

Next Century Vision

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The Way of Love

“Our Next Century Journey”

Inspired by our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry

This week’s Town Hall meeting is a continuation of the Next Century Vision report. Please see the notes from October 25 and November 1 for the introductory statements and the Vision for “Our People” and Vision for “Our Diocese”.

Vision for “Our City”

Strategic Statement:

- We will transform our city by becoming a catalyst for inclusion, open to multiple expressions of faith through the way of love.

Key Objectives:

- We will fulfill the role of a leading congregation of faith in our city turning outward to the largest to find partners in our common ground of justice.
- We will seek co-learning opportunities with other organizations of faith that increase our understanding of each other while laying the groundwork for collaboration.
- We will be more present in the community by sharing our resources with other centers of faith making impactful social and economic investments establishing beloved communities while addressing dominant structures and social constructs that sustain poverty, gun violence, and racial divisions.

Vision of “Our Work Outside the Cathedral”

Strategic Statement:

- Christ Church Cathedral will create the capacity to significantly meet the affordable housing needs in Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

Key Objectives:

- We will establish a committee comprised of members of the Cathedral and experts in affordable housing development funding to research development corporations established by other Episcopal churches, faith communities and philanthropic organizations that have successfully met the affordable housing needs respective communities.
- We will provide a substantial lead investment to establish lead investment to establish an Affordable Housing Equity Fund. The Cathedral will leverage its gift and convene other financially well-resourced faith communities, and other economic development organizations to match it.

- We will establish a “development corporation” based on best practices that align with the Cathedral’s historic outreach mission and initiatives. CCC will ensure that the development corporation has the professional staffing and funding required.

How Do You Bring Yourself into this Vision?

- In 1990 they built Thomaston Woods and another building for seniors, affordable housing.
- Can you give us a range as to what the cathedral’s considerable investment would be?
 - In the millions of dollars. This would be a discussion of the Vestry and Trustees.
- The cathedral is going to fund a new development company with staff?
 - This is a place holder at this point.
- Explain why someone thinks we are better able to do this than all the politicians in the city and county? How do you plan to involve the people who should have been leading this long ago?
 - We will continue to explore and expand this as we move forward.
- What amount do we already have pledged for the near or long-term future of Scholar House (one of the best ideas ever, by the way)?
 - One million dollars over ten years.
- What is happening to get the cathedral members involved in this work?
 - Two of our focus groups address on our own people. We do not see the vision committee moving these forward but rather moving these into the right areas to get members involved.
- How do you see the affordable housing residents contributing?

Next Steps

- We recommend the Vestry appoint a team to oversee the implementation of the vision with a sunset date of Advent, 2022
 - Many current vision team members are willing to serve.
- There are areas of the vision where no existing committee exists to carry out the vision.
 - A two-year process gives time to examine the Cathedral committee structure and recommend changes that can support the vision.
- One goal (“Our Work Outside the Cathedral”) represents an outcome that needs its own working group.
 - We recommend that Roxanne Qualls and Mary Carol Melton organize a small team to move forward with their suggested investigation phase.
 - We also recommend that the Vestry include a budget line for this group to cover the cost of their initial investigation.