information/data: -----

B.

Issues 647

Record the number of responses for each type of discernment agreement:

8 I agree.

2 I agree but with some reservations; however, I have expressed my reservations and feel I have been heard by the group, so I can go forward in peace.

_____ I don't agree but I feel comfortable deferring to those who have particular wisdom or who are most affected or who have greater certainty.

_____ No, I don't agree and cannot go forward. In order for me to go agree, we will need to go back to the drawing board, wait, and pray.

Record the results of discerning God's will: _____

PART 2 – IDENTIFY AND WORK WITH OPTIONS

(If no options need to be developed, move to Part 3 - Evaluating the Discernment.)

Options

Exploring and identifying up to three options

Top 3 Options

1. _____

Building Committee: History and Steps





At the January 2016 Church Council (Council) meeting, it seemed that perhaps some members thought the Building Committee (BC) had not sought input from the congregation. Listed below is a synopsis of interactions that have taken place.

NOTES: The BC is following the required process as defined by the Book of Discipline – see the specific requirements in item 4 below. See additional team activities in the item "3. Timeline" below.

1. Opportunities for council and congregational input:

- a. All BC meetings and Council meeting are open to the congregation.
- b. 2008 – Congregational meetings in the Fellowship Hall with the Long Range Planning Team
- c. 2011 – 15 Congregational meetings (192 participants) to discuss the Love 1.8 Vision (Acts 1:8) and our status concerning the vision. Feedback was requested following this activity:
 - i. Question asked "Do you believe Long's Chapel has an overcrowding issue? Have you personally been impacted?"
 1. 69% (132 people) "Overcrowding is an Issue that Needs to be Addressed" (Below is this group's primary concern)
 - a. 33% - Focus directed toward Common Areas (43 responses)
 - b. 22% - "General" Overcrowding Comments (29 responses)
 - c. 21% - Focus directed toward Fellowship Impact (28 responses)
 - d. 15% - Focus directed toward Sunday school (20 responses)
 - e. 9% - Focus directed toward 9:40 Service (12 responses)
 2. 18% were neutral but half of this group felt crowding was only at certain times.
 3. 13% of the participants felt there is not any crowding issues to be addressed.
 - ii. 2011 Vision Status Report: Challenges that limit the attainment of our vision with excellence include...
 1. Overcrowding in worship that hinders our ability to bring unbelievers to faith and grow believers into servants.
 2. Overcrowding and challenging layouts in our community spaces (the gathering area, access hallways, etc.) that deliver a mood of confusion to first-time guests that many do not overcome.
 3. Most all facility ministry spaces are presently at maximum capacities, and these limit our growth capability in other ministry opportunities.
 4. Ongoing mortgage debt is limiting our opportunity to implement the solutions needed to address the above hindrances.
- d. June 2014 – Presentation to Council and attendees of the top 5 needs. Council (the large council) had unanimously agreed to proceed with addressing the "Top 5 Issues", as presented by the BC.
 - i. Space for informal, unplanned gathering/fellowship (coffee & gathering area). This will be our church's "front door."
 - ii. Adequate space for existing classes/groups and for growth. In addition to 9:40 Sunday morning groups, overcapacity issues also occur on weeknights. We also need to include a consolidation of age groups in similar geographical areas.
 - iii. Convenient movement of people to/from classrooms, worship and gathering spaces; and improved signage.
 - iv. A flexible multi-purpose space suitable for worship, meals, and other large gatherings (for us and for the community).
 - v. Design of space and technology to fully support the ministry plan (i.e., business and production spaces).
- e. Spring 2015 – Church-wide survey. (Percentiles and %'s below indicates a comparison to the national average. Lower % = less favorable)
 - i. 264 participants.
 - ii. Our Buildings: one of the lowest scoring areas.
 1. We are in the 45th percentile in Nation (below average) on all questions.
 2. Two questions around the looks of our facilities and the Sanctuary:
 - a. Scored in the 60th percentile, which is above average.
 - b. Minimal negative responses.
 3. Three questions around location and our buildings being visible to the community:
 - a. Scored in the 50th percentile, which is average.
 - b. Minimal negative responses.
 - iii. Building questions that scored poorly and had a large number of negative responses.
 1. 16% - Our facilities promote mingling and fellowship.
 2. 35% - Our buildings and facilities are effective in supporting our senior ministries.
 3. 38% - Our buildings and facilities are effective in supporting our children's ministries.
 4. 39% - Our education programs are better because of our facilities.
 5. 40% - Our buildings and facilities are effective in supporting our young adult ministries.
 6. 40% - Our buildings and facilities are effective in supporting our ministries for middle-aged adults.

7. 47% - Our buildings and facilities are effective in supporting our teen ministries.
- iv. Family status and how they scored our facilities. Scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the lowest.
- *According to the data from the survey, singles with children and married with children scored our facilities the worst.

