

Rooted and Reaching Renovation Suggestions

(as of 7.1.21)

*This is a **summary** of suggestions and questions offered to date.*

We will continue adding new contributions.

If we have answers to questions or information for responses, we offer them here.

All suggestions and questions are sent to the Renovation Team, including: Don Ecklund, Brad Hemstreet, Greg Krutsinger, Pastor Susan Phillips, Linda Wheal, and Chris Young.

Why is the labyrinth located in the middle of the chapel floor where chairs or other furniture or other activities in the room would make it unavailable for solitary meditation?

Response: Historically, labyrinths have existed in sacred spaces. By using flexible furnishings, the space can be used easily in many different ways (worship, meditation, rehearsal, classes, or meetings).

Will the first-floor women's restroom still be handicap accessible with the addition of the staircase in that area?

Response: Yes

I suggest adding an automatic entry button for the restroom entrances so people don't have to struggle to get them open.

Consider a roof top garden or ground floor enclosed garden area where we could worship among the flowers and trees.

Talk with city about changing the Capitol Street side into additional parking spaces.

Can we add a toilet room near the basement gathering room?

The 2 dressing rooms in the basement could be combined into one large room. Wedding parties are big and need this space. Consider putting direct access into women's restroom from the dressing room.

Consider putting hotel style moveable walls between meeting rooms 3 and 4 for more flexibility. They are expensive but do provide a good sound barrier.

Does the congregation want a library? This needs to be determined before adding bookcases into the history room. Maybe we could have a discussion about this.

Is the nursery large enough for ten children?

Response: Yes, it meets the State requirements and licensing rules for ten children. We will have much more space if/when we have more children to divide them by ages or activities and use multiple rooms.

The second floor Chapel does not look at all like a chapel, more like an all-purpose room for activities other than meditation and prayer. We feel this should be one of the most important spaces in our new building for worship and prayer, which as now presented it certainly is not.

Response: The drawings in the Charrette presentation are only sketches, not final designs. A chapel will need sacramental furnishings, artwork, music, prayers, and people to create the sacred, beautiful, and inspiring space we imagine. The discussions have been about a space that can host everything we have done in the chapel and more.

Can the choir have a space for fixed risers?

The visibility of the director makes all the difference in translating the tempo and colors of a director to the singers.

Given the church's proximity to both state & federal businesses and the recent security concerns for both, I feel it might be advantageous have a secured entrance into the church by vehicle for anyone who must access the building in an official capacity after hours. I believe this could be accomplished by adding a garage entry within the new section as part of the renovation. For security purposes, I am thinking a coded entry on a pedestal at the garage entrance (as seen in secured storage properties, for example) followed by the same coded entry (or a conventional lock) into the new addition of the church.

I noticed with the diagrams that it looks like we are using a lot of carpet? If this is so, then think about all the cleaning that will need to be done. Especially in the high traffic areas.

What is being done with all the asbestos that is in the walls, flooring etc.?

What are the plans for the old foundations and walls outside where the old existing building is now in existence?

All the Men's toilet rooms need gutted and redone. Plumbing is a major issue.

What can be done about the water leaking into the basement hall way near the women's bathroom and the choir robing rooms?

What is the city going to do to solve the water problem coming into the church from the way the alley slants and the water flows toward and into our basement?

What type of windows are being used? Will the whole education and all the church windows be replaced at this time. Another costly repair.?

Update the church's thermostats to save time, money and energy.

Parking spaces: How many are going to be used for handicapped? This will cut down on the actual number of parking spaces.

North side of Sanctuary ramp steps: Will the steps be replaced with new concrete steps? Will the ramp wall be investigated of why there is moisture seeping through the bricks?

Men's restrooms need to be redone.

Mechanical room which houses the chiller needs repair.

I just wanted to say that I LOVE the labyrinth!!! What a wonderful opportunity to do a walking, mindful, prayerful meditation!!! THANK YOU!!!

Are there any plans for outdoors event space? This might be good foresight in regards to the pandemic.

How much square footage of accessible gathering space excluding sanctuary are we using right now?

What is the new total square footage excluding sanctuary etc?

Will we need the existing ramp in the garden with the renovation? Maybe we could eliminate it and just have the steps to the side door.

Wondering about the arched windows in renovation design. I think the arch raises the cost of the window as well as any replacements needed in the distant future. I thought this was part of the problem with replacing the windows in the Commons.

I've been thinking about how we can be the best physical space in the post pandemic world, and meet peoples needs. If this is not already part of the plan, lets make sure we have a room with some privacy and a comfortable chair that can be used by nursing Moms, and a dedicated drawer or container (box with lid) in the refrigerator to store pumped milk.

In the back of the sanctuary build a crying room for family and children so families can participate in services with their children. I think this could also be staffed if only children are in there.

Perhaps we should fix the fireplace in cook-duller lounge while doing the renovations. It would be a cozy room if we had a working fireplace.

Also consider removing the bell from the tower and putting it in the garden.

Thank you to our Renovation Committee for the work taken on and done in the future. As someone who thoroughly enjoys cooking and celebrating church events, I would ask that updates be made to our kitchen, specifically the exhaust system. My gratitude for your consideration.