

January 2012

To the Congregation of TJMC-UU

Re: OUR FACILITIES -- OUR FUTURE, A Report to the Congregation

At TJMC-UU, the conversation about the future of our Campus and its facilities has been an on-going and often energetic one, with times of great activity and interest. Our objective as the current Facilities Planning Team has been to review previous work, to assess current needs and hopes for our facilities and to gather and incorporate input from relevant groups as we consider the various options available. We hope to maintain and enhance our facilities, assuring that they function as well as possible for our Congregation now and for the foreseeable future.

We have worked diligently on this project—some of us for one year, some for two, and some on efforts dating back to 2005 and even beyond. We have gathered information from many groups across the church, including Staff, The Board, Councils and Committees. We are now prepared to present our findings to the full Congregation for your input and feedback.

The report includes a Vision, a summary of the main findings, a list of key questions for the congregation to consider, a financial review of the church and a fact sheet containing lots of important data for those of you interested in numbers.

Based on your ideas and feedback we then plan to move towards making concrete recommendations for action. Many of the issues raised in our report date back to 2005 and several more have since arisen which creates a strong sense of urgency for action to be taken. Failure to act risks remaining far behind in addressing the actual needs of the church and results in continuing to fight the fires that flare up in a manner that is not an efficient use of funds. However, we want any changes to be part of a comprehensive and well-thought-through planning process, and for this to happen the Congregation plays an essential role.

We have attempted to make our report as accessible and comprehensible as possible and will be demonstrating what we have learned in a number of ways including hosting a table in the Social Hall for three Sundays on January 8, 15th and 22; offering tours and photographic presentations those same days; holding several dialogue sessions during the months of January and February and posting the entire report and supporting documentation on our website at www.uucharlottesville.org/fptf

We will then ask for your feedback, also in a number of different ways, including email response, interactive web-site participation, and later in the process, via a survey.

Thank you for giving this material your attention. Together it is our intention to help plan, protect and enhance the best possible physical facilities for our spiritual home.

Your Facilities Planning Team,
Ian Sole, Sharon Baiocco, Dick Somer, Dan Grogan, Jean Shepard, Katie Corish, Don Landis