Family Structure			
Single, no children <18		4.02	37
Single, children <18		2.90	4
Married, no children <18		3.72	141
Married, children <18		3.38	37

- f. Summer 2015 – Charrette meetings with the architects. Approx. 30 congregants invited, 20 participated.
(Including three current Council members: Carol Burrell, Tim Phelan, and Mark Teague)
- g. Summer 2015 – Progress letter from BC to Congregation inviting feedback and suggestions.
- h. December 2015 - Building Presentation to Council and visitors.

2. Other Facts:

- We have had 124 donors to the building fund over the past 2 years giving \$181k. Some of the donors could have the impression from the previous Council approval that LCUMC is ready to tackle our facility needs. As leaders of the church, we need to be sending members of our church a clear message about our plans for addressing the facility needs.
- The Building Committee recommends to Council that LCUMC implement a conservative financing approach whereby we commit to spend no more than 140% of whatever funds are raised in a building capital campaign. (It is likely that this will result in a mortgage that is less than the one successfully paid off with our current Sanctuary/children's area project of 2001.)
- The 1997's church leadership shared the vision and facilities needs identified at that time – a new Sanctuary, expanded fellowship hall, and additional classrooms. At the time of these presentations, average weekly attendance was less than 400. (In 2001 the Sanctuary and children's classrooms were built.) We are in alignment with the original plan created in 1997 and with the current proposal we would virtually complete that plan. Now we have around 750 in weekly attendance.

3. Timeline

- Summer 2006 - Evangelism Committee came to Council with a pressing issue presented by a single question:
 - "Since people are currently coming to 9:40 Worship, not finding a seat, and then leaving the church, should we continue with our outreach efforts?"**
 - Council's reply was a reaffirmation that Long's Chapel is here to "reach people for becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ," and so Council advised the Evangelism Committee to: **"Keep your efforts strong; we'll address the overcrowding."**
- 2006 – "Immediate Needs Task Force" formed by Council; parking added, services rescheduling studied
- 2007-2009 – Long Range Planning Team (LRPT) formed by 2006 Charge Conference
 - This team asked Council to hire a planning architect to assist with a campus master plan.
 - Foxhollow Goodson developed conceptual master plan drawings in 1Q08 (not well received by the congregation).
 - TAG studies (vision and ministry clarity work, strategic objectives) were done in late 2008; focus groups met, retreats held; 2009 Charge Conference accepted this work
- Spring 2008 – Pastor Change: decision was made to put everything on hold for a period of time.
- 2010-2015 – LCUMC formed an ongoing Vision Committee
 - LRPT work rolled out to Council and congregation in Feb 2010; feedback requested
 - Previous work was consolidated and in 1Q11 the formal Love 1.8 Vision was rolled out
 - The 15 meetings referenced in item 1.c. were held
- June 2011 – Specially called Charge Conference unanimously approved the creation of the Building Committee and to authorize the committee to proceed with the development of preliminary plans for new construction and repurposing of existing facilities.
- July 2014 – BC receives Council's consensus to address the presented "Top 5 Needs" and begin an architect search
- October 2014 – Council approves BC's \$38,000 spending request to hire an architect

4. Process going forward per the *Book of Discipline*:

- The Building Committee shall estimate carefully the building facilities needed (completed with Master Plan), develop preliminary architectural plans, secure an estimate of the cost of the proposed construction, and develop a financial plan for defraying the total cost, including an estimate of the amount the membership can contribute in cash and pledges and the amount the local church can borrow if necessary.
 - This step in our process is when we need to complete the remainder of the design work and begin working with our capital campaign advisors.

- ii. **Approval 4:** The Building Committee shall then submit these plans to the District Board of Church Location and Building for its preliminary approval.
- b. **Approval 5:** A Church Conference will be called where the Building Committee shall present the preliminary architectural plans, the preliminary cost estimate, the preliminary financial plan, and the Building Committee's recommendation. A congregational vote will be taken.
- c. **Approval 6:** After approval by the Church Conference, the Building Committee shall develop detailed plans and specifications and secure a reliable and detailed estimate of cost, which shall be presented for approval to the Charge Conference...
- d. **Approval 7:** ... and to the District Board of Church Location and Building.

5. Next Steps for BC and Council

- a. The BC has studied the current buildings, present and future needs, demographics, and trends in church buildings and needs for more than 4 years. They have received professional architectural input. Through these efforts plus other input they have developed recommendations based on INFORMED opinions.
- b. It is appropriate to ask "Why is the BC recommending this?" and then to hear the reasoning.
 - i. It could be perceived as dismissive, of the 4+ years of hard study by the Building Committee, to comment on the proposals or make recommendations without first having heard the reasoning of "Why it was or was not".
 - ii. If you see something or not on the Master Plan that you feel should be changed, please do not assume that it was done incorrectly or was an oversight. Just ask "Why" this was done.
- c. It is not appropriate to survey the congregation (who have not studied the issues and information available) with the question "What should we build or not build?" for their opinions, which may or may not be INFORMED opinions. (If this was the strategy for determining building needs, why appoint a BC?)
- d. The BC has given several opportunities to congregants and the congregation to weigh into our building plans.
- e. The only way for the congregation to make an informed decision about future buildings is to hear the recommendations and the reasoning for those recommendations from the BC.
- f. There will be further opportunities in the future for the congregation to decide to move forward or not. This should be done through the BC and our hired building partners. This will allow for proper explanation and answering of questions.

