

Napa Valley Center for Spiritual Living Community Visioning, 2007

Following are the results (i.e., visions and ideas) taken from our community visioning session, held on September 23, 2007. Some visions offer a clear idea for general and specific improvements, while others offer more of an “essence” of what can be. Either way, these visions are important to our development as a spiritual community, and will be addressed immediately by the Core Council.

Note - Visions and ideas are sorted by category, wherever possible, and may show up in more than one category.

Category	New Vision or Idea
Special Events	Weddings**
	Speaker series on holistic healing
	Indoor and outdoor concerts***
	Outside speakers
	Artisan exhibits
	Holiday and seasonal picture taking
	“Clothing” pot luck
	Baby blessings in the garden
	Memorials
	Lectures
	Poetry readings
	Speaking events on prosperity consciousness (SOM philosophy)
	Outdoor services
	Chanting events
Garden planting work parties	
Internal Support / Operations	Bookstore, containing items from around the world
	Testimonies posted on the website
	NVCSL congregants “seen everywhere throughout Napa”
	Development and communication of future architectural and other plans, so that they do not interfere with current events and activities
	A church community that allows the exploration of our deepest spiritual challenges
	Church allows “letting go” of its history
	Congregation receives a sense of “community” from the church
	Kitchen open for tea and coffee chats
	Bookstore: signage and lights around the windows; an opening between the current bookstore and the next office (expansion)

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	Famous visiting guest artists featured at the church on Sundays (like we used to)
	Special bookstore items not found elsewhere
	Light snacks served at the bookstore
Outreach	Grand event, welcoming the greater community
	“Affirmations of the week” posted on a sign
	Books, CD’s, inspirational art, jewelry, flags, etc. sourced from the local community
	Connect bookstore with music events and meditation circles
	Bookstore focus on “peace”
	Peace center located at NVCSL
	Bold bookstore signage outside
	News Headline: “World peace breaks out as a result of personal consciousness at the Napa Valley Center for Spiritual Living”
	No homeless shelters needed in Napa
	Regular column by Rev. Janet in the local paper
	Regular newspaper ads for the church
	Inform the local community via personal testimonies
	Hand out flyers about the church
	NVCSL becomes a masthead for peace in the Valley
	Community bulletin board available at the church (tasteful and appropriate)
	Consult a PR expert on how to attract “20-somethings” to the church via special events
Children’s Programs	Establish a more permanent space for children’s church – sanctity of their space
	A space where small children can dig in the sand
	Back building remodeled for children, with new heaters, and an eco-friendly environment
	Infant nursery with room for newborns – a place where young parents can participate (crying room)
Physical Presence	More outdoor tables for community eating
	A general sense of safety, community and trust
	Arched entrance, visually connected with sanctuary and back building
	Something on the building that describes who we are
	Inspirational products at the bookstore, and the store connected with the garden. A place to sit and read in the garden.
	A place that feeds the mind and soul.
	A gathering place that caters to the oneness of the soul.

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	Bookstore banner or prayer flags, displaying slogan, “change your thinking, change your life”
	Skylight in the bookstore
	Folk art displayed in the window
	Metaphysical librarian; music, snacks, reading
	Community meditation area with benches and fountain
	Tables and chairs in the garden
	Meditation area outdoors
	Outdoor stage
	Shared space for small meetings and comforting type activities; Move bookstore to back building closer to the garden
	Garden dance stage and welcoming arch near entrance; water fall
	Sheltered stage presence for outdoor events
	Stone labyrinth
	Lighting in garden
	Archway entering the garden – “green” instead of concrete or asphalt
	Lunch talks in the garden
	Eye-catching items on the porch to draw people into the store
	Change back building to match office architecture, and trellis porch for year-round rain protection
Music & Expression	Events in other venues (outside the church)
	Drumming and dancing Friday nights
	Commitment to creativity as a sense of support
	More music events***** (see music entries in other categories)
Other Visions or Ideas	Creating a general sense of hope, warmth and unity within and around the Napa Valley Center for Spiritual Living