

Plymouth Congregational Church

Facilities Master Planning

August 28, 2022



MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES

- A well-thought-out roadmap for long term and incremental improvements to the church facilities
- A vision that enables the church to function well and one that expresses who the church is today
- Ideas for unifying the three buildings through updated interior finishes

CONGREGATIONAL INPUT

- Detailed tours of building with leadership
- Informal phone interviews with congregational members
- Online survey of full congregation
- Conversation/walk through with the Head Start folks
- Iterative work with the Facilities Master Plan Committee
- In person congregational presentation of draft master plan work
- Meetings with the choir, organ, and facilities committees

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

- The arrival experience and traffic flow is crowded and awkward
- Congregation growth is putting more pressure on gathering, fellowship and flow
- The choir has grown such that practice and performance space are cramped
- Many spaces are not universally or easily accessible
- Interior finishes, lighting, and display are tired and inconsistent
- Improved acoustics in the sanctuary are central to worship
- Middle school, high school and youth group do not have a place to call home
- There are plenty of classrooms, some specialty rooms are underutilized
- There is some available space in the south basement
- The site is landlocked
- The main building is on the National Historic Register and this will impact decisions on how improvements are made

MASTER PLAN NEEDS

1. Improve accessibility at main entry, more space, less switchbacks
2. Improve arrival experience and flow from entry to worship to fellowship
3. Increase /improve space for choir before & during worship

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4. Alter the balcony to improve sightlines
5. Provide space for middle and high school Christian ed “home”
6. Provide space for youth group that they can call their own
7. Provide a better band rehearsal space
8. Provide for safety/security of Head Start
9. Improve NA outreach space
10. Organize interior design to support the mission
11. Consolidate office space
12. Make the rooms that serve fellowship work better

PROJECT GOALS

1. Express the progressive mission of the church, “who we are today”
2. Improve arrival and access to building
3. Create a welcoming feeling of openness, wayfinding and traffic flow
4. Enhance the worship experience for all
5. Improve the ability to deliver robust worship with liturgical flexibility
6. Enable improved conversation and fellowship
7. Honor the history of the original building

PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS

- Accessibility & acoustic improvements at choir loft
- Accessibility and flexibility improvements at chancel
- New paint and flooring throughout sanctuary and narthex
- New lighting and HVAC throughout sanctuary and narthex
- Adjust height of balcony to improve sightlines
- Sound system, hearing loop, and acoustic improvements to sanctuary
- New furniture at narthex and choir loft
- Refurbished organ
- New North Church entrance and ramp
- New Youth room
- New Band and Bell Choir rooms
- Repairs to exterior stone and stained glass