

April 2020 newsletter article

3-Church Initiative: What's the latest?

from the LNL Communications Team

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 3-Church Initiative discussions in February and early March. The good questions asked in those meetings, and submitted via the Communications box, prompted us to create a 'Frequently Asked Questions' or FAQ document that we'll continue to update going forward.

You'll find the most current FAQ and timeline on the LNL website:

<http://www.lakenokomischurch.org/3-church-initiative.html>

It addresses a wide range of questions – from parking, to staff, to money, and more.

Is this a done deal?

That's one of the big questions we've heard. The answer is "no." All three congregations, Lake Nokomis Lutheran, Living Table United Church of Christ, and Spirit of Stephen's Catholic Community, must first vote to proceed with the partnership. That vote will follow congregational discussions of a recommended plan ('scenario') and costs.

The LNL 3-Church Initiative team is working closely with the architects and the other congregations to finalize that recommendation. They're focused on representing our church's needs and priorities within the context of the partnership 'big picture.' As a reminder, that team includes Eric Grube, Steve Schou, John and Robbie Becker, Kat Vann, and Pastor Chris Hagen.

What's the impact of COVID-19 on the timeline?

At the time this article is being written, the coronavirus situation is changing almost hourly. One could speculate that our inability to meet in-person could lengthen the timeline. But it's also possible that we'll all get really good at alternate ways of connecting and decision-making. All three churches are making contingency plans around timing.

What if I have other questions?

Check the website FAQ document first to see if your question has already been addressed. If it hasn't, send your question to any member of the Communication Team (their contact information is included on the FAQ). That team will continue to gather and respond to questions for the benefit of the LNL community

Questions and suggestions submitted about other elements of Sunday worship will be addressed, too – once we're able to gather again in person.

What's the role of the LNL Communications Team?

With so much change happening at LNL – calling a pastor, the 3-Church Initiative, and now the COVID-19 situation, this ad hoc group volunteered to help ensure that information and feedback is being gathered and shared in a consistent, timely way. Hopefully, this will help all of us make informed and wise decisions.

The LNL Communications Team includes: Sue Bergly, Bette Stacy, Kathy Schou, John Becker, Robbie Becker, and Kat Vann.

Prayer request

Please pray that God will guide the work of the 3-Church Initiative team – the LNL team members and the representatives from Living Table and Spirit of St. Stephen's.