6. Summary

- a. This process began with Council in 2006 following an Evangelism Committee-identified challenge. Council formed teams to address the issue, and authorized spending for expert support. Later the 2009 Charge Conference formed an ongoing Vision Committee to continue the work (plus other), and finally a 2011 Charge Conference elected and tasked a Building Committee to specifically address our facility needs. Each of these teams concurred that LCUMC has facilities challenges that need addressing.
- b. Multiple opportunities have been provided for congregational input. When the larger congregation has weighed in over the years, they have expressed the need to correct our facility deficiencies. The Building Committee believes the current plan addresses the needs.
- c. With 264 individuals participating in the 2015 survey, this has provided a large and diverse sample. This is 35% of the average weekly worship attendance. The survey shows the need for leadership to take action.
- d. As pointed out in the "Steps Going Forward" our *Book of Discipline* charges the Building Committee with the task of developing the building plan. We are currently within the process at the point needing to complete plans to obtain "Approval 4".
- e. Questions for Council
 - i. Do you have any "why" questions?
 - ii. As a reminder, it is not until after "Approval 4" that the Building Committee's *formal* congregational presentations take place (this is logical because many are confused unless easier-to-read graphics are developed/utilized in a presentation).
 - iii. Has the congregation had plenty of opportunities to express their thoughts and opinions prior to "Approval 4"? If not, how much more and what else is your expectation?
 - iv. Does the master plan presentation indicate the Building Committee has properly addressed the approved "5 Points"?

Facility Maintenance Report - February 2016

Building and Grounds

- An automatic heating valve failed on #8 Air Handler Unit which supplies the main part of the Sanctuary - Haynes Heating and Cooling replaced it on 1/27
- All heating units were serviced on 1/20
- Our annual boiler inspection was completed in January by NCDOL
- Part of the small rock wall in front of the Venue has collapsed and we have a quote of \$600 to repair it and the deteriorated curbing beside the bell tower (when weather permits)
- We are looking into the possibility of purchasing an auto scrubber to keep our floors in better condition and preserve the wax job that we do at the end of the year. It would not only keep our floors looking better but also save a tremendous amount of time so the custodians could focus on extra cleaning. Our custodial supplier did a demo of the Wrangler 2010AB for us in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday the 9th. They have parts in stock and have sold these units to the local schools and hospitals. The cost of the unit including tax is \$4910.56

Healthy Conversations Forum

Sunday, February 21

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Foundation for Evangelism, Lake Junaluska

The 2015 Annual Conference of the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church approved a petition which directed the Bishop to appoint a task force to “lead, model, resource, and cultivate” holy, healthy conversations across the United Methodist churches of Western North Carolina. This forum is the first planned event in which participants will have the opportunity “to listen to one another, to listen for the promptings of God’s Spirit, and to discover new ways in which we can serve and be in ministry together in spite of holding different opinions about a number of issues” (from Bishop’s post-Annual Conference Reflections.)

On February 21, you are invited to join others in exploring ways in which small groups can engage in healthy conversations around issues of human sexuality. The afternoon will include:

- A 4-person demonstration of a Healthy Conversation around Human Sexuality
- A presentation on guidelines and best practices for healthy conversations
- An opportunity for small groups at each location to engage in a healthy conversation
- A discussion of next steps and closing worship with communion.

Because the Healthy Conversation Task Force believes that the most effective conversations around the issue of human sexuality and other important topics happen in small groups where persons have the opportunity to build trust with one another, resources for small group studies will be made available on the conference website for follow-up conversation and study after the event.

2/16/16



Church Council Attendees

Discernment Part 1

PRINT

Preston Jones	Bldg Comm.	✓
Lynn Pinter	Building Comm	✓
DAVE GILDERSLEEVE	BUILDING COMM.	✓
Adelle Giffers	LUMC member	✓
Jim Bantner	Bldg Comm.	✓
John Bickertoff	Ldrshp Devel. Community	✓
JIM MATTHEWS	" " "	✓
SONNY LESCALEET	" " "	✓
Ashley Colborn	LUMC attendee	✓
Pastor Chuck Wilson		✓ *
Jeanne Heath		✓ *
Emily Hall		✓ *
Carol Burrell		✓ *
Mark Teague		✓ *
Kit Ervin		✓ *
Tom Fogarty		✓
Pastor Justin Lowe		✓ *
Torry Pinter		✓ *
Kim Powers		✓ *
Hunter Plemmons		✓ *
Jamie Francis		✓ *
Tim Phelan		✓ *
Jennifer Rogers		✓ *
Paul Ervin		✓
Debra Wiscman		✓

*SPRC