



2020 Vision Recommendations Summary

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Ensure that LAUMC is a vital, diverse, and growing congregation that welcomes all people as children of God.

Young Adult's Ministry - Reach out, nurture and develop future leaders among the young adults in our community, especially those from our former youth programs, as they return from school to begin their careers (ages 18-35). Possible actions: recruit new pastor; create new worship service; open satellite campus; explore further use of technology for communications.

Campus Hospitality – Laity, clergy, and staff renew their commitment to invite, welcome, include, and support newcomers and help them grow in faith. Focus on those outside the congregation with as much passion as those who already belong.

Men's Ministry - Men are an active part of the missions and life of the church and need more programs that address the needs of their various age groups. We want to develop men as leaders of the church by offering them the opportunities of an enriched men's ministry.

Single Boomers' Ministry - Establish a focused ministry for singles (40+) who are divorced, widowed or feel marginalized due to not being “partnered.”

BOLD MISSION

Transform lives by reaching out to meet the needs of the congregation and the community.

Stepping Stones to Local Mission Outreach - Lower the barriers for new people to participate in local hands-on mission work and provide stepping stones to growth for those already involved. Offer short-duration projects that are low-cost and don't require long-term commitments. Enable small groups and families to participate together and welcome newcomers.

Partnerships with Other Churches - Grow in relationship with the larger local Body of Christ through enhanced partnerships with other churches. These partnerships allow both churches to bring their own strengths to a joint effort, enabling projects that neither church could do alone.

Pastoral Care Infrastructure – Improve overall pastoral care effectiveness and support by identifying and sharing common processes, training, and resources across groups (e.g., Friendly Visitors, Angels on Call, Stephen Ministers, ACAP). Facilitate the development of spiritual growth path opportunities with various entry and exit points for volunteer caregivers.

Community Vacation Bible School – Reach out to the community by offering Vacation Bible School at satellite location(s). This would be an opportunity to partner with another UMC to bring Christian-based education and summer enrichment to children who would not experience it otherwise.

Preschool Outreach - Expand the reach of our preschool to children in surrounding communities who would otherwise not be able to afford this high-quality educational experience. A subsidized preschool in our region would enable LAUMC to demonstrate its commitment to the well-being of the community and the teaching of Christian values to children.

DEEPENING FAITH

Nurture the spiritual development of every individual from childhood through adulthood.

Covenant Discipleship – Open a small-group ministry (6-8 people) in the Wesleyan tradition with a “covenant” based on the General Rule of Discipleship: To witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Through a process of mutual accountability and support for practicing the basics of Christian faith, members “watch over one another in love.” Covenant Discipleship groups help to form people as dependable and mature disciples of Christ.

Christian Forum - Sponsor a local lecture series at LAUMC that brings international Christian voices to our area. Demonstrate our community mission and openness to debate and dialog about the issues impacting religion in our day. Modeled after the Los Altos Community Forum lecture series.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

Explore, innovate, and show leadership in worship.

Worship Space Plan - Create a Master Plan for Worship Space at LAUMC that supports the evolving format of worship services over time. This Plan will address the growing need for contemporary and flexible worship space as well as ensuring that worship space is accessible to all individuals regardless of physical abilities. It will not only consider the needs of current constituents but also those of the un-churched population in our community.

Worship Arts Center - Establish an on-campus training site, staff, and studio for the development of contemporary worship technology, art, and music. This center would eventually incorporate as a non-profit agency.

New Worship Services – Explore opportunities for at least two new worship services with timing, style, and/or location that target the worship needs of underserved groups in the community, e.g., young adults and those desiring more contemplative worship.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

Goals for Stewardship and Service – Adopt the following goals and develop action plans for achieving them:

- By 2020 LAUMC will spend 50% of its giving on Operating Expenses and 50% on Missions.
- By 2020 it will be an expectation of membership that 100% of members participate in at least one “hands on mission” event per year; 50% by 2016; 25% by 2012.
- By 2020 it will be an expectation of employment that 100% of staff members participate in “hands on mission” five days a year.

FOUNDATION FOR GROWTH

Ensure a solid foundation for the growth of our ministries by developing and renewing our campus, staff, and governance.

Church Vision and Governance Structure - Provide for visioning and long-range planning within the basic governance structure of the church thus ensuring that plans for the future are kept vital and relevant and that our current decision-making is consistently guided by our long-term direction. Design and document an ongoing planning process and schedule.

Master Plan for Campus Development and Renewal – Study the anticipated useful life of current buildings and systems on campus and work with ministry teams to develop and maintain a long term plan for development of the site so that when major renovations or replacements become a priority we have already explored options and we understand the common needs and interdependencies of different groups.

Master Plan for Technology Infrastructure - Develop and manage a master plan for technology infrastructure on campus that addresses the needs of communications, performing arts, and office computing. Build and maintain an integrated technology infrastructure that is cost-effective, forward-looking, reliable, and enables the growth of LAUMC’s ministries.

Lay Leadership Development Program - Provide developmental experiences to strengthen current and future lay leaders for the church

Staff Internship Program - Recruit and mentor interns for ministry assignments as a way of bringing energy, ideas, and support to our ministries, developing potential leaders for future staff openings, and enabling LAUMC to share the expertise and experience of its staff members with the broader community. Key areas where we have special strength and a tremendous opportunity to expand include: technology, music, youth programs, and pre-school education.

Campus Project Center - Design and construct a multi-function project workroom and storage facility on the LAUMC campus. This facility is needed immediately to meet existing needs of LAUMC Children & Youth Ministries, including the Children’s Center Preschool. It should also serve the needs of adult groups that require space for preparation of study, decoration, and promotion materials.