Strategic Vision for TPC

Now that we are nearing the end of our Vision of building a new Sanctuary, it is time to focus on our next steps. These steps have been held in mind, but we have needed a stable meeting place to enable them. Now that we anticipate having such a place, it is time to vision forward. The first step is to create communications, support and logistical infrastructure to support the components of this strategic vision. This drafted strategic vision has 3 self-reinforcing components:

**ENHANCING OUR CORE MISSION**

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SUPPORT**

**BUILDING BRIDGES AS AN INTERFAITH ORGANIZATION**

**ENHANCING OUR CORE MISSION**

* Education
* Internal Community Support
* Community Events

EDUCATION

Metaphysics has become mainstream, and more people now identify as spiritual (not religious) than any other single denomination. We anticipate a groundswell of people who are “metaphysics-curious”. We must be ready with an educational infrastructure to support them. We will develop and introduce a comprehensive, well-planned and stepwise educational curriculum that guides a seeker through a process of classes that helps them to apply metaphysical principles to their lives in a practical way that improves their lives drastically.

Core courses include:

* TPC Member Orientation
* Introduction to Metaphysics
* Meditation Practices and Principles
* Prayer Practices and Principles
* Spiritual Healing
* Intuitive Development
* Introduction to ACIM / New Thought Teachings

The last 3 classes listed lay the foundation for the 3 specialties we will offer. From there, Members can specialize in Healing, Intuitive Guidance, or Practical Metaphysics.

This Educational Program will attract the many people who choose to explore a broader experience of spirituality.

**INTERNAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND EVENTS**

There is an epidemic of loneliness in our society. Our Sanctuary as a meeting space provides additional ample opportunities for the congregation to gather in “sub-groups” and to meet for social events such as movie nights, community outings, poetry readings, etc. By focusing (with our activities coordinator) on producing and hosting these events, we can strengthen the bonds of our existing community, creating space for us to broaden our community as well.

**AT-LARGE COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

We can enhance our visibility in the community and attract more members through these efforts. We have shown that we can be successful, as Rev. Lisa Rae Brooks successfully implemented a program during the Pandemic to provide toiletries to needy families. Our new space can also be a community resource center that draws people into our physical location, THEN gets them intrigued about who we are and what we offer. We will find, vet and implement these opportunities in coordination with Montgomery County, and this collaboration will enable us to find more opportunities for grant funding. Examples include (but are not limited to):

* Griefnet – A National compendium of grief support groups sponsored by local churches (likelike AA Meetings) that can attract new members.
* New Familycare – fundraising for the distribution of diapers, formula, and other support required by new families in need.
* ESL – Our area has shown a need for this support. Classes housed in our sanctuary can draw people to us. We have ESL Certified teachers among our membership.
* INS Resource Center – providing the space for such forums can draw in members of our community.
* Metaphysics in Espanol. A Spanish-Speaking Ministry is important for our growth. We can begin with a Spanish Language meditation / discussion group.

**BRIDGES**

By building bridges, we can find more sources of external grant funding and support. These bridges include:

* Events such as fellowship / speed prayer with local communities of faith (Don Luckett is currently exploring this model with a Muslim congregation in North Silver Spring).
* Involvement in the Montgomery County Interfaith Council can be a resource not only for us to give input, but also for us to find new opportunities such as the one listed above AND find sources for grant funding.

By pursuing these initiatives, we can broaden the appeal and effectiveness of the Chapel not only to our existing members but to the community at large, all of whom are potential members. Of course, a pre-requisite for any program to be viable is that the communications, support and logistical infrastructures be in place to support success. Building and maintaining such an infrastructure will be vital to these efforts and we will assess and review the investments and structures necessary to do so as we continue to implement this strategic vision.