

Friends,

The Flight School Team’s proposals to Council for a new Paradigm for Lakeview, (which became Council’s proposal to the congregation at January’s Annual Meeting) was approved at the February 26, 2009 Council Meeting.

**LAKEVIEW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST:
REACHING OUT THROUGH GOD’S SPIRIT
BY INVOLVING, SERVING, AND LEARNING**

The Flight School team has discerned that the above summarizes Lakeview UCC’s strengths. We recognize that there are currently many ways in which Lakeview UCC is already involving, serving, and learning, and we acknowledge the importance of building on these various existing ministries: AIM activities, Chancel choir, Bell choir, Lakeview Players, Shepherding, S.T.E.P., Just for Us Ladies, Men’s Breakfasts, and Sunday school for all ages, to name a few.

We seek to accomplish our Vision of involving, serving and learning primarily through focusing outward. We propose Lakeview UCC concentrate on the MINISTRIES of:

Active Mission

– Meeting the needs of *others* INVOLVING, **SERVING**, LEARNING

Social Justice

– Creating change to serve *others* INVOLVING, **SERVING**, LEARNING

Performing Arts

– Inviting *others* to “the party!” INVOLVING, SERVING, LEARNING

Spiritual and Life Journeying

– Preparing ourselves and *others* to live out the benefits
and challenges of
a Christian life INVOLVING, SERVING, **LEARNING**

Recommendation 1
ADOPT OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATUS

We respectfully propose that Lakeview UCC develop and adopt an Open and Affirming policy towards all God’s people. We encourage a policy of non-discrimination with the provision that we continue to offer opportunities to learn about what it means to be open and affirming.

“The Apostle Paul said that, as Christians, we are many members, but we are one body in Christ (Rom. 12:4), and Jesus calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mk. 12:31) without being judgmental (Mt. 7:1-2) nor disparaging of others (Lk. 18:9-14).

We do not discriminate against any person, group or organization in hiring, promotion, membership, appointment, use of facility, provision of services or funding on the basis of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, faith, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, or physical disability.”

Recommendation 2

URGENTLY REBUILD OUR YOUTH PROGRAM

We propose to aggressively seek ways to rebuild the youth ministry of Lakeview UCC through promotion of a new community outreach program that includes developing sound character, life skills, and Faith understandings.

Recommendation 3

EXPLORE PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER CHURCH COMMUNITIES

We envision Lakeview seeking opportunities for possible partnerships with other Church communities that would share our Vision of reaching out through God's Spirit by Involving, Serving and Learning.

Recommendation 4

RESTRUCTURE OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

We propose that our Church Council be restructured to a more streamlined model, more fitting to our reduced membership numbers. This new Council structure should be approached through the lens of the Outward focused Ministries listed above. The strategy of this proposal is that Council's time and energy could then be spent on keeping our church focused on our Vision.