

## Sunday School Member Questionnaire

### North Holland Building Vision Task Force (BVTF)

The Building Vision Task Force (BVTF) was recently formed by Consistory to investigate the facility needs of NHRC and to present a report that makes recommendations and identifies priorities relating to building changes/improvements/projects. We would like your help in assessing the current situation and most pressing short-term and long-term needs.

The BVTF would like to specifically obtain your opinions as a member of a ministry team or a staff member who serves directly in the role of carrying out the vision of NHRC and who simply spends more time in and around NHRC's building and grounds. Thank you for taking time to answer the following questions. The BVTF greatly appreciates your help. And thank you for your continued service to the Lord through your roles at NHRC!

As you complete this questionnaire, we encourage you to keep in mind our Vision:

*"Intentionally sharing the love of Jesus through compassion-filled hospitality."*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ *Pastor Dustyn* \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Team or Staff Position: *Pastor of Discipleship*

*Note: The youth age Sunday School classes are over seen by the Youth Ministry Team, but the adult classes are overseen by me (on behalf of the Christian Education Team), since the actual Sunday School teachers don't even meet as a team, but I tend to speak with each of them fairly regularly I am simply filling this out on behalf of this program – Pastor Dustyn*

- **Sunday School**

1. In what way does the current layout of the facility impact Sunday school programs?

Answer:

*The layout of our church does mean that the Sunday School classes are somewhat spread out, with the 5th/6<sup>th</sup> and 7th/8<sup>th</sup> classes upstairs sort of behind the library, the high school classes downstairs in the consistory room and sometimes the old choir room, and the adult classes in the chapel and sanctuary. This make it a little difficult to connect with and oversee the classes and know how each one is going Sunday to Sunday. I feel the Sunday school teachers get left on their own somewhat because of the layout and also because I am often teaching one of the adult classes and can't make it to check in on the others.*

2. Are classrooms sufficient for the current needs?

Answer:

*As things are set up now we have enough spaces for the classes to take place, however some of the spaces are less than ideal. For example, the high school class meeting in the Consistory room – that room is not a very inviting space to begin with and especially for high school students! It needs a lot of updating. None of the classrooms are very easy to find if a guest would like to join, besides the adult class meeting in the sanctuary. The adults started meeting in the sanctuary to raise awareness that class was going on and encourage people to attend, however that space doesn't really work very well for a small class setting. It is too large and difficult to interact as a group. It is also very loud with the extended coffee time conversations. In the past we tried having an adult class meet in the upstairs room behind the sound booth, which is more private, and flexible feeling space, but it's not accessible for older adults and still has a noise problem from downstairs activities.*

3. Do the classrooms as they are now present a safe environment?

**Answer:**

*All of the classrooms have had windows put in the doors, which is a nice safety feature in terms of child protection. I would say the classrooms are safe, but they are not all very accessible for those who have difficulty walking or going up and down stairs.*

4. Do the classrooms as they are now present an inviting tone to new people visiting?

**Answer:**

*I think all our classrooms could use some updating. The chairs in the rooms are old and uncomfortable. We could do a lot more to make the spaces more inviting – especially in the consistory room!*

5. Are classrooms easy to find?

**Answer:**

*For someone who is unfamiliar with our facility that classes are not at all easy to find! Several of the youth classrooms are pretty hidden about as far from the main gathering areas as can be and there are no signs directing people to the various classrooms. Besides at the very beginning of the program year there is not a posted listing of the locations of all the classrooms – they each just meet the same place every year and everyone knows. There are signs right outside the doors to the rooms, but no direction beyond that.*

6. Considering NHRC “as is,” please list any aspects of the building, grounds and facilities at North Holland that you believe impede the effectiveness of the ministry in which you are involved.

**Answer:**

*I believe the classroom spaces we have are working against us in terms of welcoming people to join our Sunday School classes because they are spread out, not clearly labeled and in need of updating. The*

*traffic jam in the coffee area also makes it take a long time for people to make their way around to get refreshments and visit along with picking up nursery children and getting to classes, this cuts short the time our teachers have for their classes and possibly even prevents some people from attending classes.*

7. Please list any recommendations you have with regard to changes and/or additions to the building, grounds and facilities at NHRC that you believe would enhance the effectiveness of your ministry. Please list each recommendation in a separate “answer” space and explain how each will help serve our congregation or community. Please prioritize your answer by ranking them – 1 as your highest priority, 2 is your second priority, etc.

**Answer:**

*Updating all the classrooms used for Sunday School– with new furniture, TV and DVD equipment, places for teachers to store supplies, etc. could go a long ways to making the space more inviting and useful for Sunday School as well as other uses. Within this, the consistory room is priority #1!!!*

Rank: \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

*Developing an appropriate and accessible place for adult Sunday School to take place. I'm not sure where this could be located, but I think we need to value the continuing education of our adults just as much as we value educating our children because these are the parents and grandparents who influence our youth and children!*

Rank: \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

*Signs to clearly distinguish and direct people to each classroom and easy to find listings of what activities are offered in each space throughout the week!*

Rank: \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

*If I could really dream I would love to have a larger, more open coffee area surrounded by the classrooms for adults and youth – with sound proof doors :) Easy to find, easy to see, inviting spaces to move naturally into from coffee conversations into deeper discipleship and relationship with one another.*

Rank: \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_

**Please return the completed questionnaire in Scott Blackmer's mail box as soon as possible but no later than July 8, 2012.**

Thanks!

BVTF Committee