



Community of Christ

Calgary Congregation

Pastors Report – Doug Hayden

November 18, 2018 Calgary AGM

This is a great opportunity for me to summarize what I see as the “big picture” for our Calgary congregation at this point in time. Here’s how I would summarize where we’re at and where we’re going.

1. Our spiritual and “relational” condition is excellent. I feel really good about the atmosphere we have in our gatherings; whether worship, discussions, fellowships, or special events. We are a nurturing, kind, loving community that that people feel welcome and accepted. I hear that from new people and I feel it myself in our gatherings. This is by far the most important element of our health and potential as a congregation.
2. Our new gathering and service efforts have been a big hit. Generation Now (for children) the Young at Heart (seniors) and the MOM project have been fabulous initiatives that have allowed us to build new relationships and made our church a relevant and positive part of people’s lives. As our human resources allow us to support these and other opportunities, I feel very positive about how we are drawing the circle wider to connect to new people.
3. Our property transition has marched along a steady path that I hope will soon lead us to a new home. We have honored the input of all that wanted to help shape our new space and have then used responsible and careful analysis to determine if our “ideal” aligns with our financial capacity. For now, our “ideal” seems a little rich for us, but I’m confident that we will make the adjustments to find a space that fits our needs. Our process has taken time, but we have had a great opportunity to create a template for other congregations to follow.
4. As the demographics of our congregation change, our financial capacity has changed as well. We need to be responsible but also have the advantage of having managed a critical asset, our Ranchlands property, to be available to support the future life of the church in Calgary.
5. Parker Johnson has been a tremendous addition to our congregation and has helped connect us to each other and the broader church community.

Looking ahead:

We have journeyed along together through some emotional and difficult times in the past 6 years, particularly with the sale of the Ranchlands property, but we have hung in there together. We continue to love and support each other, not only in our church activities but also in each other’s personal lives. We are a kind, caring and nurturing community and I am confident that our future activities will continue to help us grow “organically”, one person at



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a time, as they are drawn to us and find us to be a positive and nurturing part of their lives. As we respond to the opportunities that God presents us, I am confident that we will find a suitable home and that our house will be “in order” to sustain and grow our community into the future.

Doug Hayden , November 18, 2018