

## A Plan For the Future for First UMC, Gastonia: Questions and Answers

*It is important that each question we receive is answered as completely as possible. We are doing our best to print them exactly the way they were received. Thank you for your interest and your input!*

*Newly Updated Answers are posted in **BLUE***

### **Childcare/Children's Ministry/Preschool Space**

- Will child care areas meet state requirements for full day child care? **The current children's area will be "upfitted", however with being "below ground" we do not meet outside egress requirements for full day child care. We will be able to offer the half-day child care that we currently offer. Three years ago we conducted a study and realized that what we offer fills a niche in the community, so we want to offer the best half-day child care that we possibly can!**
- Is the playground security addressed? **Not with the plan... we are working on those issues independent of the plan.**
- How does this affect security issues in the children's area? **Our plan is to have the children's area totally secure on the bottom level.**
- Is play area impacted? **No. The current plan call for the playground to stay where it is.**

### **Adult Classrooms/Small Group Space**

- It is unclear to me where small groups will meet if the parlor and hospitality room are repurposed. Where are the new meeting rooms for small groups? **We will be gaining one new room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and one new room on the main floor. The plan currently calls for flexible seating in the Chapel that could also be a possibility. We also have plans to refurbish the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor rooms so that they are better meeting areas.**

### **Counseling Space (Eddie Ingram)**

- Where would those that are seeing Eddie (pastoral counselor) go in? Through the main corridor now? Are there going to be signs letting people know? **We are calling for Pastoral Counseling area to be relocated into what is currently the Senior Pastor Office and Administrative Assistant. This allows for better confidential access. Yes, there will be signs for easy reference.**

### **Preservation/Changes to Existing Spaces**

- Transporting azaleas/dogwoods. Parlor - preserving space. Library - opportunity for medical center. Would there be an elevator in the new area? Adequate meeting/conference rooms (since lost adult access to rooms at Wesley Center) and less formal areas?" "Green" building techniques? (Environmental stewardship, e.g. like Schiele, garden on top) or outside? Prayer Chapel is most important for small worship. Important to have lots of small group study/conference rooms for adults/intergenerations (lost 2 great areas plus informal areas from Wesley Center). Multimedia center. Wifi access/social media - potential for technology. Arts/music reflect theology (show message of grace/love). "Green space" inside and outside. **Lots**

of good thoughts here. The committee will, of course, continue to receive input. The plans do not currently call for an elevator in the new area. We looked at that possibility but removed it for cost savings. We do believe that we have adequate adult space and will look forward to have better “groupings” of spaces in the addition/ reworked spaces. Yes, we will incorporate “green building” techniques as applicable. We will gain two new rooms in the addition that can be used for small groups/ meeting. Over the last two years, we have reworked our church and do have WIFI access (guest password is fumc190east).

- If floor plan is accepted could we consider a raffle of the grounds flowers, azaleas, etc. to help offset the cost? Are there plans to update the theater seating? Could we add elevator on outside perimeter of building and keep existing? The United Methodist Book of Discipline forbids raffles, but we could certainly look at making plants available for purchase. We do not have current plans to update seating in the Theatre... we have recently done over \$100,000 worth of improvements there. We decided not to add a new elevator because of cost.
- Leave the pews in the Chapel - a place for intimate worship. Every place doesn't have to be multi-purpose. No final decisions have been made. The goal of the plan is to leave the Chapel as a worship space that can be utilized for small groups as needed. The chancel is not projected to change. Literally the only change (besides paint/ carpet) would be removing the pews and putting interlocking chairs that can be set up in rows like pews.
- Is there a space for a bookstore? Existing hospitality room gone? Chapel should not change. Columbarium? We are not calling for plans for a bookstore. The hospitality will be addressed in the main entry lobby. We will have a large adequate space where coffee stations, information, and hospitality can take place. The current call is for seating only to change in the Chapel. The columbarium will not be touched.
- Will all old windows in the Education Building be replaced? Some will be taken care of by the new construction; but it is clear to the Buildings and Grounds Committee that we do need to replace the current windows.
- Please leave the Chapel alone. There is enough space, rooms, etc. The Chapel is a Chapel not a room to be used as whatever! The current plans call for seating changes in the Chapel. The Chancel area will not change.
- I love the look of the existing church from Franklin Street - not so much the new design. Our architects have worked hard to catch the “look” of the current church and honor our heritage by incorporating some of the architectural elements of “the old church” on Main Avenue.
- Leave Chapel as is! New microphone and modern septic! Like historical consideration! Remember the church needs a sacred place! Where one can be alone with God - Chapel as is. A quiet place.
- The Chapel is for a serious purpose. Why do we need to change it? Is the “new space” - welcoming area - not a good place for some of the activities you might want to change the Chapel to accommodate? We are currently calling for a change of seating only in the Chapel. The gathering area will not be a place to host small groups because of how busy it will be.

