



# 2019 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FAQs

MEETING DATE: MAY 15, 2019

## BIG ROCK 1: KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON

### WHAT IS THE STATUS OF OUR CURRENT CHURCH PLANTS?

Each church plant is doing faithful gospel work. NewCity, our Falls Church plant, particularized as an independent church last summer and is looking to move in to a newly-purchased space in Tysons Corner. Cross Community, in Rockville, continues to reach a very diverse community. King's Cross, in Ashburn, is working to particularize in 2020.

### WHAT ARE OTHER WAYS WE CAN REACH OUT TO THE MCLEAN ZIP CODES?

We are growing our relationship with SHARE, a local food and donation bank. You can view a list of needed donations for SHARE via the serve section of our website. SHARE has a very active furniture ministry that is always in need of a strong back on Saturday mornings as they deliver donated furniture to struggling individuals and families. We are also currently working with Young Life in McLean (and Fairfax!) and hoping to start a Good News Club in McLean schools. Contact Matt Stone ([stone@mcleanpres.org](mailto:stone@mcleanpres.org)) or Rob Yancey ([rob@fairfaxpres.org](mailto:rob@fairfaxpres.org)) to get connected.

### ARE THERE ANY CHANGES TO MPC'S STAFF?

There are not significant changes to staff this year. We have an additional communications staff member coming on board to help with our growing needs, and we will be hiring a new Assistant Director of Junior High Ministry as Matt Anderson, our current staff member, has taken a Young Life position in Georgia. Charles Lewis is completing his Pastoral Internship and will take an Assistant Pastor role at a church in Richmond, while current Capital Fellow Joe Palekas will come on board our staff as a Pastoral Intern. We're bringing church member Stephen Last onto our staff as the Director of Community Groups as we continue to emphasize this important area of shepherding. Finally, we may hire another part-time staff member to assist with our Fairfax site as needed.

As mentioned in the meeting, Tom Pilsch will be transitioning to a different focus as he oversees our building campaign; current staff member Natalie Burchfiel will be stepping into the Director of Ministry Support role to oversee our admin teams.

HOW DID WE ARRIVE AT OUR CALCULATION OF \$5.8M IN CASH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR '19-'20? WHAT IS THE MAIN DRIVER BEHIND THE 5.5% YOY PROJECTED INCREASE?

The Stewardship committee studies long-term trends in our congregation's giving and growth in order to create each year's budget. Over the last several years, we have seen an average of 10% growth in contributions from year to year. In FY20 we have based the budget on a more conservative giving estimate in anticipation of the upcoming capital campaign.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE" BUDGET LINE ITEM. WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE MAINTENANCE RESERVE INCREASES?

The property maintenance line includes everything needed to keep our building functional - utilities, basic repairs, grounds maintenance and snow removal, etc. The maintenance reserve increases are the replacement costs of technology that is used in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.

IS ANYTHING BEING DONE TO ENCOURAGE REGULAR ATTENDEES TO JOIN?

Yes! This is part of the reason we created our Connections ministry in 2018, in order to help people grow in discipleship and fully participate with our body of believers. We personally reach out to regular attenders to encourage them to join and hope to increase our efforts in this area.

HOW IS OUR CARE MINISTRY CONTINUING TO GROW TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH?

As we approach a new ministry year, we are continuing to grow our Community Groups. An additional focus is our marriage ministry, as we hope to increase the number of mentor couples and add *re|engage*, a ministry that comes alongside struggling marriages. We will also bring Stephen Ministry to our church, equipping volunteers to provide ongoing relational support and care for those struggling with loss, long-term illness, or other life challenges.

WHAT MISSIONS TRIPS ARE STILL OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT THIS YEAR?

Our Caribbean trip in November is currently looking for team members. There are also opportunities to support our students' summer missions trips, our Romania trip, N. Africa trip, and our Kenya medical missions trip.

## **BIG ROCK 2: MULTISITE**

ARE WE PLANNING TO LAUNCH ANOTHER SITE? DO YOU KNOW WHEN AND WHERE?

