

## Building Our Future Survey Results

One hundred twenty-seven UUSIC members and friends completed the Building Our Future congregational survey conducted in early 2011. Below are the questions asked, and the responses for each question.

An example of how data was interpreted follows:

- 126 members and friends responded to Question #1.
- 54 ranked “friendly, inviting and welcoming space” as their first choice.
- The “Weighted Choice” is the number who responded to this answer plus the number indicating it was their first choice for a total of 143 (89+54).
- The “Percent of Total Respondents Choosing this Option as their First Choice” is calculated by dividing the total number with this as their first choice by those responding to the question (54/126=43%).

**1. In thinking about our mission as a congregation, in your opinion what are the three most important functions of a site or facility in fulfilling our mission and goals over the next 15-20 years?**

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice	Response Count	Weighted choice	% of Total Respondents Choosing this Option as First Choice
<b>Friendly, inviting and welcoming space</b>	54	25	10	89	143	43%
<b>Inspiring place to hold Sunday services</b>	32	28	15	75	107	25%
<b>Sufficient/flexible space for RE and lifespan education</b>	20	39	20	79	99	16%
Sufficient/appropriate space for Society committee meetings and community outreach events/activities	15	18	23	56	71	12%
Sufficient/flexible space to hold all-congregation special events	8	8	18	34	42	6%
Attractive/flexible space that could serve as rental space for other organizations or special events (and which would be an additional source of income for the Society)	11	2	16	29	40	9%
Historically significant building	8	10	13	31	39	6%
Other				31		
Answered question				126		
Skipped question				1		

2. The Board is committed to a number of priorities for our facilities: ADA compliant access for handicap accessibility, improved energy efficiency, improved comfort in the building (such as air conditioning and more flexible spaces), adequate and appealing space for youth, and growth to enhance our impact. Please indicate three **ADDITIONAL** characteristics of a facility that are most needed for the Society to accomplish its mission:

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice	Response Count	Weighted Choice	% of Total Respondents Choosing this Option as First Choice
<b>Adaptable facility that will accommodate UUSIC as our congregation grows and our needs change</b>	62	17	14	93	155	52%
<b>Highly visible, attractive facility to retain members and attract newcomers</b>	12	35	12	59	71	10%
<b>Downtown location</b>	24	9	9	42	66	20%
Low cost space so that more money is available for community outreach and/or programming	10	18	14	42	52	8%
Green space for outdoor activities	3	10	26	39	42	3%
Dedicated parking	3	17	13	33	36	3%
Location that draws membership from other areas	5	9	16	30	35	4%
Other				21		
Answered question				119		
Skipped question				8		

3. At this moment, the Board has been brainstorming all the possibilities that are available to us in addressing the issue of facilities. In addition to the familiar choices - renovate the existing building or buy land and build a new facility, other possibilities have been brought to the attention of the Board. For example, The Board has heard the following suggestions:

- A proposed a land swap of our property for a 7-acre parcel of property off Rochester Avenue in the east end of Iowa City.
- Building and sharing a new facility with the Agudas Achim synagogue.
- Buying an existing property, such as the Gold's Gym on Oakdale Boulevard or the Montessori location on Holiday Road (both Coralville) that could be repurposed for our use.
- Build a multistory building with underground parking, commercial space on the lower floor, and church spaces on the floors above (including a roof-top terrace).

**NOTE: NONE OF THESE OPTIONS HAS BEEN PURSUED BY THE BOARD.** They are simply some of the possibilities that we might or might not eventually explore more seriously. Our goal is to think creatively as we decide what facilities will suit us best for the future. In considering our mission and goals for the next 15-20 years, please select your first three choices for action by the Board:

**Question 3, continued**

	<b>First Choice</b>	<b>Second Choice</b>	<b>Third Choice</b>	<b>Response Count</b>	<b>Weighted Choice</b>	<b>% of Total Respondents Choosing this Option as First Choice</b>
<b>Obtain an updated professional estimate of the costs to acquire land and build a new facility over the next 5-7 years.</b>	31	19	23	73	104	27%
<b>Obtain an updated professional estimate of the costs to extensively redesign the current facility with major renovations to meet accessibility, environmental quality, and growth commitments.</b>	26	23	11	60	86	23%
<b>Identify an existing structure that could be repurposed for UUSIC.</b>	18	25	22	65	83	16%
Explore collaboration with another congregation or community group to share space.	10	21	18	49	59	9%
Obtain a professional estimate of the costs to address critical maintenance issues to keep the current facilities going over the next 10-15 years.	15	11	6	32	47	13%
Acquire land as an investment and defer building decision until later.	10	4	13	27	37	9%
No action needed.	5	4	6	15	20	4%
Please add any options that are important to you, but that were not listed				24		
Answered question				115		
Skipped question				12		