

Frequently Asked Questions From Flip Chart Posted in the Upper Narthex

Why Can't We Use Old Pews?

(Easel Board – January 10, 2010)

- **If we replace the current floor, we have to remove the. The current tiles are asbestos as they continue to deteriorate we cannot get replacements that match.**
- **The current pews are bolted to the floor with 6-8 anchors per pew. The bolts will have to be broken off in order to replace the floor and any holes patched.**
- **We cannot put the pews back in the exact same place because of the patched holes. There is also a considerable cost involved in reinstalling the current pews.**
- **We cannot refinish the current pews as they are veneer.**
- **Some of the pews are in poor condition. The veneer has loosened and they are chipped and scratched.**
- **One of the reasons for doing all of this is to meet current liturgical recommendations. See the quote from the current prayer book found with the "Frequently Asked Questions."**

WHY MOVE THE CHOIR?

(Jan. 17 easel board)

- The proposed design makes excellent use of the vacated chancel area.
- A larger space allows for flexibility in accommodating extra musicians for Christmas and Easter and accommodating children's productions.
- Mobility challenged singers will be able to participate in the choir.
- The choir director will be able to see the altar and entryway for cues
- Choir members will have a sense of full participation in the liturgy.

WHY ARE WE PLANNING TO TURN THE CHURCH?

(Easel board Jan. 31, 2010)

Contemporary liturgical modeling embraces an altar table that is amongst the people and accessible for all.

Congregational seating nearly level with and surrounding the altar table visually enhances the sense of participation in the Eucharist preparation and service.

Removal of physical and visual barriers (steps, railing, massive altar) enhances a feeling of welcome and inclusion.

In its present location, the altar is not accessible to mobility-challenged clergy or worshippers.

The chancel steps have long been recognized as potentially hazardous. Structural engineers have found the steps are an integral part of the building structure and cannot be removed.

A liturgical space that is usable for a variety of movements (receiving communion, enjoying a children's event, conducting a wedding) encourages the congregational participation implied in the current BCP.

A number of Twin City area A-frame 1960 era churches have successfully "turned" their worship space. One saw a 50% increase in attendance after they completed their "turn".

WHY IS A CONCRETE FLOOR PLANNED?

(Easel board – February 7, 2010)

- There's concrete beneath the asbestos tiles.
- The asbestos tiles must be removed.
- Stained and polished concrete is easy to clean and maintain. Polishing is needed only every 3-5 years.
- Polished concrete will not absorb and deaden sound - either spoken words or music.
- Our floor is not on grade so will not be subject fluctuating Minnesota temperatures.
- Attractive and low maintenance concrete floors are found in hospitals, grocery stores and other public buildings.
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- Sealed and decoratively finished concrete floors of today look nothing like garage floors or painted concrete.