

## HOLY CROSS WORSHIP CENTER COMMITTEE REPORT

Our committee has given much thought to our main objective through extensive explored, examined and imagined possibilities for the current and extended Nave. Our fundamental hope is that our proposal will provide a worship space for the continued glorification of God, and our prayer is that our vision for this worship space may find favor in God's sight.

*The main objective of the Worship Center Committee is to combine the current Nave and Parish Hall into one interesting, inviting and Holy worship space: one Nave. What Holy Cross, and more specifically the Building Committee, does to remodel the current nave and parish hall is the most important part of their remodeling process. The nave greets worshipers as they enter, and invites them back again.*

According to the Parish Needs Assessment, 74% agree and strongly agree that more space is needed in the sanctuary/nave on Sunday (Table 14 in the final report), and 76% agree and strongly agree that more space is needed in the sanctuary/nave on Holy Days (Table 16 in the final report). For comments on facilities see *b. FACILITIES* on pages 6 and 7, and further *PRIORITIES-FACILITIES* on page 46.

The Altar is the natural focal point of the sanctuary, since it is the center for the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist. The first step into making an appealing, functional nave to meet the needs of Holy Cross' parish family is to move the Altar down towards the center of the current nave. The new space will allow a semi-circular and more communal orientation for our Eucharistically-centered worship service.

The second step is to extend the current nave into the parish hall to increase the size of our worship space. It will dramatically help unify the space, so that it feels and looks like *one space* instead of two. This is an opportunity also, to make this space as inviting as possible for strangers and sojourners who come into our midst—this is part of the church's mission.

The third step is to move the Baptismal Font to the back of the Nave (extended) as a permanent placement of the font.

The committee believes that to accomplish this objective the following remodeling needs to take place:

- Remove the back wall between the nave and the narthex, pushing the south door out so that it is even with the exterior wall.
- Remove the inside walls of the library and the Music Director's office. Understanding that these are load-bearing walls, the committee is prepared to accept the posts that will replace these load-bearing walls. When this is accomplished the worship space will be almost symmetrical in feeling as is the current Nave. The committee further understands that, in all probability, there are no low cost options, however, in order to make *one unified space* that includes *all* worshipers, the best way for everyone to be involved in the worship space in the parish hall area is to do the

requested remodeling. The committee is willing to hear alternatives, but believes that there is no other way to accomplish this objective.

- When the current nave is extended into the parish hall it is important to remember to make that space as spiritual as the current nave. The Nave is the most important space in the body of the Church building. It is where the Holiest space, the Sanctuary and Altar are located, where the priest consecrates the bread and wine. It is where the celebration of the Holy Eucharist takes place.

### **Sanctuary/Altar**

Move the Altar to approximately the center of the current nave using a modular platform, built up by one step only. A modular platform provides long-term flexibility and adaptability for other occasions such as musical concerts (choir, orchestra and string quartet) and theatre. See attached floor plan.

### **Sacristy**

Move the north/south sacristy wall to the end of the current Sanctuary/Altar area to create more space for sacristy needs and general storage. The sacristy needs locked storage space for altar silver, crystal, brass, and wine (either within an area which is locked, as the current sacristy is, or with separate locking cabinets (secondary choice)). The Altar Guild also needs storage space to hang frontals and banners, which can be configured into the additional proposed storage space.

Purchase a larger sink, specifically, a double sink with one side for a covered piscina (plumbs directly into the ground) which has an attached lid on one side. The Elkay Company makes this sink (22" x 33") and it can be purchased from John Ashe of Stone-Drew-Ashe-Jones in Seattle. The cost of this sink is approximately \$1,250. See attached. In addition to the sink, it is essential that a small hot water heater be installed—presently only cold water is piped into the sacristy.

### **Prayer Corner**

A prayer corner is added to the southwest corner in the area of the sacristy. This is a requested space and will be welcomed by many parishioners. See attached floor plan.

### **Lighting**

Lighting is the single most effective means of shaping space. The committee feels very strongly that a mixture of natural and artificial light is essential. This will be an exciting challenge for our architect as we move into the extended nave (parish hall). It may be possible that the transom-style windows that are so prevalent in the current nave, and the windows in the library and music director's office (top portion only), could be used as natural light for the new space.

Other suggestions range from skylights to eliminating the windows and replacing them as part of the wall. Whatever design is chosen, if it is used in the current nave, it must be used in the extended nave. *It must be the same to make a unified space.*

Remove the canned lighting in the ceiling of the current nave and replace with recessed lighting and some track and spot lighting as a way of defining a space. The committee further believes that there is a definite need for wall sconces to provide softer lighting and a way to create overall ambience. It is also a way of making a more *unified* space. See attached.

### **Nave Ceiling/Beams**

Another exciting architectural challenge is the beam ceiling in the current nave. Suggestions range from exposing the wood by removing the sheet rock from the beams, removing some of the beams, introducing faux beams in both current and extended nave and installing a wide beam-like molding. Whatever architectural design is used, both spaces must look the same. Suggestions also include there be a significant architectural attribute, as there is now, so that there is a focal point in the space above the altar.

