

Talking About Tunnel Vision

I have been meeting with members and with committees to talk about the results of our Vision Path survey and what they mean for our congregation. Most people seem focused on the daycare and some are intimidated by the scope of that project. There are other things that each committee/ member can contribute to defining and implementing our mission as defined by the survey. The top three things that the congregation identified as important and the recommendation made to the Council and the Voters Assembly are that we 1) Foster the needs of younger families, 2) create or expand youth programs and 3) replace the current childcare facility with one that is more appropriate to their needs.

While I regard the need to enhance the functions of our daycare as one of our primary missions and I personally feel that it serves the mission of our church very, well I wish to emphasize that it is only one component of the expressed needs of our congregation. Do not let yourselves become distracted by the enormity or complexity of that project. There are many other ways we can also move forward in addressing our congregation's needs in the short term.

If asked what I would do today, I might suggest printing and distributing 1000 bumper stickers to help enhance our community's awareness of Redeemer. Or, I might suggest we consider changing the name of our daycare to more accurately reflect all the other services that it currently provides. I may suggest planning more social functions that take our younger families needs into account. My point is that our survey has identified that our congregation recognizes the need to reach and support younger families and that there are many ways to do so.

The Vision Path team is currently meeting with committees, families, members and even non members to help define specific courses of action to support our congregation's broad vision. I invite each and every one of you to consider specific things that can help us bring that vision to actual reality. I invite each of you to share your ideas with the Vision Path team and I invite each of you to contact us with questions or concerns regarding our process to build a strategic plan for our future.

Congregation Vice President
Vision Path Co-Chair