

Minutes of the Renovation Committee Meeting

Luther Place Memorial Church

July 15, 2002

Present: Marc Parsons (chair), Serena McGuire, Trudy Werner, Jim Bond, Carolyn Serfass, Marianne Anderson, Ron Hebensperger (recorder), Andrew McIlroy, John Hamre, Carlos Madero. **Absent:** Dick Rortvedt, Bob Holum.

Marc distributed minutes of the April 23, 2002 meeting, notes from the congregational cluster meetings, and architectural sketches of the plan presented by the Kerns Group last year. Marc will distribute minutes of the last meeting when he completes them.

Review of previous discussions:

Marc reviewed his notes from the May meeting. Refer to the single page document titled "Renovation Points" for an outline of the discussion.

- J. Historical Characteristics. Marc noted that renovation on the stained glass windows has been referred to the Building Committee chaired by Henry Bowden.
- K. Fire and Life Safety and Security
- L. Lighting (Need to examine adequacy, flexibility of use and bulb changeability)

New discussion:

- John suggested that a **DRAFT** of the program document be given to the architect before approval by the congregation to make sure the document is properly developed. There was a consensus agreement with that suggestion. It was emphasized that the architect be made to understand that the document is a preliminary draft, and has not yet received congregational approval.
- The architect will be asked if the congregation's architectural desires as expressed in the program are in line with the budget. Marc will ask the Kern's group how well they can give us a cost estimate from the program document **AND** if the program document is sufficient for their work. From the program document, either Kerns or their consultant will provide Luther Place with an order of magnitude cost estimate.
- There was a consensus agreement to change item "G" to "Storage" so as to examine the larger storage issues. This item may include coat racks, acolyte robe storage, etc.
- In a discussion about maintaining communication with the congregation, it was decided to leave Renovation Committee materials in a binder in the Nave for review and comment by Congregation members. In addition, a box will be placed beside the binder to receive comments; materials will be placed on the congregational web site to the extent possible; and an e-mail account will be set up for the Renovation Committee. Photographs of renovations elsewhere that are similar to what we are considering could be provided to the congregation in order to get feedback.
- **Proposed Timeline:** The committee will continue its discussion of Chancel renovations in August. Discussion will form the basis for preparing The Program document for congregational approval and submission to the architect. As the document is being written, it will be available for congregational inspection and comment. It will be placed in a binder in the Narthex and the congregational web site. Congregation members will be invited to comment on the documents and participate in discussions. A draft of The Program document will be given to the Kerns for feedback on the document's adequacy and thoroughness. It is emphasized that the document is to be considered preliminary at that time, and that the Kerns Group shall not begin preparation of design materials until The Program document is approved by the congregation. A series of congregational town meetings will be held in October and November to finalize the Program document. The finalized version of The Program will be submitted to the congregation for approval in December. If approved, the Program will be given to the Kerns Group to begin design work. The first round of design materials should be ready for presentation to the congregation in January, 2003.

M. Chancel (The committee moved to the Chancel)

- Proposal: take the chancel down to 1 uniform level (where the white is) all the way back to the reredos and remove the wooden islands. The altar would be on a movable predella one step up.
- There was a discussion of ADA compliance issues and what needs to change.
- The baptismal font should remain in the front of the Nave EXCEPT when there is a baptism, at which time it could be moved to the Chancel.
- It is difficult to get around the baptismal font and pulpit when serving communion.
- The choir would like to have more room in the Chancel. It is especially needed when they sing a piece accompanied by piano. With the current configuration, the basses and tenors face the east wall of the Nave. With more room, the entire choir could direct their voices into the middle of the Nave. Some choir members who usually sit behind the organ console would like to see the Children's Sermon.
- Question: do we want a cross permanently mounted to the ceiling, or do we want a mobile cross that is brought forward with the procession? It's a theological/ideological question.
- Nothing about the reredos is historical. Part of the design will need to be maintained to support the organ pipes. Columns could be continued with wooden pilasters.
- Question: lighting of organ pipe area: yes or no?
- We need to focus on the problems (i.e. flexibility, usability, etc.) then seek solutions.
- A "brow" could be made on the organ loft that matches the front of the balcony.
- Color could be used to add depth to the walls.

Next Meeting:

There will not be a meeting on the third Tuesday of August. Instead, the committee will meet after the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, August 11, provided that Rev. Bob Holum is able to attend. The meeting will be held around the Chancel. The committee will meet again on the third Tuesday of September, the 17th, at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Hebensperger