### **Narthex Doors**

Replace the double narthex doors with single, solid doors and use as exits only. The interior doors should be painted the same color (low gloss enamel) of the interior walls to integrate the two surfaces.

Recycle the two double-narthex doors as entrance doors which will now be located in the back of the extended nave: use one as the main entrance double door and the other as two single doors at each corner. We request that the entry doors be painted red.

Recycle the sliding doors that are located at the back in the narthex area and place them on either side of the entry double doors as window walls that allow a clear, larger view into the worship space. If the worship space is to reach out to the visitor and the sojourner whom we seek to serve, it requires an open, inviting, clear and accessible entrance. See attached floor plan.

### **Baptismal Font**

The Baptismal Font will now be located in the back in the center of the extended nave as one enters through the doors, reminding us all that our *Christian journey begins with baptism*. See attached floor plan.

The committee would very much like to see a new baptismal font designed by a Pacific Northwest artist as Salmon Bay Millwork. Not only would a memorial of this kind be a wonderful way to preserve a part of history from the original church, but a perfect way to

add an artistic piece of sculpture to the newly built church, Phase II. When this memorial is realized, plumbing will be necessary to make the font with living water.

### **Choir, Organ and Piano**

The choir will be occupying approximately the same space in the new area, but will be more at an angle facing the congregation. The organ and piano will move towards the center of the north side of the wall. The space in the corner is reserved for musicians, i.e., bell choir, and Praise Band. The Music Director's office will be located at the northwest corner in the Sacristy area. See attached floor plan.

It is important to have a vesting room or area at the back, east of the nave—possibly a room adjacent to the nursery or classrooms. This would more readily accommodate vesting for the worship leaders, acolytes, choir and clergy.

### **Flooring**

The committee recommends vinyl flooring for sound and overall durability. Gerflor Taraflex multi-purpose flooring is recommended. Mark Lapsley of Architectural Directions in Kent is the representative to contact. There is a 15 yr. warranty, and the life expectancy is 25 to 30 years. The representative suggests the Taraflex Multi-use 3.0 line for our use. See attached.

The vinyl flooring that has been installed at St. Margaret's and is recommended by them is Amtico International vinyl flooring. The representative is Kelly Flanagan at 206-359-0700. The vinyl that he recommends for Holy Cross is a 1/8" thick multi-purpose flooring and has a 15 yr. commercial warranty. See attached.

### **Sound system/acoustics**

The most important aspect of tying together the existing nave with the extended nave for sound will be the ceiling—the higher the ceiling the better and the less impediments between these spaces the better. Tim Stephenson, organ and acoustic/sound specialist, advises us that once the floor plan is determined we can then layout the speaker placement, conduit runs and power outlets for the organ and audio system. Chris Fraley, our resident sound expert, asks that the Building Committee strongly consider sound-proofing the wall shared with the kitchen and mechanical room.

The sound equipment that is stored in the sacristy at present will continue to be stored in an area of their storage space.

### **Cry Room**

The committee fully understands how important this area is for young families in our parish, and tried to find an appropriate corner for the cry room. All the churches that were visited on our "tour of churches" placed their cry rooms outside in the narthex area—all were separate rooms with a view into the nave. Since space of this kind is not

available, the cry area has been placed in an open space that is outside in the narthex, adjacent to the entrance of the nave.

If the sliding doors from the current narthex are recycled as permanent window walls in the new narthex, the children will be able to look into the nave and the parents will be able to follow the service from the appointed speakers. Further, there will be two upholstered unity style chairs (one 40" and one 60") to make parents and children comfortable. The books and toys will be moved from the nave to this space also. There will be a separate cry room in Phase II—it is regrettable that in Phase I that the space is so limited. See attached floor plan.

### **Color**

Color for the following areas is as follows:

Walls of the Nave – Soft warm white. The color to be selected depends very much on natural and artificial lighting. The committee recommends BEHR Paint, Flat/Matte @\$19.98 or Eggshell (low sheen finish) @\$23.98 a gallon and Satin Enamel @\$23.98 or Sateen Enamel @\$27.98 a gallon.

Flooring/vinyl – Neutral muted color of natural beige or grey in medium shades.

Carpeting – Neutral color, depending on selected color of vinyl, and eventually the more saturated color for the chairs.

The chosen colors are neutral because saturated colors will be selected for the chairs and carpeting for the runner down the center isle of the nave, including the modular platform. Also, the Liturgical colors of the season will be given consideration when selecting all colors.

Note: So much of what our committee has proposed depends on solving architectural designs for the ceilings, walls and lighting for the nave and parish hall.

We strongly believe that there really are no alternatives if we do what needs to be accomplished to make the two spaces one unified Nave with all the Liturgical appointments necessary.

Committee:

Jean Belits, Laurie Fetty, Chris Fraley, Mary Michael Garlichs, Vivian Johnson