- Would like for the Chapel to remain the same as it is now. The Chancel area is not projected to change in the Chapel. The only change (besides cosmetic paint/carpet) is new seating that can be arranged as pews or in other ways.
- Many individuals pull on the front pew when getting/standing up during worship. Will any flexible seating have arms to help people up as they can't pull on the seat in front of them as it's not anchored in the floor? We assume you are talking about seating in the Chapel, since there is no plan to change seating in the sanctuary. Seat options will be considered. Thanks for the suggestion!
- If there is to be "one" entry to the church building, are the other 3 entry outside doors to the sanctuary going to be closed? Why do we need to make the chapel into a multi-functional gathering room when we already have several such rooms, including the theatre? What is to become of the Parlor and the old Hospitality Room? The one entry way will be used during the week and when no worship service is happening. The outside sanctuary doors will remain locked except when we have a worship service (as they are now). However, on Sundays and day of worship, we will certainly unlock the doors and welcome people in. This is one of our security measures. The idea with making the Chapel multi-use is that we are a 7-day a week church with a lot of activity both for us and for the community. The present Parlor will become the new Library and the old Hospitality Room will be expanded into a new meeting room.
- Six of the questions on the recently published report asked "to leave the Chapel as it is!" Who is pushing for ANY change to be made. Whoever is in charge of this program should honor our church by keeping the Chapel "AS IT IS!" Please listen to the members. Thank you. We are certainly listening to the members. It is why each individual question is addressed.
- It is unclear whether the water problems in the ground floor music areas will be solved. I didn't see how water damage along the Franklin St. end of room 119 can be solved if the Columbarium is not touched. In other words - if the music area is not benefitted by the Building Project at the very least the water problems should be addressed. We are currently working with Western Waterproofing on a plan to address water incursion into the building from both above-grade and below-grade. The approval to do this work is a function of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and is independent of the Building Project. The water incursion issues afflicting the main building need to be addressed as a matter of maintenance, safety, and asset protection. The only tie-in with the Building Project is that the water incursion now taking place on the Main St. side of the building *would* be addressed with the Building Project as that exterior wall would become an interior wall, therefore protected from the elements.
- Please don't touch the chapel. There are no final plans... at all. We do not even have blueprints. We are only looking at possibilities. No pew decisions, colors of carpet, furnishings, etc. have been chosen.
- The chapel is a very important, traditional space used for small weddings and funerals, prayer vigils, etc. Hard to imagine interlocking chairs that would look good in the traditional environment. Interlocking chairs are a sort of modern development. Unless they were dark wood and looked like pews, I think they would stick out like a sore thumb. I'm for leaving the chapel alone with exception of painting, etc. Thank you for your thoughts! They will be passed along.

- What's to become of the parlor and its beautiful furnishings? I've always considered it to be the church's living room - a good place to meet with visitors, potential new members, gathering place for women's groups, etc. It's a warm, comfortable meeting place as opposed to a "meeting room". Polly B intended it as a special place that would also acknowledge the contributions of Jody and Betsy. [Thanks for the question. The Buildings and Grounds Committee, and the eventual Building Committee \(should we decide to move forward\) would make those decisions. It is safe to say, however, that the intent behind this room and all of our facilities will be sought to be honored.](#)

