

Report of Discernment Team  
Commons Area Policy

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The discernment team sought to frame their work in terms of what are the possibilities which our new space affords us rather than simply drafting a policy that limits use.

The following are the recommendations that the team offers to the trustees.

***I. A St. James Fair at least quarterly***

Establish a “St. James Fair” that would be held at least quarterly in the fellowship hall between the early and late services and after the late services.

Church groups that seek to raise funds or who want to set up displays can do so during the fair.

We also encourage this as an opportunity to showcase some of our music groups.

We will need to schedule these fairs such that they will be convenient to groups that need to make their work available at specific times of year (such as Relay).

We would publicize when these events would take place and groups would need to reserve a place; no more than four groups at a time for each fair.

Also the United Methodist Men or other groups, if they would like to, could use the fairs as a time to sell meals as a fundraiser.

***II. A St. James Mission Market***

Establish a *St. James Mission Market* using Joyce’s old office.

Items that are not sold in the fairs can be sold there, as well as other materials such as books and devotional materials.

The funds would go to St. James mission projects.

Any mission group that displays materials there will be required to help supply volunteers to help staff the market while their materials are on display.

The times the Market would be open would be

**Sunday 10:00 – 10:45 & 12:00 12:30**

**Mondays 9:00 AM – Noon**

**Wednesdays 3:00 PM – 6:00PM**

**(It might be possible that we could do Tuesday between 9:00 and Noon also but that would depend upon the need for it.)**

The team also recommended that the display case in the CLMC be used to display items for sale in the Mission Market.

**III. Eligibility to participate in the Fair and Mission Market**

Missions and Ministries that are eligible to use the fair and the market must be connected with an authorized St. James Mission. **Individuals or Businesses may not use these venues as a for profit enterprise.**

**IV. Policy concerning the use of the Commons area and Narthex and areas immediately outside of those spaces.**

The team has made the recommendations concerning the Fair and the Mission Market in response to needs for a place to do displays and to do fundraising. In light of these recommendations to meet those needs, there should not be displays or items sold in the commons area, narthex, and hallways, or outside of those areas (including walkways, plazas, parking lots and lawn) on Sunday Mornings or other occasions of worship. These should be places of welcome to guests and gathering for fellowship by church members.

**V. Week day use of the Commons Area**

At times other than when the church is preparing for worship (Sundays and Special services such as Ash Wednesday), on week days or week nights groups can put up displays and sale tables in the Commons area. (For example, the book fair for the preschool and after school or if a missions group is holding an event in the CLMC to raise money they may set up displays or sell items.) Again these may not be for profit enterprises.

**VI. Need for Signage**

The Team also noted the need for much more indoor and outdoor signage and asked Alan to consider using a page or pages in the new directory for a site map. They recognize that this will be dependent on sign-ups and the number of institutional pages that we have at our disposal.

The Discernment Team offers this proposal for adoption.  
Thank you.

Adopted by the Administrative Board on May, 18, 2014.