Phase One, Revised and Introduced

The Master Planning Team, with architect David Keitel of domusstudio, has re-imagined Phase One and now with the Session offers it the congregation for study and inspiration. Conceptual drawings are available. A ‘Fly-Through’ video of the whole Master Plan is also available.

This redesign prioritizes those campus improvements that will benefit the most members and welcome the most visitors. Our most public and shared spaces are re-designed with what we think is a stunning beauty, greater invitation, easier and more obvious flow of traffic, and with accessibility for all in mind. The majority of this project highlights and, we believe, will greatly enhance, as much as space and place can, the fellowship of our congregation and the welcome of visitors to our campus.

This re-imagined design:

1. maintains and restores the original sense of grandness in our spaces and adds new needed function to those spaces;
2. is, upon construction, immediately useful to all who enter the campus whether for worship, fellowship, discipleship, or public events;
3. costs much less than the earlier imagined Phase One ($2,985,621 instead of $4,020,030), a number that may be within the reach of our congregation in a three year funding campaign;
4. anticipates future phases with little or nothing needing to be undone for the next projects;
5. permits additional smaller moves in campus renewal and renovation as our finances permit and our will desires;
6. does not, we think, trigger any special discretionary city permits that may be costly and/or time consuming.

Specific features include:

1. a three-tiered Courtyard that
   1. adds more space for gathering and movement to/from all the gatherings spaces on all three levels – spaces which are currently underutilized because of limited access;
   2. connects more directly with both Sanctuary and Chapel for those moving to and from worship, the main offices, and the choir rooms;
   3. connects directly with an enlarged and restored Assembly Hall, which becomes our primary Fellowship Hall;
   4. permits easy movement in/out of spaces and ease of movement between indoor and outdoor spaces in a visually obvious manner;
   5. visually connects the whole fellowshipping congregation and all ages in spaces that are at once both separate and yet present to each other;
   6. connects the north and south spaces of our campus more directly and with greater ease and less disturbance of others, including City Tree School and the Chapel;
   7. adds new fellowship spaces which are outside, including a café near the existing newly renovated kitchen and which is easily accessed by all;
   8. adds beauty with newer materials, a sense of openness, and a visual welcome, and is centrally located within our campus;
   9. includes ramps for both the physically challenged and ease of movement for everyone in all these new spaces, thus overcoming the severe slant of our property.
2. an Assembly Hall that
   1. is enlarged making it spacious enough for all our fellowship events, especially when connected to outside spaces;
   2. refreshes the premier spaces by its altered shape, new appointments;
   3. adds a sense of openness and brightness by connecting to natural light on both the long east (courtyard) and west (3rd Street) walls, and by keeping the vaulted high ceiling;
   4. is connected easily to campus entrance and exits, and worship, discipleship, and other smaller fellowship spaces;
   5. is no longer a hallway.
3. a new meeting room on the upper level that
   1. provides a secondary assembly space that is medium sized and flexible;
   2. is centrally located, accessible, and useable by a very wide range of our ministries.
4. a re-designed entrance off of Date Street near 3rd Street that
   1. becomes the main entrance as originally designed and which becomes more visually obvious and attractive;
   2. relocates the main reception spaces and lobby to this entrance, limiting the campus to one primary entry point for security;
   3. is ramped outside for full access, with wheelchairs arriving inside with and where everyone else arrives, and this on both courtyard and street levels immediately;
   4. is located very near the elevator for quick and easy access to all the spaces and events in all the new spaces on all the levels;
   5. with the already accessible Date and 4th Street entrance creates now two direct entry and exit points for the physically challenged for worship and events in the Sanctuary.
5. an elevator that
   1. is well-placed in a central location near the new main entry and which will use currently under-utilized spaces;
   2. connects all three levels of the campus both in/out of doors – only the Sanctuary and Chapel balconies will remain inaccessible;
   3. makes the offices of the staff and the studies of the pastors accessible to every member;
   4. more quickly connects all to restrooms;
   5. sets us up well to meet expected building codes and needs if/when our ministries, such as infant care, expand and we repurpose spaces for their growth.