

## Congregation Survey Summary 62 Respondents

The top goals the congregation has for the master plan are:

- 1) Renovate/refresh/do maintenance on the buildings, in particular concern are Peabody Hall and the kitchen.
- 2) Improve the ease of use for rental and/or outside community use
- 3) Make better use of the natural setting.

When asked about specific spaces, Peabody Hall and the kitchen came in #1 and #3 respectively as needing

maintenance/renovation, while the Fireside room came in #2. Staff offices and classrooms needed attention next, but less urgently.

The Sanctuary was seen as needing some attention, while the majority of people thought the patio outside of Peabody and the front landscaping were fine.

This data lines up with the open comment section where people voiced concerns. There were a large number (40) of comments on how the church and the property around it look old, out-dated, and run-down. People felt it could be improved to be more inviting and welcoming. The second comment along these lines is that LCC has the opportunity to engage more with the community, that we're under-utilizing our site (10 comments).

For the undeveloped property, support for potential affordable housing was high, with a partial build-out of housing (less than 10 units) being the highest response at 41 people rating it 1st, 2nd or 3rd, but the full build-out (10 units) came in last.

Additional open comments showed support for affordable housing, often with the caveat that it fit with the rural/natural feel of the site and is feasible.

The second desired use for the undeveloped property was outdoor gathering spaces for church or community purposes, with 35 people rating this 1st, 2nd or 3rd. This was also mentioned in the open comments, with request for more outdoor spaces for the church and for quiet space.

Also mentioned were noise abatement from Alpine, accessibility, concerns about who will maintain our site, better staff offices, parking, bathrooms, making spaces multiple use, drainage, and green technology such as heat pumps and solar.

Looking at how the site is currently used, the most frequently used areas are the Sanctuary and Peabody, not surprisingly.

However, all areas of the church are used. The ways the spaces are most frequently used are for church services, socializing, meetings, projects, and community events. When asked what they wished LCC had a better space for, the top answers were collaborative meeting space and outdoor church spaces.

The church is open to rentals or space use either day or evening, for about any person/group or use that makes sense.

When asked what they valued about LCC, by far the most frequent answers were the Sanctuary and the natural beauty and environment. People also mentioned the convenient location, the playground, the opportunity to provide space and service to the community, peace and quiet, the people, the pre-school, and being open to all. In particular, things people wish to save are the memorial windows, memorial benches, the trees, the Christmas star, the fireplace and surround in the fireside room and the sense of sacred space.

## Community Survey 180 Respondents

In brief, the community:

- 1) Has some familiarity with LCC
- 2) Could use more communication from LCC
- 3) Relative support for housing, though there is much diversity here
- 4) Would support LCC being more of a community hub

The community survey was encouraging in that we had better familiarity with the community than we might have thought.

98% of respondents know where LCC is, 62% know someone who is a member. People rated themselves as “3” on a scale

of 1-5 of being familiar with LCC. They rated LCC as follows (again, on a scale of 1-5):

LCC is inviting — 4

LCC is clean and updated — 3.65

LCC has good signage/I can find my way around — 3.5

If people had been to LCC, the reason was:

Community event (such as art fair, ice cream social) — 38% \*

Church event (such as services, wedding) — 32%

Community drive drop-off — 30%

Pre-school — unclear %, mentioned many times in “other” category, which was 35% \*

\* — in reading through the “other” category, most people mentioned community events and pre-school. As I can't

specify actual responses in a percentage, I'll just leave it with the assessment of comments.

Communication is a much more sticky topic.

When asked if they'd heard about events at LCC, we were rated as 3 out of 5. However, the variation in response was large.

When asked if they'd like to know more about what happens at LCC, we were rated 2.8 out of 5. However, in the open comments,

there were 25 comments suggesting we post more in the PV forum and Ladera list serve, post in the Almanac calendar, and did we have a web page?

Some liked our banners and signage, one comment suggested we tone down our 'in your face' banners. Some commented

that they didn't realize all we do and were impressed. Over-all, we could probably communicate more.

### Programs

When asked what people had or might participate in (of existing programs), the top results were the following:

Community Gatherings (ice cream social, art fair) — 63%

Styrofoam recycle — 56% (this was also going on at the time)

Concerts — 49%

Food drive — 40%  
Christmas drive — 34%  
Get out the vote — 28%  
School supply drive — 26%  
Meals for homeless — 25%  
Green tips — 24%  
Pride parade — 21%

When asked about new activities that might interest them, people responded:

Lecture series — 73%  
Community meetings — 64%  
Classes — yoga, tai chi, art, etc. — 53%  
Outdoor gathering space — 40%

This aligns well with feedback in the open comment questions — huge support for LCC becoming more of a community hub, offering classes (art, cooking, yoga, languages, tai chi, meditation), lecture series, event space, co-working space, public space for quiet and meditation, public space for sitting and talking. There was also support for continuing our various drives (styrofoam, food, etc). One specific comment that struck me: “As our society is becoming more secular, I’d recommend that you emphasize your facility more as a community hub, and less as a church. (I know this may be in conflict with your religious inclinations, but it is a reality in our world these days.)”

Interest and appreciation was shown for the pre-school — and one request to please bring it back, with another stating they’re glad the pre-school is back. So — when the pre-school is ready, this is a celebration and promotion opportunity.

Housing on the property has support, with community members rating a build-out of 10 or less units at 3.8 out of 5.

However, the variability on this question was high, with some being very (5) supportive and some being opposed (1).

No doubt that more information and details would be important here, but good to know there’s relative support at this point.

The open comments reflect this too, as some comments were in support enthusiastically, some yes with caveats, and one point-blank “no” on housing.

In general, LCC received nice comments and appreciation, people said they loved the warmth and inclusiveness, that they appreciated what LCC does. There was appreciation of programs, with specific request to keep the Art Fair going,

specific kudos on the pre-school, and some felt this was a great opportunity to re-invigorate. There were requests from the community to keep them informed on what we're doing - which might relate more to housing plans or whatever is done on the undeveloped property; in particular a neighbor wanted to be informed of plans.

We'll sum it up with this quote: "You are wonderful neighbors. Welcoming and generous. Thanks for all you do!"