



# **Our Future**

## **at the Unitarian Universalist Area Church at First Parish in Sherborn**

**The Space Planning Task Force  
Report to the Congregation**

The Space Planning Task Force

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# In the Beginning...

In May 2006 we approved a 5 year Comprehensive Plan.

## The Plan:

- Defined “*a vision of growth in numbers, in connectedness, and in commitment.*”
- Anticipated an increase in attendance and membership.
- Directed the formation of a Space Planning Task Force to address how to accommodate this growth.

# What has the Task Force done since September 2006?

We have worked with you to:

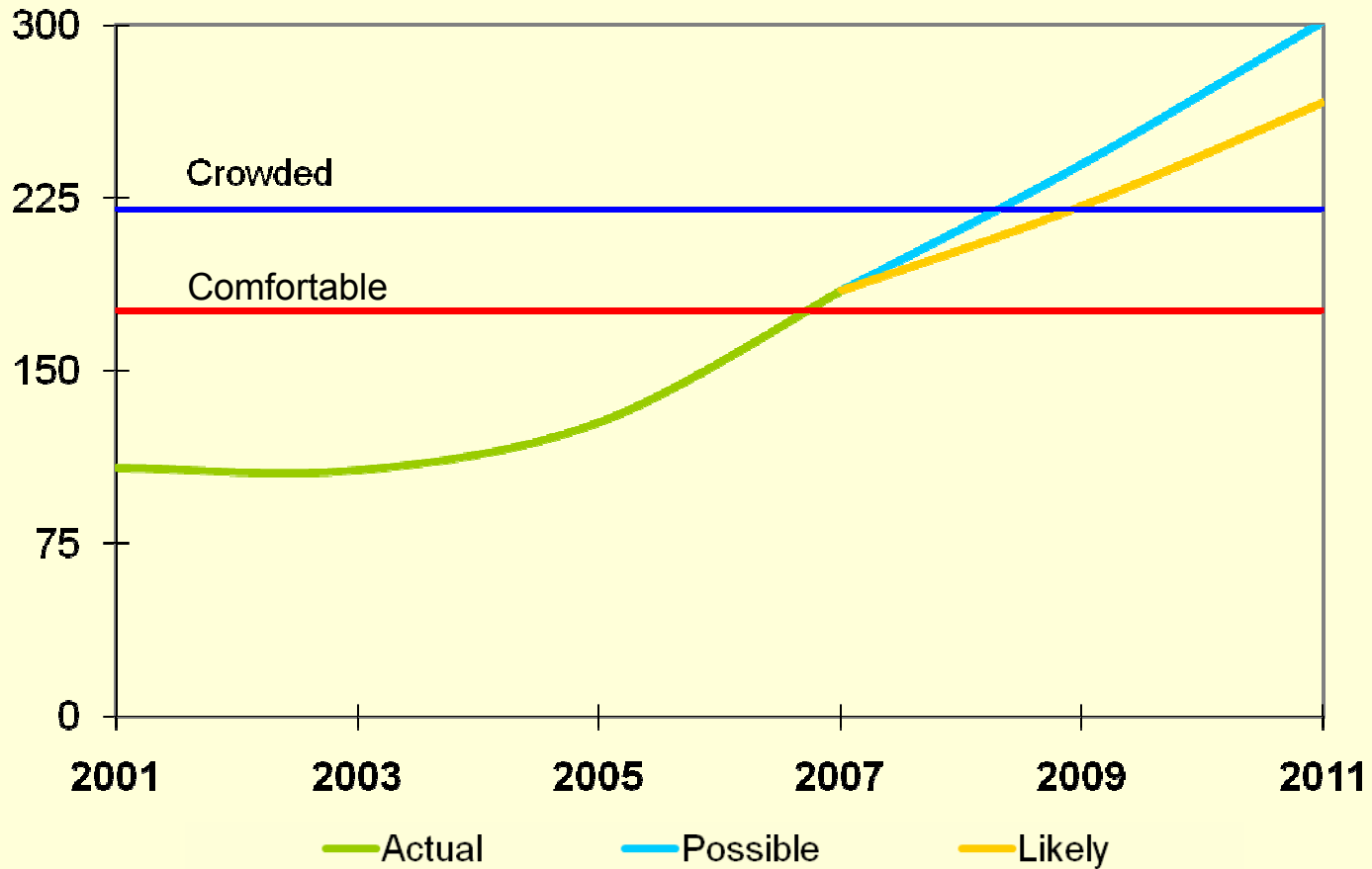
- Assess our space needs
- Analyze our growth rates
- Evaluate our current space

