



QUO VADIS, CBCC?

Tuesday, November
28, 2006

**See The Invisible, Imagine The Unthinkable
And Then Do The Impossible!**

INTRODUCTION Since the far reaching Quo Vadis initiatives became our CBCC (UCC) long range plan for the future, a spirit of optimism, confidence and determination directed our thinking and doing. In order for the vision to take shape, we have gone to great lengths to listen and learn from every member of our Church family and to consider the practicality of our vision before presenting the completed plan to the congregation. We now hope to complete our Quo Vadis planning and suggestions in time for consideration and vote at the January Annual Congregation meeting.

CHRISTIAN ENRICHMENT We celebrate the successful launching of the CBCC Christian Enrichment Center. The power of modern media provided the ability to upgrade our CBCC facilities in order to, through the medium of high quality DVD recordings, invite the foremost spiritual leaders and eminent scholars of our time to lead, educate and enable our quest to fully understand the times we live in and to benefit from their insight and leadership. Our Fall Semester was a success! The CEC leaders will soon release their evaluation of courses already presented and reveal future plans to further raise the level of Christian Education and the standards of intelligent, informed discussion in our midst.

The CEC will be a valued asset for the entire Christian Community on the Space Coast and CBCC has reason to be proud and to expect great things for the future. Our current facilities cry out for upgrading in order to maintain and accommodate the expected growth

THE FOUR CBCC QUO VADIS INITIATIVES

INITIATIVE ONE Standing on the promises! Develop a schedule of action for the creation, training and activation of **purpose driven Ministry groupings** and define the structure to blend into the Church's organizational chart. This is a new emphasis and expansion of an existing CBCC practice to organize our Ministry by establishing more purpose driven Ministry groupings. We believe that the rediscovery of the power of training and dispatching Christians to fulfill their Christian calling is at the heart of what we want to accomplish. We want to recruit many more active members of all ages and effectively minister to the needs of our Community according to the charge of our faith in Jesus Christ. Adequate funding, the creation of training opportunities and effective leadership is needed.

INITIATIVE TWO Develop an ambitious and comprehensive **model for the upgrade, improvement and professional equipping of the Church's Buildings and Grounds.** In addition, attend to the creation of spaces, more effective for Worship and Teaching.

SANCTUARY UPGRADE

Upgrade of the Sanctuary will require, above all else, the expertise of a suitably qualified architect with experience in church and liturgical center design. All changes will have to be coordinated and well thought out. All prior decisions blended into one architects drawing before moving ahead!

In order to make the CBCC Sanctuary more effective for its many uses we may choose to consider, amongst others, the following suggestions:

- Most urgently we need a “crying” room where parents with infants can step out of a worship service or meeting in the Sanctuary, while still hearing the sound and following through glass what is happening at that moment. No interruptions.
- We need to re-arrange the liturgical center, containing organ, altar, pulpit, lectern, communion-space, keyboard, and choir space in such a way that we can offer more effective worship. We urgently need more space and the ability to move around and invite more people forward to participate in christenings, new member introductions, board installations.
- The current lighting fixtures in the Sanctuary obscure the view from the balcony. Replacement lighting, in good taste, with easily manageable controls! The balcony is frequently packed to capacity and we need to make it an attractive part of the Sanctuary itself.
- Much needed upgrade of our AV installation in order to allow for installed cameras to capture pulpit, choir, and audience and to relay to Sponsler Hall (Nursery, etc.) For overflow audiences or those working in Sponsler Hall., Video and audio recordings for TV, Radio, CD production and other methods to extend the availability and reach of Sanctuary events.
- Improved toilet facilities, clearly marked.
- The question whether or not to enlarge the Sanctuary is legitimate, but there are opposing sentiments to consider.

UP TO DATE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

- Wireless internet for the entire campus
- Integrated system to distribute video/sound across the entire campus. (see more details under Sanctuary upgrade)
- Electronic sign (as much as the city will allow) ten thousands of daily passersby should be able to see in a glance what CBCC has to offer.

INITIATIVE THREE Develop and execute a **marketing plan including the effective use of the media, printed materials and methods to reach people** in search and need of what the Church has to offer. Our future as a Church in a highly competitive market depends on our initiatives to fulfill our Mission. Our outreach into a competitive society calls for effective use of the media, printed materials and methods to reach people in search and need of what we as a Church have to offer. This initiative is understaffed and we will remain vulnerable unless willing and able people take this ball and run with it! There is a gold mine of materials and ideas available from the “God is still speaking” campaign of the UCC. We can adapt and localize many of their marketing suggestions.



