

Raw Results – Not prioritized
Sunrise Chapel All-ages Brainstorming Activity
August 23, 2015 during the luncheon

Dear Friends,

WOW! What a wonderful collection of great ideas!

On Sunday, August 23, during the luncheon, it was awesome to watch eight small groups of people really engage in this activity. All ages, plus long-time members and newcomers participated.

Reading through the list below, I am struck with how many items I excitedly agree we should implement! What an amazing infusion of energy and caring it would provide!

Thank you to everyone for your affirmative participation!

What next?

1. Please read through the whole list for yourself! What things do you resonate with? Where would you like to put some volunteer energy, time, talent?
2. Talk up a few of your favorite ideas with others and extend the brainstorming into a forum for additional consideration and support. *For example,*
 - a. If you're involved in a small group, see if others in the group would like to help.
 - b. Or bring your energy to a Monday "Go For It!" meeting (12:15 pm in Children's Chapel) to discuss how to move forward.
 - c. Or if your idea needs financial support, consider bringing it up to a Board member or at a Board meeting.

How are decisions made at Sunrise Chapel? How can you be involved?

- Many activities can be implemented by lay people with very little top-down management.
- Some items, especially related to public worship, need the pastor's OK and support.
- It's certainly useful to consider how an idea or suggestion integrates into Sunrise Chapel's Core Purpose, Core Values, and Core Strategies. Most of the ideas from Sunday's brainstorming do fit – it's just a matter of volunteers taking initiative to implement them.
- Other questions to consider:
 - How much of a priority is it relative to other items?
 - Is someone already invested in an activity who should be consulted before moving forward with a new feature of that activity?
 - Should a decision on an item involve collaboration? If so, who is the team?
 - Does the idea need Board approval because of financial or legal questions?

My hopes

- ✓ I hope this activity inspires and motivates people to become involved in implementing some new efforts for the benefit of Sunrise Chapel.
- ✓ If anyone feels confused about decision-making here, I hope we can reduce any awkwardness so more people feel more ownership of programs and activities.
- ✓ I hope to be able to focus more attention on the things that I do well, and experience more support in areas that others have expertise to offer.
- ✓ I hope this powerful activity helps launch a new spirit of hope for the future of Sunrise Chapel!

With gratitude, love, and respect,

Nathan

August 27, 2015

ROUND #1 As a participant at Sunrise Chapel, what do YOU want?*NB: All items are listed here in random order*

- ❖ Connection with the Lord and connection with people
- ❖ Put meditation and global chant in the bulletins
- ❖ Connection to God
- ❖ Peer Group support for the gifts I have to offer
- ❖ Form a group for a workshop to make banners/baffles to create better acoustics in Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Talk to people about the Writings in a personal manner
- ❖ On-going small group that meets once a month
- ❖ To walk aware with some golden wisdom that I can apply to my life
- ❖ Small group activity where you can't come *unless* you bring someone with you
- ❖ Our sense of community
- ❖ Love the lunches after service
- ❖ Bring back summer retreats. They do not necessarily have to be in the Catalinas
- ❖ Thursday AM coffee was a good discussion group. (We would choose a theme such as “dysfunctional families” and talk about it. At that time Frank led the group & Suzi used to come)
- ❖ In Wedding Garden with lights: Halloween Party before Halloween Night – Come in costume
- ❖ Musical variety, upbeat
- ❖ Add a formal meditation time at the start of the service or just prior to service start
- ❖ Additional mix with the music ministry, such as adding additional music instruments
- ❖ Shade for the playground, and additional equipment like a slide
- ❖ Inspiration, Spiritual Growth, Community
- ❖ I would love to have more of a sense of ownership and participation so that we all have a sense of community, that is *our* church
- ❖ Would love to be able to go back to Mt. Lemmon camp sometime in the summer – brings us all together
- ❖ More organization with volunteers regarding lunch from women's group
- ❖ Better hymns (newer bands ie Newboys, 3rd day, Lee Ann Womac)
- ❖ Better youth programs, trips to events, group lunches/outings
- ❖ Hymns we know
- ❖ Have interesting speakers
- ❖ I would like to see the front (along the road) look more “cared for”. But don't invest dollars until there is responsibility for *maintaining* it.
- ❖ Have more classes on the afterlife and that part of our church that is so special - or stand out from other churches
- ❖ Dining configuration: we would like to see a changing informal arrangement for the tables. Something fluid, less like a cafeteria
- ❖ We used to have lectures by different professionals in the community, especially for NDE & afterlife
- ❖ Continue our Spiritual Growth progress, offering different times and days
- ❖ Cookouts-BBQ for all geared to families, or coffee houses/talent show
- ❖ Marriage Retreat
- ❖ More outreach to community with men involved – w omen seem to only be involved now
- ❖ Earlier Service
- ❖ Involve more people in duties of the church. Encourage more volunteers
- ❖ More volunteers and service groups
- ❖ More child/youth oriented programs
- ❖ Attract speakers who bring in more people
- ❖ More church outings
- ❖ Talent night/Coffee house
- ❖ Continue to enjoy small group processes
- ❖ Book study/classes
- ❖ Ways to bring in new people from community
- ❖ Enjoy guest speakers and seminars