Yes, we want to continue to launch sites to help us reach the area with the gospel. We will likely launch our next site in Reston. We anticipate that will launch in the next two to three years. We will continue to evaluate other areas in the region for future sites.

HOW WILL COMMUNITY MINISTRIES CONTINUE TO GROW AT FAIRFAX?

As we continue to assess the needs of the people that gather at Fairfax, we will grow our ministries there. Currently, we are looking at ways to gather and support the large number of young adults that are attending, as well as planning gatherings and discipleship for students. We are also exploring the possibility of hosting adult education classes at the Fairfax location.

## WHEN WILL WE START TO DEVELOP A TIMELINE FOR FAIRFAX PARTICULARIZATION?

We anticipate that any given site will particularize within five or more years. We're not putting a firm timeline on it because we recognize that it is a benchmark-driven process. So, as we see a site establishing a robust community with committed giving and resources, then we will look at plans for particularization. Particularization - establishing an independent church - is the end goal for each site.

## HOW DOES SHEPHERDING WORK AT OUR FAIRFAX SITE?

As we are one church, shepherding works the same way at both of our locations. Most members are shepherded via Community Groups (which, in turn, are shepherded by our Elders). If they are not in a Community Group, members are assigned an Elder for shepherding. This structure applies to both our McLean and Fairfax sites. When possible, we assign Fairfax members an Elder who is attending that site.

## BIG ROCK 3: BUILDING

### WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR PARKING, ADULT ED. AND STUDENT MINISTRIES FOR WHEN COOPER MS CLOSSES?

We are currently looking into feasible options, including other nearby spaces for parking and ministries.

### HOW MANY MORE PARKING SPACES WILL BE ADDED? HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULT ED?

We hope to add just under 300 parking spaces. There will be over 16,000 square feet for children and students, to accommodate 225 kids and 198 students per hour. There is almost 4,000 square feet set aside to accommodate around 158 adults in adult education each hour.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BZA DOESN'T APPROVE OUR PLANS?

We want to follow God's purposes and vision for this church. If the plans are not approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals, it's an opportunity for us to continue to go before God in prayer, seek his guidance for what he wants for this church, and review our options. We are trusting this to the Lord's hand and we recognize he is good and he has good plans for this church regardless of the outcome on June 12.

### HOW DO WE PLAN ON CONTINUING WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL WITH RENOVATIONS IN PROGRESS?

Because of the design of the addition, we do not anticipate any impact on Sunday worship in the Fellowship Hall during construction. For more details, you can view the plans in the McLean hallway between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.

### ARE THERE PLANS TO MAKE THE BUILDING ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS?

We recognize this is a need for our building and it is being taken into consideration with our architects as the planning unfolds.

IF THE PARKING IS DONE BEFORE THE NEW BUILDING, WILL WE USE THE NEW PARKING SPACES, OR WILL THEY BE CLOSED UNTIL ALL CONSTRUCTION IS OVER?  
We hope to have most parking available when it is finished, which is currently slated to be in fall of 2021.

IF THE \$11M WAS RAISED QUICKLY, COULD THE CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE BE SHORTENED? WHY ARE WE WAITING UNTIL SPRING 2020 TO BEGIN THE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN?

Unfortunately, due to the permitting and building process, we don't believe that we can speed up the construction. The fundraising timeline is built on a number of factors: we need concept approval from the County before seeking Congregational approval, which is needed before beginning to fundraise. We then need time to adequately plan and communicate for the fundraising process.

IS THE GOAL TO RAISE THE FULL AMOUNT BEFORE BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION, OR WILL WE FUNDRAISE OVER THE LIFETIME OF THE BUILDING PROJECT?

We will likely begin construction before the full amount is raised; we hope to complete the project with little to no debt. You can already give to this project by noting "Future Growth Fund" in the memo line of checks or selecting the "Future Growth Fund" when you give online.