

The visioning session on Mar 5 produced the following ideas. I find it inspiring just to read it and hope you do too. If we read it once a week we would have the Church of our dreams.

This Saturday Mar 21st from 8:30 til 11:30, we will be looking at the larger picture of our church, its buildings, its role in the community. Is there a message inherent in using our church? What is it? What do we want it to be? What do we want to draw into our church to share in the wonderful, including, welcoming available here?

We will also be thinking more specifically about our music. We have come a long way in some respects and have a smaller and smaller choir. What do we want? How will we get it?

Agenda

Welcome to a New Vision

Welcome
Introductions
Prayer
Church of Dreams
The Larger Picture
Our personal gifts
The full circle
Closing Prayer

What we really like about our church

Lively to soulful, soft reverend music
Interactive
Faith
Little faces (kids)
Love
Flute, shakers, violin
Inclusivity
People do things to look after the church on their own initiatives – unsung heroes
Study groups with Terri
The inventiveness with which people get problems solved and get it done. Tony and the coat hangers and Bob finding an easel.
We ask and receive
Many are contributing in many ways happily
Diversity – some like formality – we try to blend and accept
Sense of humour
We have life
Diversity raises our thinking
Unbaked goods
Fabulous food – treats, meals, appys
Like the singing and connecting at the beginning

In the Church of my dreams

I would feel

At home
Appreciated
Of service
Useful
Joyful, elated
Light, as in walking on air, hearted
Togetherness
Joyful
Safe

Peaceful
Inspired
Welcomed
Relaxed
Loved
Accepted
Fulfilled
Anticipation
At home

I would be thinking

YES!
Of possibilities
of the answers to my doubts
wonderful world we live in
How to take the church of my dreams into the world
Of programs designed to meet God's expectations of us

of returning next Sunday
How to live a better life of God
Of how blessed we are

I would look and see

Multipurpose
Residential
Sacred
Purposeful
Company of believers
Flowers
Light
People happily joyfully coming to many diverse groups and events to learn and experience

Shining faces
More stained glass
Changing floor plan
Happy contented people
People who need
A beehive

I would hear

Joyful music
Children's choir
Moments of silence
Large adult choir
Prayer without music
Songs of praise

Reverence
Uplifting music
Organ
Interpretation of Bible
A crescendo of support
Joy

I would experience

Kindness
One with one another
New ways of doing and living
Some beloved rituals
Joy
Spirit
Family

Love
Bliss
Expansiveness
The holy spirit
joy
Love of Christ coming through the people
Fresh contexts and ideas

New perspectives

The message would be

Simplicity of sermon

God is Love

Call to serve

Christ's message

Relevant

To take message to everyday life

Biblical

God's purpose revealed

The Minister would

Be inclusive

Be rooted in the spirit

Be compassionate

Be understanding

Visit (without cause)

Available to the congregation

Be more connected to the congregation

Have humour

Be open to everybody

Provide interdisciplinary support to the worship engine

Reverend

Support individuals

Accept, inspire, support

Challenge

Comfort

Helps people interpret for themselves

Facilitates understanding God's

unconditional love

I would

Contribute

Give/take part

Use my talents

Surrender

MMMM>.....

Participate

Contribute my energy

Pray

Feel like I have more energy to do the things I want to do

Meditate

Enjoy beautiful music before service

Listening

A willing worker

Open and inclusive

Singing

praying

The Music would be

Inspirational

In the background

diversified

jazz vespers/song circle

choir of exceptional musicians led by an exceptional choir director who raises the bar

full of life = an expression of where we are at whether joyful or sad

Everything from oming to jazz, some traditional, familiar hymns

Budget includes \$65,000.00 for a full time music ministry

From old hymns to contemporary

variety of musical instruments

Joyful – upbeat Quiet Reverend

Mixed traditional and new

gospel

folk

children's choir, youth choir

world music

Inspiring

Repetition of new songs

Solos, duets, instrumental

I would be greeted with

Love
Acceptance
A hug
A smile
My name

Music and singing
Enthusiasm
Coffee
Warmth

I would leave feeling

Inspired
Renewed
Refreshed
Nourished – body, mind, and spirit
Fulfilled
Thankful
Joyful
Connected
Uplifted

Like bouncing my ball
In-spirited
Full
Energized
Expansive
Forgiven
Heard and loved
Know I belong to God.

I go to the Church of my Dreams to

Be accepted
Worship the Lord
Learn to live the Christian Life – less selfishly
To get support
To share my gifts
To broaden and enliven my understanding
Value tradition
To be taken out of self centredness
To give and Receive
Feel more assurance

Be part of church family
Renew my faith
Experience community
Play blocks
To give thanks
Connect
Meet people (singles group)
Make contact
To connect with Heart
To learn and grow spiritually