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# Dear *trinity* family,

Greetings from the Facility Oversight Team: Brian Hector, Dave Mars, Dave Van Den Brink, Jodi McDonough, Karen Barker, Scott Simmelink, and Scott Heemstra. We have lots of information for you in this newsletter. Get a cold drink, put your feet up, and have at it. We'll be interested in your comments.

## - THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS -

We are so grateful for the prayer support we received prior to and during our July 14 meeting. God honored your work on our behalf. Thank you so much! Maybe you already pray regularly for the FOT and this current building/stewardship campaign process we're in. Each of the seven members of the FOT has a week day

when she or he has committed to being specifically in prayer for the team and the process. If we're not already on your prayer radar, we would like to invite you to join us. Brian has Sunday, Karen has Monday, Jodi has Tuesday, Dave V has Wednesday, Scott S has Thursday, Scott H has Friday, and Dave M has

Saturday. Simply pick a day of the week and on that day, intentionally and specifically include the FOT and our process in your prayers. Pray that we do not grow weary and impatient. Pray that we will be wise and discerning. Pray for the health of our congregation as we continue this journey together.

## Discovery Meetings

On June 2 and 3 our team from Cogun met with specific groups to ask questions like, "If God is with you, money is no object, and you couldn't fail, what would you want to see for Trinity?" Questions like, "What do you see that Trinity will need over the next 5 years?" Asked what the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats/hindrances were at Trinity. Staff members were interviewed, Leadership Team members, Mission Team, Prayer Team, Elders, Deacons, youth volunteers, and a diverse potpourri of other members in the church. The Facility Over-

sight Team has 23 pages of notes from those meetings, so it is not possible to relay all of that information to you. Tons of specific ideas and needs are in those pages. But one theme we heard was the clear vision that our building is simply a tool for the ministries of the church. We certainly do not lack creative ideas for ministries. We only lack volunteers and space and time. How do we discern what ministries to follow and when? How do we build a facility that is flexible enough for the ministries we have yet to imagine?



## Visioneering

This spring the FOT conducted visioneering nights with the youth groups, the staff and leadership team, and the congregation. Those nights taught us many things. In general, we love our staff, our worship, our small groups, our vision for ministry. In general, we want more space for our kids; a flexible worship space that draws us together into the presence of God; space to fulfill current ministries and to imagine new ones; space to “hang out” – mom’s with small children, teenagers, seniors, Spanish-speakers with English-speakers, mentors and mentees, small group studies. In general, we want to follow the call God has placed on us at this time in this place. What a great thing!

## Transforming Church Index and Demographic Study

On July 8 the FOT and the Leadership Team met to hear the results of the Transforming Church Index survey via conference call with our consultants. What we learned was very encouraging. 186 people took our survey, which represents 28% of our worship attendance. (15% is the minimum required for accurate results.) Overall, we are a very healthy church. In fact, our composite score was the highest our Cogun consultants have ever seen, and they believe our good internal health positions us well to undertake this building project. An area of growth for us, though, is in building community within the church. Too many of our people do not feel connected at Trinity. We can do better. That same night we also heard the results of the Demographic Survey, which is a study of the area within a 15-mile radius of the new location. Some of the interesting statistics are:

- 93.7% Caucasian, projected to be 91.7% by 2013
- 4.7% Latino, projected to be 6.9% by 2013
- 36.6 is the average age
- The number of singles and young families (ages 25 – 34) is growing
- Higher percentage of those 85+ than the national average 25.9% have no faith involvement, which amounts to over 7,000 people within the study area

## What's Next?

The Facilities Oversight Team continues to meet – sometimes alone, sometimes with the Leadership Team, sometimes with our Cogun consultants. We talk about space utilization and programming, comparing current use with projected need. We talk about what the phasing of this project might look like. In the meantime, the stewardship campaign team is gearing up to lead us through what we expect to be an incredible time of seeing God at work. And very soon we will have a transformed overflow space worthy of any worshiper. Lots of work being done. Lots of work yet to do. We’ve only begun.

**Would you like to contact us? Great! Anytime! We would love it!!**

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