

Ideas and options related to Transforming Futures are provided for review and open discussion regarding the merits of each idea without limitation, precondition, or veto.

The themes of **underutilized space**, the **need to strengthen community**, and the **need to increase income** are present throughout the ideas presented. Safety considerations for the parish and St. John's Court will improve with increased intentional use of church premises; a busy church is a safer church. The parish community needs to be strengthened if our church is to thrive in a changing neighbourhood. Long-term financial viability must be addressed while the parish has flexibility and time.

Ideas are presented followed by brackets showing **broad categories** that are consistent with interim reports from this team. The categories are Operations, Worship, Outreach, Partnership, and Financial. Many ideas cut across more than one category.

SOME TRANSFORMATIONAL IDEAS

1. Obtain authorization from parish council, parish leadership, and diocesan leadership to open a dialog with other parishes (especially those in the immediate neighbourhood) regarding possibilities of sharing space. Other parishes also face financial challenge, and St. John's building is underutilized. [Financial, Operations]
2. Evaluate the costs and expected benefits of transforming the nave worship space into a more flexible worship space and more rentable performance space.¹ This includes the removal of pews in favour of chairs which could be accomplished at one time or in phases. Engage with musical partners to assist with the fundraising for such an endeavour which offers mutual benefits to the parish and the partners. [Operations, Worship, Partnership, Financial, Outreach]
3. Evaluate the costs and expected benefits of remodeling the parish house² to be used more extensively by others. Seek partners to use building spaces in the provision of services to the community, for non-profit office space, and for rental income. [Operations, Financial, Partnership, Outreach]
4. Evaluate the costs and the expected benefits of remodeling the lower hall³ for long-term use in the provision of childcare, teen drop-in centre, adult day care, or another similar use with a community focus. This option would require identification of a partner to rent the space and provide the relevant services. [Outreach, Partnership, Financial, Operations]
5. Consider relocating the Food Bank at St. John's to a ground floor, accessible space, possibly a remodeled space in the parish house or sharing a portion of space in the nave. Pursuit of idea #4 may trigger consideration of this idea as well. [Outreach, Operations, Financial]

¹ Space transformation includes improved washrooms; also, plans should reference the final report of the Church Building Development Group (2016) chaired by Tony Barlow.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

6. Engage with the Diocese to undertake a thorough review of St. John's operations from leadership and staffing, to demands on staff time, to building use, to outreach programs, to financial viability. [Operations, Financial, Partnership, Outreach, Worship]
7. Renew and expand learning and socializing opportunities for people of our parish and of the neighbourhood. Members of our parish need worship, but we also need spiritual, educational, and social opportunities to strengthen and rebuild our community. The resumption of such opportunities is an important inflection point for our parish's future. [Outreach, Operations]
8. Encourage, sponsor, and fund (employ) vocational deacons with community outreach and social justice central to their calling and our parish's needs. [Outreach, Partnership, Operations]
9. Strengthen the delivery of pastoral care. As a congregation with an older demographic, it is important that pastoral care outreach be central to our parish and clergy's mission. [Outreach, Operations]
10. Engage with congregants who have become less visible in the life of our parish but who remain in the area. If possible, identify and address issues which may warrant attention. [Outreach]
11. Strengthen communication tools and sources of information through more active use of the web site, expanding social media use, providing better signage, and communicating regularly with other organizations that have extensive reach, especially the North Park Neighbourhood Association. [Operations, Outreach, Partnership]
12. Reopen the dialog regarding liturgy, music, and service options. Members of our worshipping faith community should be included in periodic dialog regarding service options. Listen widely to the quantity and intensity of responses, and act to address them if warranted. [Worship, Outreach]
13. Develop the garden as a usable and rentable area for appropriate events including coffee hour, short concerts, weddings, and other celebrations. [Operations, Financial]
14. Open the church space more often, perhaps daily, with volunteers providing staffing for monitoring and safety purposes. [Operations]