

2022 Listening Report Summary Chain of Lakes Church

The Joshua Group Consultants, Rev. Jana Swenson and Rev. Jim Weckwerth, gathered information about Chain of Lakes Church (COL) using the Missional Assessment Profile (MAP) survey and through interviews and focus groups with church members. Their findings reveal a healthy and vibrant congregation. COL is well positioned to move boldly into the future with remarkable assets and the capability to effectively address challenges.

The combination of the pandemic and moving into a new building means COL will experience major transition in the coming years. A good transition into God's future for you will depend on three important elements working together.

- Your strengths and assets
- Engagement with members/strangers
- Financial Stability

Assets

COL must continue to develop and lean heavily on your assets in the coming years. Your three strongest assets are:

- Trust – high trust among members and leaders.
- Clarity of Purpose – you believe in your mission and values and strive to live them.
- Sense of Belonging – strong relationships with one another and with your mission.

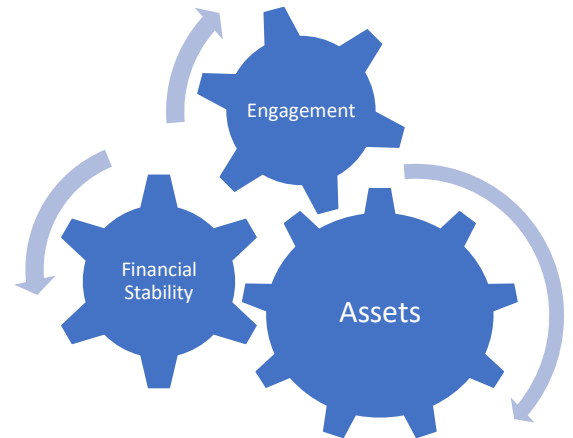
These assets will help you manage a transition that will involve celebrations *and* failures, joy *and* grief over loss, hope *and* fear for the future. A tenacious grasp on the gospel and your purpose and values will see you through to fulfilling your purpose.

Engagement

For growth to occur, external curiosity is needed. This means cultivating the desire to explore and learn about your new neighborhood. Engage neighbors by building relationships regardless of whether they intend to become members of COL. Instead of asking the question, "How do we get people to come to COL, ask instead, "How do we meet people where they are at?"

Engaging strangers and members through worship is just as important. Engaging worship inspires members and helps strangers gain a sense of your mission and ministry in what is likely their first encounter with COL. Consider forming a Worship Ministry Team to design an on-going agenda/strategy to address issues of engaging worship (in-person and online) for members and visitors.

Engaging members and strangers in ministry is critical. Current leaders need to open themselves to letting go of the way they operate so that others can feel freer to participate. Develop an "on-boarding" infrastructure to intentionally move people from *strangers to friends to disciples to impact*. Leadership Development is needed, as well. You might add a policy requiring ministries to have one leader and one person willing to "apprentice" to be the next leader (or a substitute). This encourages shared responsibility and sustainability of your programming.



Financial Stability

For COL to successfully transition into the new building and effectively grow, two things need to happen:

1. **A 2nd capital campaign with a goal of \$300-\$350,000 should be launched. Breakdown of funding needs are listed below.**

Construction Costs \$1,535,496

Payment Plan

Bank Loan and Grants	\$1,315,000 (funds available at closing)
Cash Still Needed	\$220,496
Cash Available	\$111,737 (from first campaign)
Cash Needed	\$108,759 (from second campaign)

Campaign #2

Campaign Goal (3-Year Giving Period)

Cash Still Needed at Closing	\$108,759
Post Closing Expenses (minus escrow credit)	\$5,695
Mortgage Payments for 30 Months	\$183,381
Minimum Goal for 2nd Campaign	\$297,836

Additional 6 Months Mortgage Payments	\$36,676
Maximum Goal for 2nd Campaign	\$334,511

Additional Expenses \$120,000 (rough estimate)

There will still be projects that need to be finished as funds are available. They are listed below and ranked in order of priority by interviewees.

1. Finish kitchen
2. Furnishings
3. Electronic Sign
4. Driveway to Edison
5. Sanctuary carpeting

Support for a 2nd Campaign

There is broad support for a second campaign but good communication between leaders and the congregation will be important. 51% of MAP survey respondents said they would give more over the next 3 years; 44%, plan to give the same; 6% will give less.

2. **A long-term financial plan to pay for the building should be developed. This plan should factor in the following:**
 - a. Realistic expectations for membership/giving growth
 - b. Future expansion needs
 - c. Timeline for transitioning mortgage payments into operating budget