

ENDOWMENT DISCUSSION
HORIZON HOUSE 6/18/15 and
LUNCHEON IN HILDEBRAND HALL 6/21/15

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE ENDOWMENT?

How can it be used? How tied up is that money? It shouldn't be a mystery. How can we be a faithful community?

- These topics emerged from the table discussions:
SPENDING
OUTREACH
COMMUNICATION
REVITALIZATION
RETREATS - RELATIONSHIPS
- These were specific items reported to those present:

Develop engagement with community, Broaden the use of the Sanctuary for events such as a lecture series bringing in new people.

Spend some of the endowment 1 – 2 million to provide capital for a bookstore, a coffee shop, teen center with activities, care, arts/ music programs. Develop an after-school music program. Theater options.

Need to increase membership – use the endowment for a one-time plan to help on this increase. Spend money in thoughtful ways to increase numbers. Follow-up on visitors and people who leave.

Also develop more social interaction with small groups on Sunday morning. Invest in membership. Invest in community at H.H.

Use our resources better then figure out if we need to use the endowment. A new model is needed.

Have our regular Plymouth Retreats even if we need to take money out of the endowment.

Tie endowment spending to mission and strategy. Focus on what God can do for others outside of Plymouth with this money. To sit on money is troubling.

Use the endowment intentionally. Focus on one big, bold idea – racial injustice, racial reconciliation. Offer space to Seattle Public Schools.

Endowment can be a crutch – We are not making hard choices due to the endowment. Are we too dependent on the endowment?

Keep spirituality as a focus now and into the future.

Spend down the endowment for a specific BIG project that's relevant and concrete. Change it from an amorphous pot of money to an attractive one. We have choices.

Plymouth could be a place of support with a program for young people – with addiction problems, who need education support and scholarship in a work-study format.

Restructure our resources to feed the homeless, give temporary emergency housing.

For 3 - 4 years spend 6 – 7% out of the endowment to grow the church, revitalize the church.

We need more opportunities for small groups for faith development and community. Shake up Sunday morning.

We need more discussions about where we go and how.

BIG project idea for endowment spending: tear Plymouth building down, build a high rise and put the church up on top.

Money is a resource = an example: change grants.

Use some endowment money getting involved in downtown. Also use it to grow Plymouth, to attract a different demographic.