## 162 East Worship/Theater Space

- Can we build a skywalk or tunnel from FLC to 162 East? [Our plan does not call for that because of expense and permitting involved. In 2013-14, we did complete a \\$100,000+/- renovation of the Theater.](#)
- Great job! Really looks great. What about 162 E? Looks like it is all be itself now that main, Wesley Center, and FLC are connected. How do we make 162 E part of that. What about front entrance of the main church? Would it still be used or everyone comes in from the back? [The Theatre, where 162 East worship happens, cannot be connected because of Main Avenue and expenses related to permitting, etc. We did, in 2013-14, complete \\$100,000 worth of renovation in the Theater. It is the hope that our large church \(1500 members\) can attract persons to worship who are intimidated by a large church with a smaller/dedicated space \(The Theatre\). We want to do all we can to reach as many people for Jesus Christ in as many ways as possible. 162 East worship is a BIG part of that! We are grateful for the Drama Ministry that shares that space and hope that we can use our resources in ways that make sense. The front entrance of the church is not addressed in the current plan. It is our intent that - except for worship - people will use the main entrance that is being built. On Sundays and for other worship services, we will \(as we do now\) open up the front doors of the church.](#)
- How are we physically linking 162 East to the main campus? [Due to Main Avenue between us, and the associated permitting and expense, we are not. However, this is part of the vision of why we offer 162 East worship. We are blessed to have a Theatre \(which we did over \\$100,000 worth of upgrades to\) where we can offer Christ's love to people who may be intimidated by a big church! One of our goals is to grow "smaller" as we grow larger. What that means is that we want to be sure that each person has opportunity to belong to a smaller group where discipleship can grow. We believe our worship in the Theatre, 162 East, allows that to happen.](#)
- Can we have convertible handicap spaces? Monday - Saturday regular. Sunday 7 a - 4 p handicapped? Request the new wing area NOT be named after anyone. Replace theater chairs with some interlocking chairs?? Covered walkway to theater? [Buildings and Grounds Committee will consider handicap parking needs. Thanks for the suggestion! We do not currently call for new Theatre chairs. We cannot provide a walkway to theater at current time because of financial constraints.](#)
- If floor plan is accepted could we consider a raffle of the grounds flowers, azaleas, etc. to help offset the cost? Are there plans to update the theater seating? Could we add elevator on outside perimeter of building and keep existing? [The United Methodist Book of Discipline forbids raffles, but we could certainly look at making plants available for purchase. We do not have current plans to update seating in the Theatre... we have recently done over \\$100,000 worth of improvements there. We decided not to add a new elevator because of cost.](#)

## Main Sanctuary

- Changes to main sanctuary footprint? We looked at some options originally, but quickly realized that the cost would prohibit it. So... no changes are called for in the main sanctuary.
- Many individuals pull on the front pew when getting/standing up during worship. Will any flexible seating have arms to help people up as they can't pull on the seat in front of them as it's not anchored in the floor? We assume you are talking about seating in the Chapel, since there is no plan to change seating in the sanctuary. Seat options will be considered. Thanks for the suggestion!
- I was very disappointed to see no plan for updating the sanctuary. Because all the seats are on the same level, it is difficult to see over people sitting in front of you, and the sound system leaves a lot to be desired. It's hard to understand why the sanctuary would not be included somehow in this restructure. It just looks and feels old, and not in a good way. Originally, we did look at sanctuary remodel, but quickly realized that we needed to focus in on our main areas: Welcome, Security, and Water Issues. Sanctuary remodel may be addressed at a later date, but we felt we needed to be good stewards of our resources.

## Storage

- Will there be provisions for storage? We do have some areas for storage shown; however, we recognize that often storage areas in buildings become "junk rooms" and we will want to provide adequate storage for necessary items. We feel that storage will be adequate in the plans.
- Lack of storage has long been an issue. Does this new design address this? The plans do call for new storage areas; however we acknowledge that we must do a better job of inventory and arranging our resources here.

## Kitchen

- Elevators for main building's 3 floors? Portico wheel chair accessible to main gathering place? Is the connector from youth building to FLC enclosed? (How about kitchen workers access and deliveries to kitchen in FLC trash bins out back - access to Main St.?) We will use the current elevator in the main building to access its 3 floors. There will also be steps. Yes, the portico is wheel chair accessible to the main gathering place... it is all on the same level. Yes, the connector from the Youth Building to FLC is enclosed and climate controlled. There will still be "controlled" (meaning for kitchen staff/deliveries/trash pick up) from Main Avenue to the kitchen area).
- What about deliveries and waste removal? What changes to FLC kitchen area food receiving, trash, HVAC areas will need much more outside areas for equipment. Please respond. There will still be "controlled" (meaning for kitchen staff/deliveries/trash pick up) from Main Avenue to the kitchen area). The architects have made provisions for location of HVAC areas. Thank you! We will respond to every single question.

- Kitchen in FLC needs new layout. This was not addressed. That is correct. We spent about \$300,000 in renovations in 2014 to the Family Life Center. Our current plan does not call for a change in the kitchen of the FLC.

