



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH: LONG RANGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

BACKGROUND

- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and sanctuary was originally built for a congregation size of 1,200 members.
 - Our current congregation size is over 3,600 and growing
- The church site and facilities was last studied in 1994 when the Lynne Center was constructed.
- Good Shepherd has many imminent maintenance items that need addressing, including the heating/cooling system, roof, and parking lot.
 - Planning for the future prior to making large operational investments is the most cost-effective and prudent way forward
- Church Council has spent the past two years looking at the following:
 - Existing conditions
 - Needs assessment
 - Congregational and pastors/staff survey

EXISTING CONDITIONS: Facility/Site Strengths & Constraints

STRENGTHS

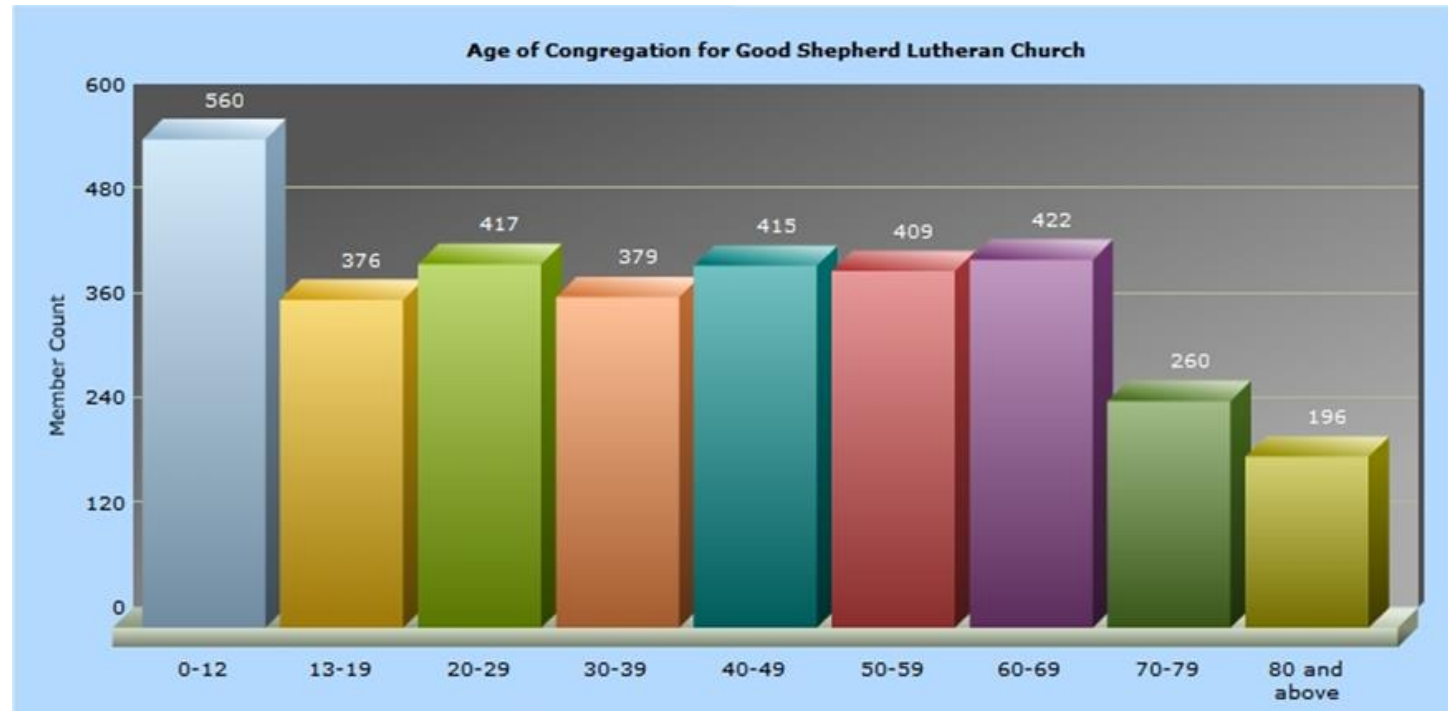
- Central location on an easy-to access lot
- Iconic architecture and strong sense of place
- Multiple gathering spaces

CONSTRAINTS

- Land-locked location with no space for expansion
- Very little usable outdoor/green space
- Sanctuary and gathering spaces originally designed for a much smaller congregation

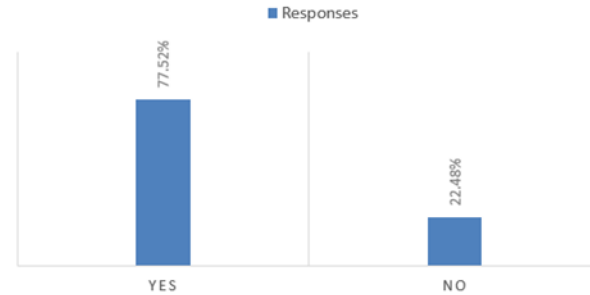
NEEDS ASSESSMENT: congregational snapshot & projections

	Recorded Membership Changes (members added minus members removed)						Projected Congregational Membership Changes (based on average change over past 6 years)			Total Projected Change
Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020- 2025	2025- 2030	2019-2030
# Members Changed	+85	+55	+65	+41	+93	+112	+75	+375	+375	+825

