

Report and Recommendations of the Presbytery Task Force  
on Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center  
August 3, 2017

This is a status report containing interim recommendations from the Task Force of the Presbytery which was formed to consider the future of Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center. Members of the Task Force are: Glenn Dickson, Karen Hardesty, Bill Hoff (chair), Kimberly Hyatt, Bill Scheu, Al Tidball. Sandra Hedrick has also attended our meetings.

The Task Force on Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center (MPCC) has been meeting through the spring and summer of 2017, being charged (in part) with making recommendations as to the future of MPCC. Below are some of the steps we have taken pursuant to this charge:

- Studied the finances (both historical and future projections) of the Center and the Presbytery with the active assistance of Chuck Atkins.
- Interviewed Terry Patterson and John Ragsdale.
- Considered the interviews of many other individuals at the joint meeting of the Presbytery Trustees and Council in December of 2016.
- Read the report of the consultant for MPCC.
- Looked at the work of a previous committee of Presbytery which was given a similar charge over a decade ago.
- Conducted a survey of head of staff pastors of the churches of our Presbytery.
- Obtained an opinion of value for the property.
- Sought the advice of a Capital Campaign Consultant.
- Studied usage patterns for summer camp.

The Task Force is not convinced of the long-term sustainability of MPCC, but we recognize the passion of some who want to work to put MPCC in a better position. We agree the only future for MPCC as an ongoing ministry arm of the Presbytery will require major fundraising for capital improvements and operating expenses.

Therefore, while we are not now in a position to make final recommendations, we bring to Council this interim recommendation:

1. *Allow the Executive Operating Board of MPCC to lead a fundraising effort between now and December 31, 2017 with a stated goal of obtaining firm pledges of \$700,000 in new dollars, to be paid over a three-year period (2018-2020). The precise use of these funds is to be determined by the MPCC Board, subject to the approval of the MPCC Task Force and the Presbytery's Trustees, in advance of the start of the campaign. The primary focus of the fundraising will be seeking financial commitment from the individual members of our churches.*
2. *The response to the fundraising effort will provide clear evidence of the Presbytery's capacity and willingness to continue funding the ministry of MPCC long-term. Based upon whether the campaign meets its goal of \$700,000 by December 31, this Task Force would hope to make final recommendations as to the future of MPCC prior to the February 2018 meeting of Presbytery.*

Our group certainly welcomes your questions or comments.

Bill Hoff