## Green Building/Environmental Stewardship

- Environmental stewardship - any plans for “green building” techniques, create green spaces. Transplanting azaleas and dogwoods? Yes, we will incorporate “green building” techniques as applicable. We will certainly do our best to use as much of the current landscaping as possible. We do hope to create a new green space in between the new enclosed walkway between the FLC/ Wesley Building and Main Avenue. We also see new “green areas” in the parking lots to break up the parking.
- Has consideration been made to incorporate solar panels to offset some energy cost in the future? Our builder will consider this at the appropriate time; but we are certainly committed to environmental and fiscal stewardship!
- Transporting azaleas/dogwoods. Parlor - preserving space. Library - opportunity for medical center. Would there be an elevator in the new area? Adequate meeting/ conference rooms (since lost adult access to rooms at Wesley Center) and less formal areas?” “Green” building techniques? (Environmental stewardship, e.g. like Schiele, garden on top) or outside? Prayer Chapel is most important for small worship. Important to have lots of small group study/conference rooms for adults/ intergenerations (lost 2 great areas plus informal areas from Wesley Center). Multimedia center. Wifi access/social media - potential for technology. Arts/music reflect theology (show message of grace/love). “Green space” inside and outside. Lots of good thoughts here. The committee will, of course, continue to receive input. The plans do not currently call for an elevator in the new area. We looked at that possibility but removed it for cost savings. We do believe that we have adequate adult space and will look forward to have better “groupings” of spaces in the addition/ reworked spaces. Yes, we will incorporate “green building” techniques as applicable. We will gain two new rooms in the addition that can be used for small groups/ meeting. Over the last two years, we have reworked our church and do have WIFI access (guest password is fumc190east).

## Entrance/Parking

- Front entrance improvements? Access? Covers - weather? The front (Franklin Blvd.) entrances are not addressed in this plan. However, we are in the process of replacing the front and west side doors leading into the sanctuary (the east side doors were replaced in 2015). We do address the covered entrance on the west side of the new building. There is entry there through a covered drop off, and from that entry there will be access to any spot in the main building, Family Life Center, or Wesley Building without ever going outside.
- Parking as the church grows? We do believe we have adequate parking. In the new structure plans, we are losing only 14 parking spaces.
- Main drop-off area to building is it all undercover? Yes the drop off on the large parking lot (west) side will be undercover. The drop-off area on the small parking lot (east side, on corner of Main and Oakland) will not be undercover to save on cost.

- Can we have convertible handicap spaces? Monday - Saturday regular. Sunday 7 a - 4 p handicapped? Request the new wing area NOT be named after anyone. Replace theater chairs with some interlocking chairs?? Covered walkway to theater? **Buildings and Grounds Committee will consider handicap parking needs. Thanks for the suggestion! We do not currently call for new Theatre chairs. We cannot provide a walkway to theater at current time because of financial constraints.**
- How many parking spaces will be lost? **The current plan calls for 14 spaces to be lost.**
- If there is to be “one” entry to the church building, are the other 3 entry outside doors to the sanctuary going to be closed? Why do we need to make the chapel into a multi-functional gathering room when we already have several such rooms, including the theatre? What is to become of the Parlor and the old Hospitality Room? **The one entry way will be used during the week and when no worship service is happening. The outside sanctuary doors will remain locked except when we have a worship service (as they are now). However, on Sundays and day of worship, we will certainly unlock the doors and welcome people in. This is one of our security measures. The idea with making the Chapel multi-use is that we are a 7-day a week church with a lot of activity both for us and for the community. The present Parlor will become the new Library and the old Hospitality Room will be expanded into a new meeting room.**
- Losing 14 parking spaces sounds not too bad, but lots of folks are parking off site now because getting into the building is easier that way. Sounds like there may be more folks parking off site after the remodel. That will be a problem. **We do feel good about only losing 14 spaces. We hope to grow in our hospitality by asking those who are able to park away from the building to save closer spots for those who have trouble walking, the elderly, or those with young children.**
- How many parking spaces lost to “grass and trees” in photos? We can’t afford to lose parking.  
**There will be 14 parking spaces lost. We hope that this can increase our efforts at hospitality as a church, so that those of us who are able park further away (the lot between Wells Fargo Bank and the Wesley Center is rarely half full on Sundays) to allow closer parking for those who need it.**

## New Gathering Space

- Would it be appropriate to put the church reception and switchboard in the new main gathering space? **The reception area is planned to have visual access to the new gathering area. Anyone coming in our building should be able to “check in” with the receptionist and from that space receive appropriate access to the desired location.**
- Will there be a full-time receptionist at the new welcome desk(lobby)? **We currently have a part-time receptionist and volunteers. Whether or not we move to full-time will be addressed by Staff Parish Relations Committee (that is the committee responsible for hiring). However, we will be better designed to receive folks if the receptionist is away.**
- Who will decide colors, furnishings, carpet in new structure? What is planned to identify large area as a church not a hotel lobby or bank? **Our builder and architect will work with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to determine colors, etc. We will**

certainly do all we can to make sure that our gathering area is a space dedicated to Christ and not the world.

