

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS ON IMPROVING THE CAMPUS TO MATCH
CURRENT MISSION PRIORITIES**

Adapted from Suggestions Made by Mark Howland

Reflecting on recent source reports to the Vestry, including one from the Buildings and Grounds ministry, one from the Capital Needs Discernment Task Force, and one from All Points Inspection Service, it is proposed that the Vestry authorize engaging a design professional to propose options for improving the campus of St. Martin.

VISION BASED ON THE SOURCE REPORTS

Enhance welcome for members and the community

- Increase visibility from street
- Focus arriving people on the sanctuary
- Improve traffic flow, especially from the sanctuary to other gathering places
- Guide people to Parish Hall/Meals Program, Offices, Food Pantry
- Connect parking to sanctuary

Support hospitality and community building

- Provide convenient & comfortable places for hospitality events such as parish lunches, dinners, and coffee hours
- Explore options to provide appropriate settings for wedding receptions, funerals, and other larger events

Reinforce current ministries including worship and formation

- Create welcoming, relaxed (cozy) spaces for pastoral counseling, meditation and small group discussions
- Create welcoming spaces for Bible study, church committee meetings, choir rehearsals
- Address storage requirements
- Increase visibility of clergy and staff

Improve climate resiliency and sustainability

- Reduce energy use through strategic maintenance and equipment replacement
- Encourage alternate transportation such as walking & cycling
- Provide endowment for long term care of the campus

ANALYSIS

CAMPUS LEGIBILITY

The sense of arrival is spread along Hawthorne Lane. The parish hall dominates the street view with its length and proximity to the sidewalk. The entrance to the parish hall is not immediately apparent. The sanctuary is less prominent because it is set back from the street. The height of the sanctuary is obscured by trees and the projecting portico. Instead of opening to passersby, the gardens turn inward. The labyrinth is hidden.

PARISH HALL

The parish hall feels like a utilitarian space that is comfortable only for a large crowd. During the week, the parish hall and kitchen is principally used for the Davis Meals Program and Boy Scouts. Renovation of the space could make it more inviting for church functions.

THE CLASSROOM BUILDING

The classroom building serves many community organizations— including scout troops and 12-Step programs. Replacing the carpet with easily cleaned flooring would keep the spaces looking presentable but would raise questions of acoustics. At present, St. Martin does need most of the classrooms for Sunday School. Reconfiguration of some of the space in the building could provide a welcoming space for small & medium group meetings such as Bible study and vestry meetings.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is an important time to build community within the parish. When coffee hours take place adjacent to the place of worship, more people attend. Coffee hours outside were particularly well attended and enjoyed.

OFFICE

The church offices are not clearly marked for people unfamiliar with the campus. Greater transparency of activities in the office would animate the campus during the week.

MEETING SPACE FOR 10 AND MEETING SPACE FOR 20 - 30

OUTREACH

- STEAC Food Storage
- Outreach Project space

MAINTENANCE

An endowment for the maintenance of the campus would ensure the longevity of the structures, reduce energy use, and maintain the beauty of the landscaping.

RECOMMENDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Schematic Design/Concept Rendering

SWOT ANALYSIS BY MARK HOWLAND

Looking at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats can sometimes be useful in developing a campus plan—especially since people often focus on deficiencies in the present without regard to the existing strengths.

STRENGTHS/ASSETS/RESOURCES

- Campus setting
- Mature trees
- Beautiful sanctuary
- Multiple buildings
- Good parking
- Stable finances
- Dedicated clergy & staff
- Committed parishioners
- Music program
- Response to climate change resiliency and adaptability

WEAKNESSES

- Aging infrastructure
- Mismatch between facilities and current programs
- Visibility

OPPORTUNITIES

- Enrich parish life
- Provide opportunities for connection
- Invite participation
- Deepen faith journeys
- Forge connections with Davis community

THREATS/CHALLENGES

- Secularization of society
- Aging membership
- Changing neighborhood demographics