INITIATIVE FOUR

Fuel for the journey! Organize, Develop and **Achieve The Quo Vadis Development Fund.** The purpose of the **QUO VADIS DEVELOPMENT FUND** is to enable the so necessary move from our current maintenance mode to active and full-fledged modern Ministry. We will study our needs, establish our goals, and present them to prospective donors in order to fulfill our God-given Mission in a changing world. We plead for Visionary and Generous Investment in our Church's progress into a yet unknown future. We have electronic credit card equipment – how can we make best use of this valuable tool for fund-raising?

Here are some ideas.

There are many more out there!

- Tickets you might not be using.
- Masterpieces of your talents – ceramics, woodworking, paintings, etc.
- Baskets for a game or event – or components.
- Homemade cookies – could you provide them for events or on a regular basis?
- Baked goods, favorite dishes to be delivered at an arranged time.
- A catered meal.
- Entertain or host a party, such as a birthday party for a child or an adult!
- Provide a professional service such as legal, dental, massage, etc.
- Autographed photos from the famous.
- Use of a condo or home in the mountains or beach for a week or weekend.
- Lessons.
- The list can go on forever!
- Individual efforts of every family.
- Establish an ambitious goal in dollars, but do not limit us to that amount.

- How can we convince the community of the Space Coast – and business donors that they should also do their part to help us raise the funds we so desperately need?



INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT QUO VADIS IS ALL ABOUT

QUO VADIS A HAUNTING QUESTION

SPIRITUAL BACKGROUND

There is a legend dating back to the first century after Christ that has inspired, touched and changed many Christians through the ages. Hollywood made a movie about this legend in 1951 and called it Quo Vadis? The title is Latin, meaning “Where are you going?” The Quo Vadis story is an ancient legend concerning the Apostle Peter's martyrdom, pre-served in the collection of legends included in the apocryphal Acts of Peter. The early Christians in Rome, Peter's friends, had entreated the Apostle to save his life by leaving the city. Peter at last consented, but on condition that he should go away alone. But when he wished to pass the gate of the city, he saw a vision of Christ meeting him. The pilgrim's staff fell from Peter's hands to the earth; his eyes were looking forward, motionless; his mouth was open; on his face were depicted astonishment, delight, rapture. Then he

threw himself on his knees, his arms stretched forward; and this cry left his lips, -- "O Christ! O Christ!" He fell with his face to the earth, as if kissing some one's feet. The silence continued long; then were heard the words of the aged man, broken by sobs, -- "Quo Vadis, Domine?" To Peter's ears came a sad and sweet voice, which said, -- "Peter, If you desert my people, I am going to Rome to be crucified a second time." The Apostle lay on the ground, his face in the dust, without motion or speech. It seemed that he had fainted or was dead; but he rose at last, seized the staff with trembling hands, and turned without a word toward the seven hills of the city. A bystander, seeing this, repeated as an echo, -- "Quo Vadis, Domine?" "To Rome," said the Apostle, in a low voice. The Apostle then returned with joy to meet the death which the Lord had signified that he should die. **Were you ever faced with the Quo Vadis Question?** I remember a time in my life when I faced a similar question. Where are you going? Turning around and heading in a new direction, meant resigning my job, forfeiting regular income and leaving the adult world and returning to high school to pursue a child-hood dream of entering the Ministry. This beloved Church of ours came into being On January 4, 1942, now exactly 64 years ago. After a year of planning, governing board decisions and the formation of a study and think tank for our Church our Church leadership concluded that the time had come to ask ourselves as a Church of Jesus Christ. **Quo Vadis, Domine? Quo Vadis CBCC?** There are huge challenges ahead; realities to face; obstacles to cross; numbers to increase; funds to be found and soul searching to be done to be a true Church of Jesus Christ and to Minister effectively to all God's people! **Quo Vadis, Domine? Quo Vadis CBCC? Where he leads me, I will follow; I'll go with him, with him, all the way!**

HISTORY

Sixty-four years ago, when Cocoa Beach was still in its infancy, Community leaders sensed the need and organized a Christian Church to serve the Space Coast Community. From its humble beginnings the Church reached out to all who sought a spiritual haven, irrespective of particular religious background, race, color or creed. Since the previous century, the Church served proudly and with honor, becoming a Spiritual Haven for all who sought to follow Jesus Christ. By bringing the unchanging Word of God to a changing world this Church is now the pride of the city and the place where community events, weddings, memorial services and progressive theology welcome and embrace weary Pilgrims on life's busy highway. The vision, funds and support of the Congregational Church in 1946, now an integral part of the United Church of Christ, enabled CBCC to build its first Sanctuary and to remain proudly affiliated. CBCC has arrived at the "kairos" moment of its existence of 64 years.