- What plans exist for dampening noise/echo effect in interior gather area? We will certainly be considering the noise effect as we build and will rely upon the builder/architect to plan accordingly.
- Would the new facility improve functionality in any way? The plan to close the hospitality room and 162 East to consolidate in the Family Life Center is a complete failure. Our members LOVED gathering in both places to enjoy coffee, pick-ups and greeting friends. Can this be re-started immediately? The intent is for the new facility to greatly increase functionality. Simply by not having to go outside to get between three buildings great increases functionality. We will be better able to provide secured entrances, etc. The hospitality issue is related to our ministry teams and is not related to the new building in any way, but the purpose is to provide greater access to guests and folks no matter which service they attend.
- The artist renderings show “comfort seating” in the large new entry area. While this may be comfortable for a few it can certainly NOT accommodate a large number. Also, who is going to use this area during the week? We have a long way to go before we finalize seating in the entry area. This area will be used by everyone who enters our church during the week.
- I would not like to see the chapel changed to a multipurpose room by removing the pews. The chapel is a beautiful worship area used for funerals, weddings, baptisms, communion, worship services, etc. Is there a small kitchen area with serving counter planned for the gathering room (pictures given to committee) for Sunday coffee and snacks, funeral receptions, etc. that might be held there? That is a great suggestion and will be handed to the committee. Thank you. Again, at this stage it is all just conceptual. We will certainly look into how much is available to be done in the gathering area. We all agree that it is a great place to have coffee and to receive folks.

## Restrooms

- Handicapped seating in all restrooms? All new restrooms will meet ADA requirements.
- Will there be other restrooms on the opposite side of the complex? Restrooms with multiple seating... from those mentioned at the congregational meeting on April 3? Thanks for your consideration? There will be new bathrooms with multiple seating on each floor of the main building with the new construction. The plan does also call for shower rooms on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. We do not call for new bathrooms anywhere else. It is our hope, however, that by having a “designated entry” we will get better use of such facilities.

## Elevators

- Elevators? (Any new or just existing). We originally had elevators called for the in the new lobby, but due to the cost we decided to just go with the existing elevators in the main building and in the Wesley Center.



- Elevator in new part? **No. Due to the cost we decided to go with the current elevators we have.**
- Elevators for main building's 3 floors? Portico wheel chair accessible to main gathering place? Is the connector from youth building to FLC enclosed? (How about kitchen workers access and deliveries to kitchen in FLC trash bins out back - access to Main St.?) **We will use the current elevator in the main building to access its 3 floors. There will also be steps. Yes, the portico is wheel chair accessible to the main gathering place... it is all on the same level. Yes, the connector from the Youth Building to FLC is enclosed and climate controlled. There will still be "controlled" (meaning for kitchen staff/deliveries/trash pick up) from Main Avenue to the kitchen area).**
- If floor plan is accepted could we consider a raffle of the grounds flowers, azaleas, etc. to help offset the cost? Are there plans to update the theater seating? Could we add elevator on outside perimeter of building and keep existing? **The United Methodist Book of Discipline forbids raffles, but we could certainly look at making plants available for purchase. We do not have current plans to update seating in the Theatre... we have recently done over \$100,000 worth of improvements there. We decided not to add a new elevator because of cost.**
- Please consider adding at least one more elevator while this building is being done; it is needed. **The cost of one more elevator was a way the committee felt money could be saved. We all agree that it could be utilized, it is simply a money issue.**

## Security

- How is this going to address both "welcome" and protection! **We will welcome everyone coming into the church into ONE area - the lobby. Access to anywhere else from the lobby can be controlled through secure entrances into main building, Family Life Center, and Wesley Center.**
- Can each building be accessed without going through main entrance? **Yes, but only with security clearance.**
- While there is a lot of talk about securing the church buildings, there is no mention of security issues when leaving the building and going to your car... it can be very scary leaving the building (at night). Is this an issue the building plan that should be addressed? **Thank you. We are aware of security in the parking lot and are trying to be proactive. We have recently added lighting and have tried to make provisions to have a custodian on duty during the evenings. The building plan will not directly address these concerns, except that persons will be closer to their cars from the building. We will continue to work on safety issues.**

