

9:45 Sunday 26 Sept 2010

Opening Remarks by Char Hejmanowski

Dismiss full Powerpoint demo for a short summary by attending Session members: Russ Reid, Ken Fong, Linda Styer. Attending task force member: Dennis Acuncias. Financial background – combined staff, \$1.2 million projected expenses, FPC presence in the LV community / I-15 flyway. NOTHING has been decided.

Questions & Answers

Question by Jim Reid: Muslims outnumber Presbyterians, how will the merger affect the ministry in our current neighborhood?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: Are we interested in doing outreach in the current neighborhood? Summerlin Church provides more volunteers to Amazing Grace than FPC (disputed by Bob Eaton).

Question by Bob Eaton: Where will the merged church be located?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: Delay that decision. IF merged later the joint (joined) session will decide. The cost of building a new church = \$7 – 8 million plus \$2 – 3 million for property.

Question by Martin Squaredown: we will continue as two congregations until previous question is answered. Several inputs – Churches' sales, relocation(s) will require Presbytery approval / direction; 2/3 votes of quorum @ each congregation required to pursue merging. Initial action / vote is to approve MOV., which starts the process – see page 2, last paragraph.

Question by Mark Farmer: What (other) property does Summerlin have?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: None @ Town Center and I-215 owned by Presbytery - 1st right of refusal.

Question by Sally Ashton: Staff will divide their effort 50/50, pastors and music director, perhaps organist, Christian ed director.

Answer by Lou Pennebaker: The only paid staff at SPC is the Pastor. FPC can not afford the (professional?) staff it has now. What advantages accrue to FPC? Membership chair (Char) says long term prospects for increase are not good.

Question by Bob Ryman: Is there romance in the marriage, or its it a shotgun wedding (Do we want to do this, or must we?)

Answer by Rob Merriman: We need the demographic that SPC brings to the union. Answer by Dennis Acuncias: The MOV is like dating.

Question by Leo Borns: What is the size of SPC?

Answer by ?: 120 members, \$180k budget.

Question by Amy Palmer: Looking for children's program, considered SPC 1st when looking for a home church. SPC recommended FPC for children's ministry.

Answer: none.

Question by Pat Goodall: Don't worry about precipitous actions or decisions. We are, after all, Presbyterians.

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: For the foreseeable future, there will not be a noticeable change except for sharing staff.

Comment by Megan Krier: Publicity regarding programs should be shared.

Response by Char Hejmanowski: More dollars available for programs.

Response by Dennis Acuncius: For example, invite SPC to Thanksgiving Dinner, SPC holds more social events than FPC.

Comment by Art Ritter: SPC also has an aging congregation. SPC has an interim pastor. Merged staff will resolve this problem of finding a CALLED pastor. His salary will be available to FPC for salaries and programs. There is ample experience @ Presbytery to manage.

Question by Sue Born: Is there a timeline?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: The is an order (sequential) but not chronological.

Question by Ted Phillips: 50% of staff time to SPC seems an unequal distribution of resources. If one church declines MOV, what happens?:

Answer by Char Hejmanowski and Art Ritter: ONLY an affirmative vote in BOTH congregations will authorize going forward.

Question by Bob Eaton: City of Las Vegas wants the FPC property. Is the congregation prepared to oppose pressure from the city to stay in the current location?

Answer by Dennis Acuncius: The city will not take the property from any current owners. DOT (Project Neon) is a STATE operation. City has this area planned as a medical neighborhood.

Question by Everett Merz: Does our property belong to us, or to Presytery?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: FPC holds the title (unique).

Response by Art Ritter: Defending the property would probably be assisted by Presbytery. (State of Nevada owns the State Route = Charleston) FPC position is that if you break us, you buy us – at an exorbitant price \$80 million. The big problem is (vehicular) access. No matter what we decide, the property issues persist.

Question by sue Born: Have SPC members been attending FPC?

Answer by Megan Krier: In small numbers. Also, you should consider visiting SPC.

Question by Bob Eaton: What will the proportional representation of the merged session be?

Answer by Char Hejmanowski: In the MOV, the sessions will be merged. SPC has 8 members, FPC has 20 members, shrinking to 18, but the merged session will have 26 members.

Response by Dennis Acuncius: After the merger, the session will not be proportionally representative.