

Discerning Our Way Forward: A Series of Parish Conversations on Campus Development

As Nancy Entrikin, chair of the Grace Campus Development Committee, indicated in an update in August, the committee has begun exploring some new possible development paths (since the city postponed indefinitely our request to explore a partnership with them). In the run-up to more serious engagement with these possibilities, we'll be holding a series of parish conversations on Sundays over the next two months on targeted topics as part of our discernment process. We'll aim both to share more fully what we've been learning about how things might go and to seek your input and questions. Our hope is to build on conversations earlier this year and work toward a shared understanding of what a general framework for development might look like based on our mission, supporting values, and needs.

We'll meet on Sundays 12-1 PM in the Parish Hall after enjoying some coffee and goodies. We'll start the conversation on 10/14 with a session reviewing how we've come to this point. Below are some ideas about where we might go from there, but we'd also like to hear from you if there's a topic you want to be sure is included. On behalf of the development committee, Andrew Eshleman and a group of fellow parishioners will then put together a schedule and announce dates for the remaining sessions.

We hope that you'll join us for as many of these conversations as possible and hope to record them for those unable to attend. We look forward to thinking with you!

Some possible targeted topics after 10/14:

Grace spaces: a chance share about current spaces on the Grace campus that you love, are concerned about, and/or with which you are frustrated.

Guiding Values: what might our guiding values be if we pursued such a project?

Partners in Development: who might our partners be and how might they integrate with one another so as to produce a campus which generated new exciting opportunities for us and the community?

Grace Finances: current finances and how a development project might be handled

The Right Mix: what parameters might be set on who our housing neighbors might be?

Parking: How might parking needs be met?

Are there other topics you'd like to be sure are addressed? Please let Andrew Eshleman know at your earliest convenience (aseshleman@gmail.com); or 503-201-0485.