



Next Month at Fort Street: July 2018

From the Pastors' Desk

One of the established steps in helping Fort Street get ready for its future with the next pastor is to complete the Self Study process. A team of people from Fort Street – Beth Brown, Marilyn Moore, Tim Moran, Tom Marshall, and Tom Turner – are facilitating this process with the congregation. The Self Study team wants to hear from as many people as possible who are part of the Fort Street community – hear their experiences of the church as we seek to figure out who we are, and where we are heading as a congregation.

We are offering two projects to get involved in this summer: participating in our Great Hall Timeline Project and by completing the online survey, the Congregation Assessment Tool – or CAT.

Great Hall Timeline Project

If you have visited the Great Hall in recent weeks, you may have noticed a timeline placed on the northwest wall (opposite the coat room) covered with orange and green Post-It notes. It is a timeline of the church, and we ask for your vote!

Grab one of the post-it notes from the table, and use the post-it notes to place on the timeline your answers to the following two questions. In your opinion...

- With a green post-it note, When was the church working at its best?
- With an orange post-it note, When was the church working at its worst?
You can place your vote on the timeline as long as it is up – through Sunday, July 8th. After that, the timeline will be “organized” and we’ll prepare for a series of conversations from the timeline experience.
Some members have agreed to host small get-togethers (of about 10-12 people) to talk about this history:
 - For folks on the East side of metro Detroit, at the house of Robb and Pam Sharrow (in Grosse Pointe Park)
 - For folks Downriver, at the house of Rob and Nancy Jackson (in Allen Park)
 - For folks in the Northwest side of metro Detroit, at Chris and Leigh Bloodworth’s house (in the Grandmont-Rosedale neighborhood)
 - For folks who just love being at Fort Street, we will also meet after worship on Sunday, July 22nd in Stapleton Chapel.

RSVP and specific information will be communicated to you in future weeks. In September, we will host a full-church meeting in the Great Hall to talk about this timeline experience and share additional thoughts.

Look out for details about a meeting in the Great Hall after worship in September to hear the findings and discussions on this topic.

Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Online Survey

The Self-Study process also includes an online survey where you can give your own input on the mood and culture of Fort Street. The survey will help us get a clearer picture of who we are as a church and what directions are most

important for our future. The tool we'll use is the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT), which will provide key indicators of our congregational health along with areas of challenge and potential growth. It will help us to collect and understand the range of views that exist at Fort Street and the possibilities, willingness, capacity and energy for moving our ministry into the future.

Several times in July, you will receive in your e-mail inbox a unique web link to complete the assessment online. If you would prefer to take the assessment using a paper copy, please stop by the office, and we will provide one for you along with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

NOTE: If there is only one email address for all members of your household, it may be tempting to have one person take the survey on behalf of the family. However, please be sure that each person fills out the survey, since individual input is key to our gaining insight on how people view Fort Street. Please set aside enough time to answer all the questions. This will take about 20 minutes. All survey responses are strictly anonymous.

Paper copies will also be available to be picked up as well. If you have questions, please contact the church office.

Pastors Anne and Eric

Notable Event

*MOTOWN MUSEUM VISIT

The Peace, Justice, and Mission Committee is organizing a trip to the MoTown Museum. The trip will explore the role that MoTown played in uplifting oppressed communities in Detroit and around the world. **Sunday July 22, 2:00pm**, 2648 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, Meet 2:00pm at the museum.

Contact Bob Ponder, 313-522-3712 if you have any questions.