- ❖ Enjoy thought-provoking lectures, topics, Swedenborgian writings etc.
- ❖ Can loan the church real estate signs and brackets
- ❖ Small group processes
- ❖ Would lead group studying book or craft
- ❖ Go back to some of the music Brendon sang
- ❖ Joyful singing of known songs
- ❖ Want my kids and grandkids to come
- ❖ More talking about what is relevant
- ❖ Keep improving small groups
- ❖ I like the expectation that we grow spiritually
- ❖ Fellowship of lunches and classes

- ❖ The warmth and serenity within the congregation and grounds
- ❖ More opportunities to serve as a community
- ❖ 1 or 2 family game nights at SRC
- ❖ More opportunities to participate in small groups and a variety of small groups
- ❖ More opportunities to worship in nature together
- ❖ Round tables in Friendship Hall
- ❖ A regular service project that is on a regular time schedule so people can over time shift their lives to be able to participate

ROUND #2 *Thinking of folks who have yet to discover Sunrise Chapel, what can we do to welcome and serve more people?*

NB: All items are listed here in random order

- ✂ Google Ads using Fuller grant
- ✂ Invite someone to church
- ✂ More advertisement
- ✂ More opportunities to participate in small groups and a variety of small groups
- ✂ More opportunities to worship in nature together
- ✂ Explore sharing the message that Swedenborg's writings are the "fountain" of truth that spanned the New Age thinking
- ✂ Add additional prelude music options in worship services such as adding new CD's or connect with the internet
- ✂ I would like to see more effort put in place to welcome newcomers and added effort in making those who stay welcomed.
- ✂ Look for activities that can be done with other "local" churches
- ✂ Continue to beautify the grounds
- ✂ Become more active in the greater community
- ✂ Have open house and free entertainment for public like our Path – introduces more people to the church

- ✂ I think the April and November sales also bring people
- ✂ More service projects
- ✂ Invite senior groups over for an activity – Nathan visit senior retirement homes & preach there
- ✂ More people become aware of their "talents" as a person who *can* welcome others
- ✂ Have some more folks get on board to help get the word out "in their own words" on social media
- ✂ Service projects to serve others
- ✂ Doing things besides Sunday service on a regular basis
- ✂ Be known (like ads, but info)
- ✂ Be more involved in public affairs
- ✂ Booth at wedding fair
- ✂ More presence in community
- ✂ Reach out to those not coming, do survey of all members
- ✂ One major fundraiser per year
- ✂ 1X per month movie night
- ✂ Do classes on people's expertise and offer it to members and community
- ✂ Create ad for special interests, scrapbooking etc.

- ✂ Invite our friends who have similar interests in art
- ✂ Groups for senior activities
- ✂ Expand small groups
- ✂ Make nice playground for kids
- ✂ Sunday school is good – more kids
- ✂ Teach children to sing
- ✂ Get the word out to the community on who we are and what we believe. It think we have a positive message especially on the afterlife.
- ✂ More fun activities
- ✂ Use the outdoor worship area for more activities such as an outside cookout (like Tanque Verde Guest Ranch outside cookout) or a Mexican style celebration
- ✂ Better sign. Strong message on it.
- ✂ Highlight Wedding garden - use it ourselves and involve more people to keep it up. BBQ/music night
- ✂ Near Death or Heaven workshop/discussions open to public
- ✂ Music program highlight families (individuals along with choir)
- ✂ Fire pit
- ✂ Increase marketing and advertising with professional
- ✂ Market small groups to community
- where visible hoping to draw people in
- ✂ Have activities specific to welcome
- ✂ Utilize wedding outdoor area
- ✂ SBG's lectures
- ✂ Teachings skills to public on Sat. AM
- ✂ Target specific groups to come to coffee, etc. (groups, organizations, etc. in community)
- ✂ Expand craft show to include children's activity (like blow-up house, or other fun activities
- ✂ New signage: 30' sq plot and sign (Kim look into that)
- ✂ Advertise service groups, need members
- ✂ Bring in speakers publicly known
- ✂ Focus on family events
- ✂ Encourage singers to perform
- ✂ Encourage dance/dancers
- ✂ Signage at curb: new format with surround to look more permanent and established, not transient; incorporate graphics and have appealing desert plantings around it
- ✂ Enhancing appeal through visual images: staging and photographing mini events, mock-ups...to build a working portfolio of images to show the possibilities of our facility

Kids' Ideas

- ☞ Canning/Jam night
- ☞ Bake-in: raise funds for playground tarp
- ☞ Movie/game night: for children community-building
- ☞ Field trips: for the community-building of the kids
- ☞ Book clubs: meeting last Sunday of each month

ROUND #3 Of all ideas shared, each group choose and highlight 3 ideas as the most important to start working towards

Note: Most groups did not appear to complete this round, based on the written notes.

However, two groups highlighted the following ideas:

- In Wedding Garden with lights: Halloween Party before Halloween Night – Come in costume
- Improve singing with songs that adults and children know and like.
- Keep improving and developing groups (for seniors, kids, etc.)
- Make church more attractive to kids.