

VISIONING FOR EMMANUEL

In the first part of the Visioning for Emmanuel, we asked the question, "What sort of church are we?" We are still soliciting feedback to that question. But we would like to move ahead and ask the next question "What sort of church do we want to be in 5 years?" Here are some questions to prompt our thinking. As before, please put your responses in the box of Phil Davis or Char Siemens. Alternately, for those who like to keep it paperless, you can download the questions from the Emmanuel site, and send them to my email - phil.davis@shaw.ca.

What sort of church do you envision Emmanuel to be in 5 years? How is that different from today?

Do you envision that Emmanuel will be numerically larger or smaller or about the same size in 5 years? Is that a cause for concern? Why or why not?

How can we build on our current strengths as a church?

What resources do we have as a church that God might use?

What are the key issues facing our community and world in the next 5 years?

What might Emmanuel's role be in addressing these?

What further research do we need to do to help formulate our vision?

What do you sense God calling us to as a church?

Some church growth analysts suggest that a church is "full" when 75% of the main seating area is full, and it's then time to consider the next stage of church growth or face inevitable decline. In their view, Emmanuel is already "full" and should be thinking about what to do in the next 5 years. Do you recommend: a) since the present mortgage is expected to be paid off in another year or so, we should start now to think about building an addition to the sanctuary; b) begin thinking about a second worship service; c) begin thinking about planting another church; d) wait until 75% of the balcony is also full; e) ignore church growth research because

other: _____ f)

Do you think Emmanuel will be more inward looking "member focused" or more outward looking "community focused" in 5 years?
