

FCC/NCC Discernment Team
Discernment Fact Sheet – Property and Facilities

Introduction

The objective of this Fact Sheet is to describe the current status of the evaluation efforts of First Christian Church and Niles Congregational Church to discern whether God calls us to merge congregations. The Discernment Teams of both congregations hope these sheets will address frequently asked questions in several categories. See other Fact Sheets that include questions in following areas:

- Pastoral Leadership
- Finances
- Programs, Policies, Procedures
- Theology and Worship Practices

Property and Facilities

First Christian's New Property (36600 Niles Blvd.)

1. What is the current status of FCC's new property? Is it ready to move in?

FCC has taken possession of the new property as of 8/31/07. FCC will be completing renovation before moving in such as new carpets, adding a temporary kitchenette, repainting exterior and interior, replacing windows, replacing air conditioning and heating units, etc.

2. What is the target move-in date?

FCC has not moved in and the target move date is early 2008.

3. Who is on the remodel team at FCC? Can one or two Niles members of the Discernment team participate/observe during the design meetings?

FCC does not have a formal remodel team but plans to meet with a commercial interior decorator soon and would not oppose someone from Niles being present as an observer.

4. Does FCC plan to build an addition with a fellowship hall and kitchen? If so, how big?

FCC does plan to build an addition with a fellowship hall and kitchen but no plans have been drawn yet. A lot will depend on whether a merger takes place or not. FCC has also hired a consultant who has conducted the research and submitted a report that says "a 5,000 to 7,000 square foot fellowship hall on the site would be an allowed use on the site."

FCC/NCC Discernment Team
Discernment Fact Sheet – Property and Facilities

5. Are there drawings of the addition available that show what's planned?

No plans have been drawn. If our congregations decided to merge and decide to move into this property, it's likely we would plan the fellowship hall together.

6. Can we schedule a property visit after the upcoming Discernment Team meeting?

Yes, a property visit will be scheduled very soon. It would have happened sooner but there was an insurance liability issue and FCC felt it was best to wait until the papers were signed and they owned the property. Perhaps a visit can be scheduled in mid to late September. FCC wants NCC members to go through and take a look – the sooner the better.

Niles Congregational Church Property (255 H St.)

1. What is being planned for NCC's property?

If the two congregations decide to merge, it is likely that the new merged church would end up worshiping in only one church building. This might begin in only one property and move to the other later on. The Discernment Team suspects that ultimately that one property would be at 36600 Niles Blvd.* If this turns out to be true, then NCC's property at 255 H St. could be sold, rented (for instance to another church), or used for outreach programs of the merged church.

2. What is the status of the Kidango lease? Can NCC sell the property as long as that lease is active?

The Kidango lease expires on 5/31/2014. However, the property could still be sold with a condition that the lease be honored. This might affect the value/sale price of the property.

3. What will happen to the NCC parsonage?

The new church will need a pastor and the pastor will need a place to live. The Discernment Team can't imagine that the parsonage would need to be sold.

* The reason for this suspicion rests in two reasons. First and most important, we think it will be easier to start a new merged congregation in a facility with which neither current congregation has history, emotional attachment, and tradition; 36600 Niles Blvd would be such a facility. Second, though we haven't experienced worship in 36600 Niles Blvd yet, we're guessing that it will provide more room for growth than the property at 255 H St.