Readiness Assessment Update

Church Community Builder <notifications@ccbchurch.com> on behalf of Stephanie Cutler <drlc@ccbchurch.com>

Thu 3/2/2023 3:13 PM

To: Stephanie Cutler <stephanie.cutler@drlc.org>

Blessed Lententide to you Divine Redeemer Family!

Lent is a wonderful microcosm for the Christian life: Monday through Saturday you go through the week with a heart of repentance. However, when Sunday comes ... oh when Sunday comes... we celebrate each Sunday as a little Easter – always looking forward to the JOY of the resurrection and the HOPE of Christ's return! On Easter, our neighbors ask where we're going and, maybe for the first time in a long while we respond unashamedly, "We're going to church!" with the hopes that it spurs on a conversation to speak about the resurrection of Jesus with them. Oh, the power of the Word as it moves throughout a community!!!

Divine Redeemer – you have been speaking this Word of Jesus out into our community for 50 years! As we're speaking Jesus' Words of truth into our community now, something exciting is happening. More and more of our community are responding! You experience it as you come to worship, and you see there are more people in worship. You interact with the fruit of God's harvest as you bear witness to so many baptisms over the last few months. You hear about it as our Divine Redeemer families (yes, both church AND school!) speak about a school that has excellent academics as well as excellent connection to Jesus.

As you know, we are experiencing growth in almost all aspects of Divine Redeemer's ministries.

However, there is an aspect of ministry that has the highest desire from our community. It also happens to be the ministry where we have the least amount of capacity to meet that need:



DR's Early Childhood Development Center. We have had several prayer meetings dedicated to requests for God's wisdom in ministry moving forward. Through the January Readiness Assessment process of online surveys, interviews, and forums, we've been able to listen to over 500 points of input about this ministry expansion from God's people. So, now what?

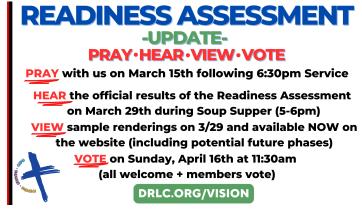
First, please know that Divine Redeemer's leadership has been working diligently and faithfully to listen to your feedback. As such, we have been meeting with

builders, architects, engineers (to bring water/sewer on campus), village representatives, Dept. of Transportation, as well as potential Capital Campaign partners. Is this so that your leadership is putting the cart before the horse? Absolutely not. However, there is a timeliness to this project where your leadership desires to be ready if God's people affirm a movement to go forward. The more preparatory work we can accomplish ahead of time, the nearer we can be to opening ECDC classrooms. Even better? The sooner more church and community families will be able to hear regularly about Jesus.

Second, based on your feedback, we heard that you would like to see sample renderings of the potential ECDC building and how this could fit into a future-focused sample campus master plan.

Come and see the sample

renderings for the ECDC design and campus master plan at 5pm during the Soup



Supper before worship on March 29. If you cannot attend on March 29th, the presentation deck will be made available on our drlc.org/vision page. Why March 29th? LCEF is providing leadership the formal Readiness Assessment results on March 27th and we want to get them to you as soon as possible. Additionally, we've already updated our drlc.org/vision page with sample renderings as well. Your leadership team wants to be so open about the information regarding this process that I even have a few copies of the sample renderings that you're welcome to stop by my office during business hours and view. (Renderings are sample only, not final by any means and builders have not been contracted.)

Third, on April 16 at 11:30am, the Board of Directors has called the congregation to a specially called Voters' Meeting to vote on the official next steps in this process. You will receive plenty of messages through social media, email, and verbal announcements during worship services in the near future. The actual motions to be presented and voted upon will be communicated more specifically. However, for now, please save the date!

This is one incredibly exciting time to be a part of Divine Redeemer's story as we engage our community to know, grow and go with Jesus!

God's peace to you and your family,

Pastor Seth

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