

An Update from the Steering Committee February 22, 2009

Several weeks ago the congregation was informed that the Planning Committee had put out a "Request for Proposal" to three architectural firms to have a "Preliminary Design Study" done regarding our buildings. We were particularly impressed by the submission of one of the architectural firms, who, in its presentation, exhibited interest and expertise in the "greening" of the buildings.

Making the Sanctuary not only more accessible, safer, welcoming, and more hospitable but also incorporating energy conservation and alternative energy sources in the CE Centre. So much so that it offers the possibility of our buildings becoming a "green" showcase making Trinity a leader in the community.

Imagine.... having a passive air flow system that moves air through the laws of physics. No electricity required.

Imagine.... simple things like shades over triple pane windows in the CE Centre and more plantings on the west side of the facility to create shaded areas to better manage the sun's heat within the building.

Imagine.... a living, green wall not only creating a peaceful, tranquil setting but also improving air quality within the building.

Imagine.... installing a "green" roof on the CE Centre which would help reduce our carbon footprint.

Imagine.... having solar panels on the roof and the south wall of the CE Centre, and actually *selling* power to the grid for income.

Imagine.... the community coming to see Trinity's green facility and realizing that they want to be part of a church that is doing good things for the earth, and children touring Trinity, learning about renewable technologies and energy conservation.

Imagine.... all this "green" technology incorporated within the renovations which we, the congregation have already indicated are necessary in the CE Centre.

Imagine.... the possibilities for growth.

On Wednesday February 18th, Trinity Council gave their approval to have the architectural firm AECOM Canada Architects Ltd. carry out the proposed study. They will develop designs for the various options, including pricing for each option. The design process will include holding church workshops and soliciting input and ideas from the congregation who will have final approval on the design.

We have begun to investigate *all* possible Provincial and Federal government funding available.

Right now we are good stewards in our community, we are good stewards to places like Nicaragua, so let's be GOOD STEWARDS TO THE EARTH.