## What Next?

- Will District approval be required before moving forward? **We have had discussions with the District Office, and we fit the requirements to move ahead with our proposed construction.**

- How long will each phase take to complete? There are lots of factors that could change; but generally speaking we believe 12 months for the main construction of the lobby and six months for each area that is renovated.
- What percentage of funding must be received before construction can begin? That will be a decision for the Finance Committee/Church Council. Most capital campaigns are pledges received over 3 or 4 years.
- Is there any concern about a major capital fund project before General Conference makes decisions that might affect this congregation? We put our trust in God to be bigger than anything that might divide us. This church has shown an amazing ability to stay focused on Jesus Christ through differing opinions, leadership styles, etc. We trust God on this!
- Having 2-3 weeks to consider and an expenditure this large is not enough. Excluding members who won't be present on voting day is just wrong. Not being present doesn't mean that people have lost their church membership. This is actually a provision in our *United Methodist Book of Discipline* that states professing members *present* may vote. We are required to have at least a 15 day notice before a called Church Conference. We received permission from Dr. Lyn Sorrells on March 30, and starting publicizing on March 31 in our eblast and then in our newsletter and bulletins. It is never our intention to exclude persons from the vote. We are working hard to get all of the information out as quickly as we can.
- Thank you for your work on this plan. If we can remember that this is for His Glory and not ours, we should be just fine!
- Why the push before the General Conference? There is no push before the General Conference (to be held May 10-20 in Portland, OR). We just wanted to get the concept out and gain general consensus. Then, our goal is to talk about it over the summer and into the fall and look at a concerted capital campaign in early 2017. So, the concept would have been out for almost one year before we ever move forward with it.
- Why was an out-of-town architect firm chosen instead of local companies and instead of members who may be in this business? Several firms were interviewed. Acting on the authority given by the Church Council, the Long Range Planning Committee secured the services of ADW, who the committee felt provided the best fit for our church. Six requests for proposals were sent out and we interviewed all three firms who responded.
- Who chose this architect firm? (See above answer)The first was chosen based on the permission given by Church Council. The firm was chosen with the approval of Church Council.
- Not one word has been said about increased "CONTINUING COSTS" that would be incurred with such a building project? Costs would include but not limited to: insurance, extra staff needed, utilities, repairs, etc.? All costs would be figured on the same basis we approach the costs associated with our four separate buildings currently. The committee is certainly aware the additional square footage will require additional costs.
- Does this plan increase the ability to serve more members? The purpose is to increase the ability to serve the members and community *better*. The architect's study included our "space needs" (SS rooms for adult and children, gathering/meeting rooms,

nurseries, etc etc) for the next 10 and 20 years based on estimated membership / attendance.

- Why are the members NOT getting to vote on variations of the plan. Why is it “ALL OR NOTHING”? The Long Range Planning Committee has been meeting for almost three years. A lot of work has gone in to this project. It is not up to anyone except the Church Council as to what the motion will be to vote on when we meet on April 24. We trust the process and will let the Church Council decide.
- Why aren't the capital repairs/improvements that NEED to be done now addressed as if we either do the WHOLE PLAN or nothing at all. The Buildings and Grounds Committee, Trustees, and Church Council constantly weigh what can be done now based on needs and money. They are the appropriate groups in our church to do this. As stated in our congregational meeting, this plan is certainly “phase-able”. As the three-page letter associated with this and 9 other questions challenged us, we assure you that much prayer is going into this process! Thank you for making your voice heard! We trust God to lead us through this.
- Will the young adults on the church-sponsored camping trip to Tekoa be able to vote thru Jennifer, a staff member? Yes. All *four* worship services to be held Sunday, April 24, 2016 (three services at FUMC in Gastonia and one service held at Camp Tekoa) will vote on the motion. Rev. Lloyd and a member of Church Council will lead the vote at Camp Tekoa. Rev. Westmoreland, Rev. Christy, and representatives from the Church Council will lead the votes at our worship services here.
- If when we vote on the building proposal, will we be voting on the entire proposal or will we be able to vote for/against individual parts? Ex. - For everything but against Chapel proposal. Can that be reflected. The vote on Sunday, April 24, 2016 will be a simple up or down vote on whether to proceed with concept of the plans presented and the plan for our church to hold a Capital Campaign. The details of that plan will be worked out at a later date, after we see the results of the Capital Campaign. ALL questions and concerns will be taken into account before the Building Committee finalizes the concept.

***All questions will be answered! We appreciate the interest in your church! Thank you!***

*Updated April 20, 2016, 3pm*