2022 Annual Celebration State of the Conference Address

Presented by Rev. Sue Artt, RMC Conference Minister and Judith Baillie, RMC Board Moderator, 2020-2022

Shape Shifting of Church

- COVID continues to challenge how we knew to be church
- Models we thought were working aren't working so well
- The Gospel isn't any less relevant

Urgency of Spiritual Connection

- Yearning for authentic connection with others
- Seeking an authentic experience of the Divine
- Some prefer face-to-face; some prefer virtual

What is your church willing to do for the sake of the Gospel?



"Preach the Gospel at all times; only when necessary use words."

~ Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Listen for the Whisper

- Refute the heresy of busyness
- When do you "Waste time with God"?
- Spirit almost always whispers it very rarely shouts
- Learn to "Be Still" and listen

Christ's Church will go on

- Where is God calling you to be?
- What will be your role?
- What will be the role of your church?

Bless Us, O Holy One

That we may be your hands and feet in the work you would call us to.

Purpose of Conference

Catalysts to support local churches and church leaders

Review of 2021/2022

Anti-Racism Culture Shift

- One of the most critical issues of our time, the Board in 2020, authorized the inauguration of an Anti-Racism Ministry seeking to shift the culture of the Conference
- Anthony Scott joined us as ACM right before Annual Celebration 2022
- Alongside his ACM role, he also moves forward our work in Anti-Racism
 Cultural Shift you'll hear from Anthony on Saturday

Conference-Wide Committee on Ministry (CWCOM)

Tributary Fund Grants

- A fund established by the Board of Directors through its budgetary process
- To encourage and incubate new church starts, new ministry development, and significant ministry revitalization
- To encourage innovative worship / expansion of the meaning of "church"
- Administered by Board-directed task force with accountability, guidance and mentorship
- First grants in 2021; currently in 2nd cycle of applicants

Search & Call

- Nation-wide reduction in pastoral candidates for all pulpits
- Settled, interim, designated or other
- Frontier, rural, suburban or metropolitan
- To some degree regardless of church size or salary package

Rural Church Vitality

- Focus for 2022-2023
- Worship leaders most likely called from within the congregation
- Conference will help identify educational path and fund the education of lay worship leaders

Funding our Future

- Recruit a Funding Associate for the Conference staff
- Write grants to fund significant projects that enhance communities
- Conduct funding campaigns such as OCWM, Friends of the Conference
- Anticipated that Funding Associate will return more than own salary in grants receipts

Conference Real Estate Update

Conference Real Estate Team:

Ken Hoagland, Lee Berg, Larry Ricketts, Shelly Dunham, Judy Baillie, Mark Dutell

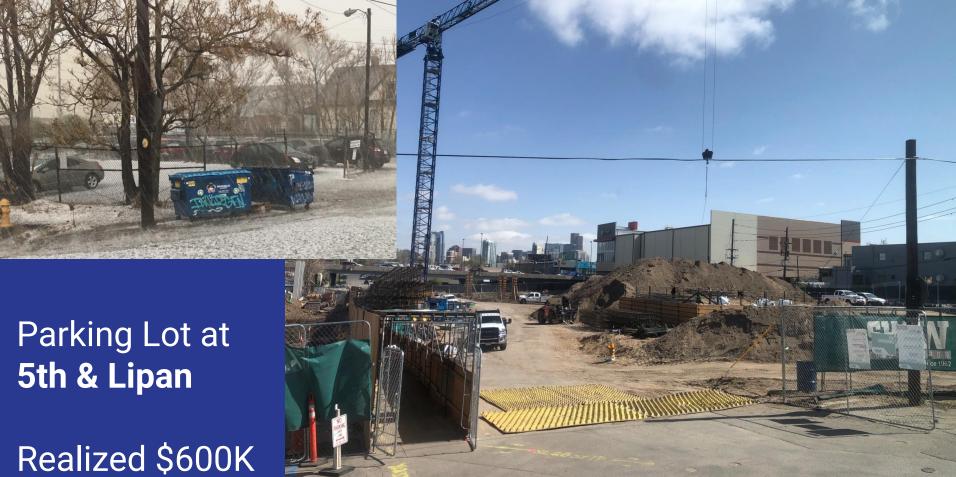
Two pieces of property sold in the 2021/2022 cycle:

- Former Church Building of Christ Congregational in Denver at
 2500 S Sheridan Boulevard
- Office Parking Lot at 5th & Lipan



2500 S Sheridan Realized \$1M







Construction underway

Mixed Use Retail & Housing





RMC Jubilee at La Foret Mon - Wed, August 15-17, 2022

- Workshops
- Connection
- Association Leaders Conversation What's Next for Associations?
- Relaxation, Fun, and a Rockin' Band!

2022 Annual Celebration Seminars

- A continuation of 2022 Annual Celebration events
- Zoom-based seminars on topics of interest
- Saturday, November 5, 2022
- Stay tuned for details

Responses? Questions?

Please raise your hand using the Reaction button at the bottom of your screen.