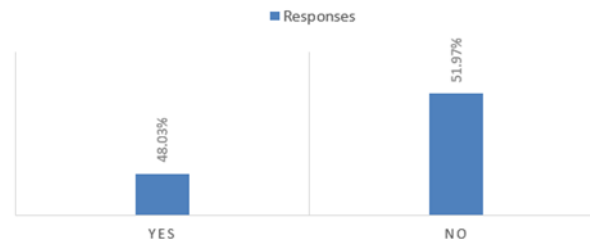


NEEDS ASSESSMENT: Congregational Survey Results

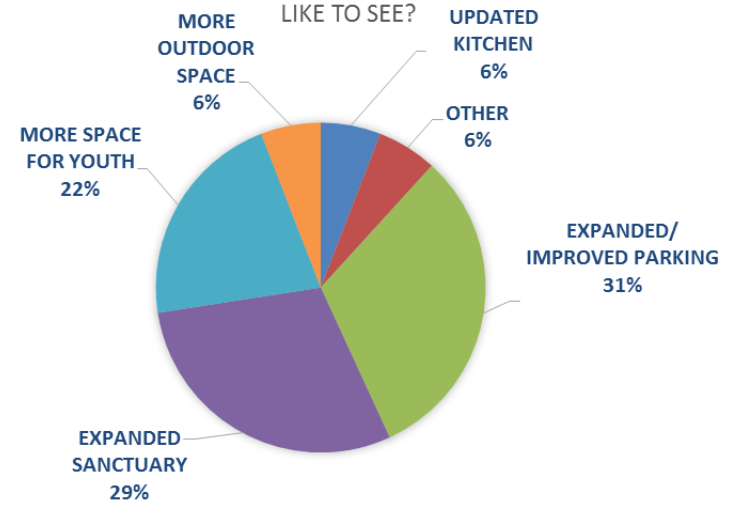
Do you feel that the GSLC facilities and grounds fulfill the mission and vision of the congregation today?



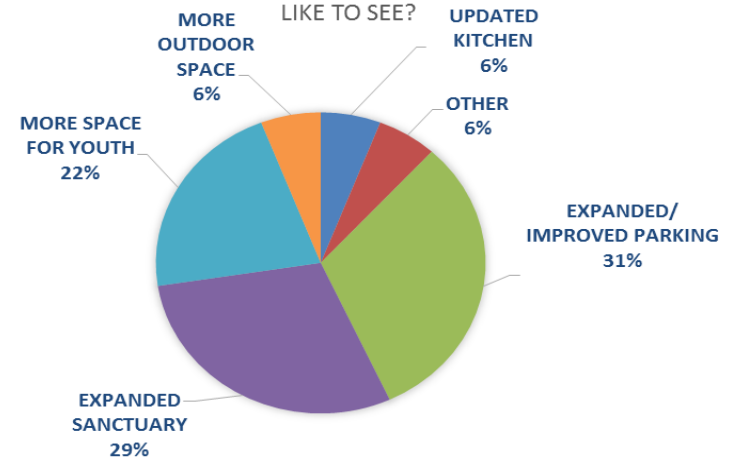
Do you feel that the GSLC facilities and grounds fulfill the mission and vision of the congregation in the next 5-10 years?



IF NOT, WHAT IMPROVEMENTS/EXPANSION WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?



IF NOT, WHAT IMPROVEMENTS/EXPANSION WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?



NEEDS ASSESSMENT: Summary

The congregational survey and a pastors/staff survey has outlined the greatest needs over the next 5-10 years to be the following:

- Improved/expanded parking area, including additional accessible parking spaces
- Expanded sanctuary and narthex
- Improved and expanded Lynne Center
- More security and access control to youth spaces
- Larger and improved youth gathering spaces, including outdoor spaces
- Improved and expanded office space, including better ventilation and heating/cooling
- Addition of outdoor green space

Preliminary Space & Site Options

OPTION A – Keep facility and site as is with known maintenance needs addressed

STRENGTHS: cost only for immediate and long-term maintenance items and upgrades to existing spaces as needed

WEAKNESSES: space is limited now with no room for expanded ministries or partnerships as the congregation continues to grow

OPTION B – Renovate and add onto existing facility

STRENGTHS:

- retains iconic architecture and central, walkable location within community
- centralizes and improves office space/administration
- allows for expansion and flexibility of gathering spaces including the Sanctuary and Lynne Center
- provides for outdoor worship space, new green space, and expanded parking
- keeps the church in a walkable, central location within the community

WEAKNESSES:

- cost of remodeling an existing building can sometimes exceed costs to build new
- cost and variability of acquiring needed properties
- worship will need to be temporarily relocated during the construction

Preliminary Space & Site Options

OPTION C – New building on existing site

STRENGTHS:

- design can allow for all improvements and efficiencies needed
- creates a new and better sense of arrival and entry to the church
- worship can continue in the existing space until construction is complete on the new facility

WEAKNESSES:

- sacrifices the iconic architecture of the existing building
- less green space available, depending on the plan
- cost and variability of acquiring needed properties along Osage Ave.

OPTION D – Relocate to new site

STRENGTHS:

- design can allow for all improvements and efficiencies needed
- sale of existing property can provide partial funding for new facility
- worship can continue in the existing space until construction is complete on the new facility

WEAKNESSES:

- church will lose the walkable, central location within the community
- sacrifices the iconic architecture of the existing building
- land costs in Bismarck may be cost-prohibitive

Plan Recommendation

Develop a GSLC Facility Improvement Task Force to look into expansion and improvement options, make connections with neighboring land-owners, and begin the long-range planning for the future of Good Shepherd in the next 5-10 years.