

## **Hillhurst United Church Building Project: UPDATE May 24, 2009**

*On April 26<sup>th</sup> our congregation gathered over lunch to hear the first report from our Building Committee. This was the first opportunity to share in discussion on the possibility of rebuilding our gym, bathrooms, kitchen and office space. As part of the plan we also considered the possibility of building affordable housing in conjunction with The Homeless Foundation of Calgary. The new space would include new community space for our congregation and a possibility of 13 units of mixed housing. It was a lively energetic conversation. Thanks for your participation.*

***The feedback** from our congregation has been compiled by Donna Christie (who is from HUC) is available at the back of the church for you to take and read other people's opinions on the project. Many people shared excitement about this being a 'natural next step' in our visioning process. The desire for new space for the congregation and an opportunity to be contribute to solutions in the housing crisis in our city proved to be an overwhelming positive. Over all the feedback was positive and encouraging. At this point we hope to address these concerns via bulletin inserts.*

*As we seek to move forward, we plan to meet with our local community leadership. A meeting will be set with the alderman, the Hillhurst-Sunnyside building committee and the city. The intent is to share the concept of the plan and to seek their input on the possibility of a building project. We hope to complete this by the end of June. Over the next month we are also asking the various groups in our congregation, PLAY, and community renters to consider how the church space might best suit their needs. We will hope to host an open house in mid- September for the community and congregation to consider again the possibility of engaging in this project. It is a slow and thoughtful process. It is also very much a 'beginning' process.*

***We will ensure you are informed and involved in the process and clear "stop –go" opportunities will be provided along the way.** Feel free to share your thoughts via email [building@hillhurstunited.com](mailto:building@hillhurstunited.com) , talk to one of the committee members , or write to me. Copies of the DRAFT project will also be available for those who do not have computer access.*

*This is a project that requires **your input** as we move forward. **If you have skills or special insight in areas that we might require please let us know.***

*Thanks for your consideration.*

*Submitted by,  
Brent Bazinet Chair  
John Pentland Minister on behalf of the committee.*