

## CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTION TRINITY UMC QUESTIONS

### GENERAL

*Q. 1 Have we tried everything possible to save the church? There aren't any other options?*

As stated in Pastor Smiley's videos, the reality of continuing on this campus with our current congregation is not a viable option as the upkeep and maintenance on our facilities has helped our church become inwardly focused and not allowed the congregation to fully focus on our missions or ministries effectively. The congregation as a whole entered into and experienced a period of discernment to determine the best way forward for our church.

From this period of discernment there were many who felt strongly that God was leading us to a new beginning/revitalization of our church. The hope was Revitalization would help us relaunch and rebuild a better church. Revitalization with the help of a coaching team such as the Unstuck Group would help us go from a church on "life support" to a newly recharged church and help us to refocus our vision and mission thereby bring new life and new lives into our community.

Conversely, there were many who felt strongly that God was leading us to form a partnership with Christ Fellowship. The hope of forming this partnership would be to retain and restore what has been built here and to maintain the current worship experience together. A partnership with Christ Fellowship would allow us to tap into the potential and possibilities of Christ Fellowship's healthy, thriving church model with the hope that this partnership would bring new lives into our community.

Both of these communities believe strongly that God is leading them forward into a new and exciting reality which will be a blessing to the church, the congregation, our community, and beyond into the world.

*Q. 2 What is the time line and details going forward at TUMC? When will the future of Trinity be decided?*

We have several groups working different segments of the recommended future for the "New" Trinity, including the Revitalization Team, Unstuck Team, Group of 8 (sale of property to Christ Fellowship), etc. Each group is developing their list of steps, milestones and completion dates. These are being put into a project spreadsheet and will be tracked by a project manager and church leadership with the projected approval for sale of the property to be approved by a Charge or Church Conference in June. The actual timeline for acquisition of the Trinity campus by Christ Fellowship, and the departure of the 'Revitalization Group Church' is anticipated to be completed by this summer.

*Q. 3 How will the “Revitalization Group Church” be different from the “Christ Fellowship Group”?*

The new Trinity has a vision to build a new church unhampered by our past traditions. It is this group’s desire to relaunch our church based solidly on a well defined foundation of core beliefs and mission statement, with the purpose to be making disciples. This new Trinity church will be seeking God’s direction in creating vision, organizational goals and strategies with a shift from servicing our facilities to serving our community.

The Christ Fellowship Kingdom Partnership holds our traditions and the campus as valuable to continuing Trinity’s current vision and mission. The CFKP group wishes to hold onto what was built here and to restore this campus and congregation to a thriving God worshipping community.

*Q. 4 Will the new Trinity UMC retain the existing website, congregation data/ financial accounts, online banking, etc.?*

The new Trinity will retain and update our website, financial records, congregational data, and online banking, making any necessary adjustments as we move forward.

*Q. 5 Is there the possibility of subdividing the property with Christ Fellowship?*

Any sale of Trinity would include the entire physical church campus property, including the buildings, as the property is one parcel of land and cannot be sold in pieces.

*Q. 6 Is the new Trinity church taking all the proceeds of the sale?*

The goal of reaching an agreement with Christ Fellowship to purchase our campus is based upon a three-legged stool. The overriding guiding principal of the negotiations is that the campus will continue to be used for God’s purposes as a place for making disciples of Christ, that Trinity Christian School, as a center of academic excellence, will continue to serve our community by educating students based on Christian principles, and that TUMC would have sufficient funding to relaunch our church in the Palm Beach Gardens area. If we can continue to honor this principal, all the entities involved in the real estate transaction will benefit from the proceeds of the sale.

Pastor

*Q. 7 Is the Conference going to put in place a new pastor with Trinity UMC in June? What are Tim's plans for the future: Will Tim be the pastor of the new TUMC?*

Pastor Tim Smiley will change his Florida Conference membership from an Ordained Elder in Full-time Active Service to Elder, Retired, at the end of June 2021. In July, Pastor Smiley will continue to serve Trinity UMC of PBG as an interim pastor at less than full-time. This interim period from July 1st through December 31st will allow Trinity to get on its feet. The district superintendent will work with Trinity to bring in a new pastor the first of 2022.

Current Church Ministries

*Q. 8 Will there be a choir again when it is safe (and how is that defined)? Will there be traditional music again? Why do we have a band at every service?*

Currently both the contemporary and traditional worship services have been combined to one service on Sunday morning. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, no more than 5 people are allowed to be on stage singing necessitating some prerecorded music offering both traditional and contemporary styles to accommodate everyone. The band has been a part of the contemporary worship service for years, like the choir and groups such as Promised Grace have long been a part of the traditional service, providing a blend of music styles. As COVID-19 restrictions change, we will continue to assess and change many aspects of our Sunday service and all programming to evaluate ways to best worship together both in person and virtually.

*Q. 9 What will happen to Kids Kloset, the CCCC, and Boy Scouts?*

These entities will be considered by both the new Trinity and Christ Fellowship as we move forward with possible sale and future movements by both churches. TUMC has developed many worthwhile and worthy ministries and missions over the years and each will have to be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine its future.