

Long Range Planning Update for March 2021

Our task forces are hard at work, as you will see from the statuses for each below. We are also planning two events for the entire congregation, most likely in April. We will publicize the details of these events as soon as they are available.

Anti-Racism – The task force is planning to reach out to the other task forces regarding what an anti-racist action plan looks like as they deliberate. The team is also working on doing an anti-racist audit of SFBC. Concern has been expressed that the current Diaconate for 2021 is again all white and is not in keeping with the goal of being racially inclusive and anti-racist. [Program Office note: Members of the taskforce and lay leadership met to discuss this in February.]

Facilities - Members have been interviewing other task forces to open lines of communication. They have also interviewed building users to gauge their needs and issues. They have been hearing that transportation and parking are concerns for members and tenants alike. Additional liaisons to building stakeholders were assigned. The group is planning a discussion with the Anti-Racism task force, and the recent seismic report will be discussed. The team is trying to find or create a geographic survey of where our members live. [Program Office note: The Executive Committee has clarified that the taskforce should not focus on near-term parking issues. A solution is in place for when we once again gather in person.]

Governance – The task force has carefully reviewed the information coming from the Long-Range Planning effort. They also reviewed best practices for church governance. This research indicates that smaller, streamlined governing bodies is the direction most churches have been moving towards recently. A third focus was to thoroughly review SFBC's bylaws to start identifying areas for improvement. Upcoming work includes observing how the interim governance structure is working. Members are working on a number of deliverables to aid in their upcoming discussions.

Pastoral Transition – Task force members are conducting interviews with 12 past and present staff members to get feedback on how the current pastoral model is working. They plan to complete those interviews in February. [Program Office note: the interviews have been completed.]

Senior Ministries – A 10-question survey was developed and sent out to seniors in the congregation. The task force also provided feedback to the Facilities task force. Next steps including reviewing LRP responses, exploring how racism affects seniors, and exploring alternative names for "Seniors."

Small Group – The task force decided to do a "reset." It is stepping back to look at the big picture, establish a process for the completion of our work, and develop ground rules for how we will work together. A new work plan and schedule will emerge out of this bigger picture work.

