

Greetings River of Hope-ers!

The River Table met on Tuesday, September 20th. At this meeting we unanimously voted to recommend that we remain at the Event Center and renew our lease for 2023. There will be a congregational vote to decide whether to accept this recommendation immediately following worship on Sunday, October 9th. You may attend the vote either in person or by Zoom. This upcoming vote will be announced in worship the next two Sundays. Members of the River Table will be present for a Q and A immediately following worship this Sunday, September 25th. Please see the FAQ section below for more information regarding the River Table's recommendation.

God's Peace,

Pastor Hans and President Angie Bedard

FAQ:

Why is staying at the Event Center an option now?

The hospital has decided not to buy the Event Center at this time, although they are still interested in a possible future purchase. The City will continue to operate the Senior Center out of the Event Center building. The City has decided to no longer operate an Event Center with outside rentals, and therefore are looking for a renter for the space. The City has offered us a lease through December 2023 with the strong possibility that the lease could continue past 2023.

What are the benefits to staying at the Event Center?

We could remain in our current worship space.

We could keep our worship time at 10:30 am.

We wouldn't have to plan our congregational life around another church's schedule.

We would have our own space.

The new lease would be better than our current one.

How is the new lease better?

The new lease at the Event Center would offer a set monthly rent for worship and office space that would be lower than our current rent, allowing more flexibility in our budget.

We would be able to have our church office, worship space, and meeting spaces all in the same building.

We would no longer need to rent the space on Main Street.

We would have 3 keys to the Event Center for 24-hour access to the building and our spaces.

The City is not seeking outside rentals, so we would be able leave the worship space set up most weeks.

We would still have access to the Event Center kitchen.

What would moving our office space require?

We would need to have our own phone and internet installed at the Event Center.

We would need to sort through and move the items stored in the Main Street office storage area.

We would need to move our belongings from the current office space to the event Center.

We would need to do these same things if we moved our office to any other space, which would be likely due to renovations at our current office building.