# What are our major needs?

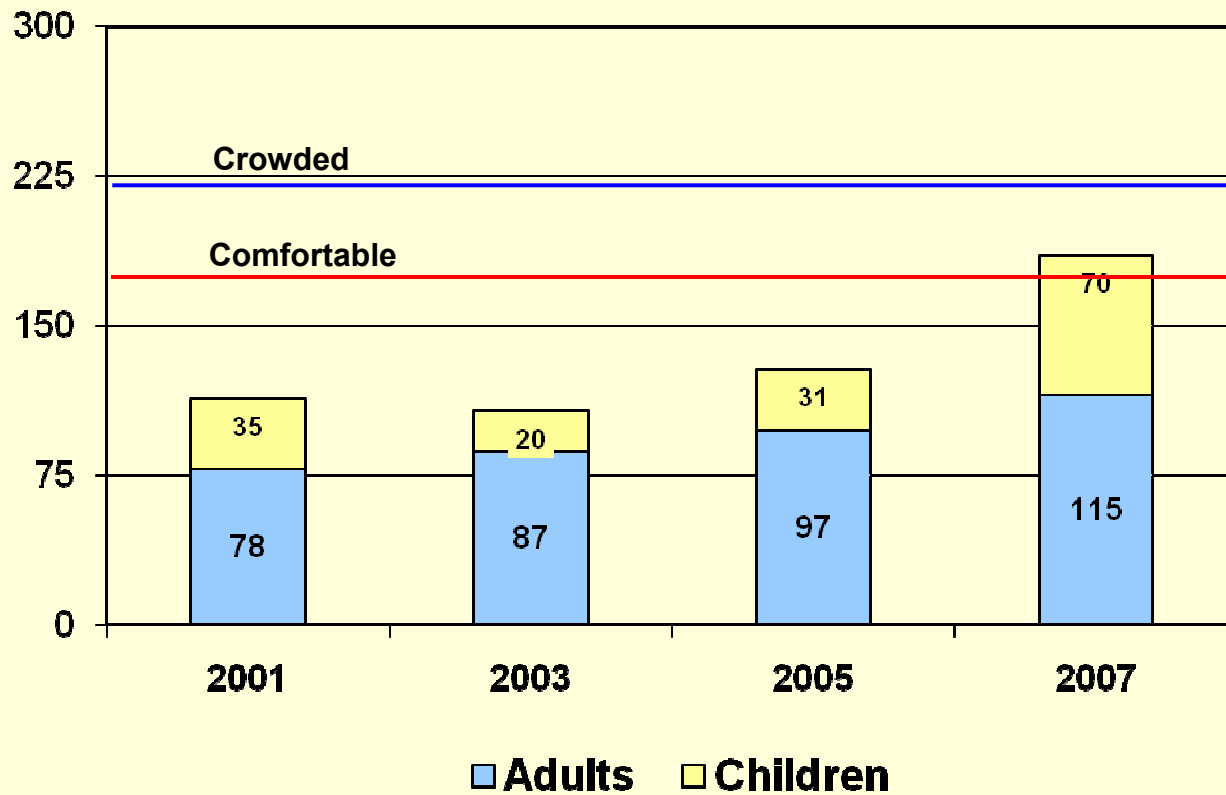
- More space for:
  - classrooms
  - programs
  - offices
  - storage
- Interior renovations of sanctuary and entrance
  - increased seating capacity
- More space in Unity Hall
  - a larger common space for us all to assemble
- More parking
- Improved handicapped accessibility

# Attendance Trends

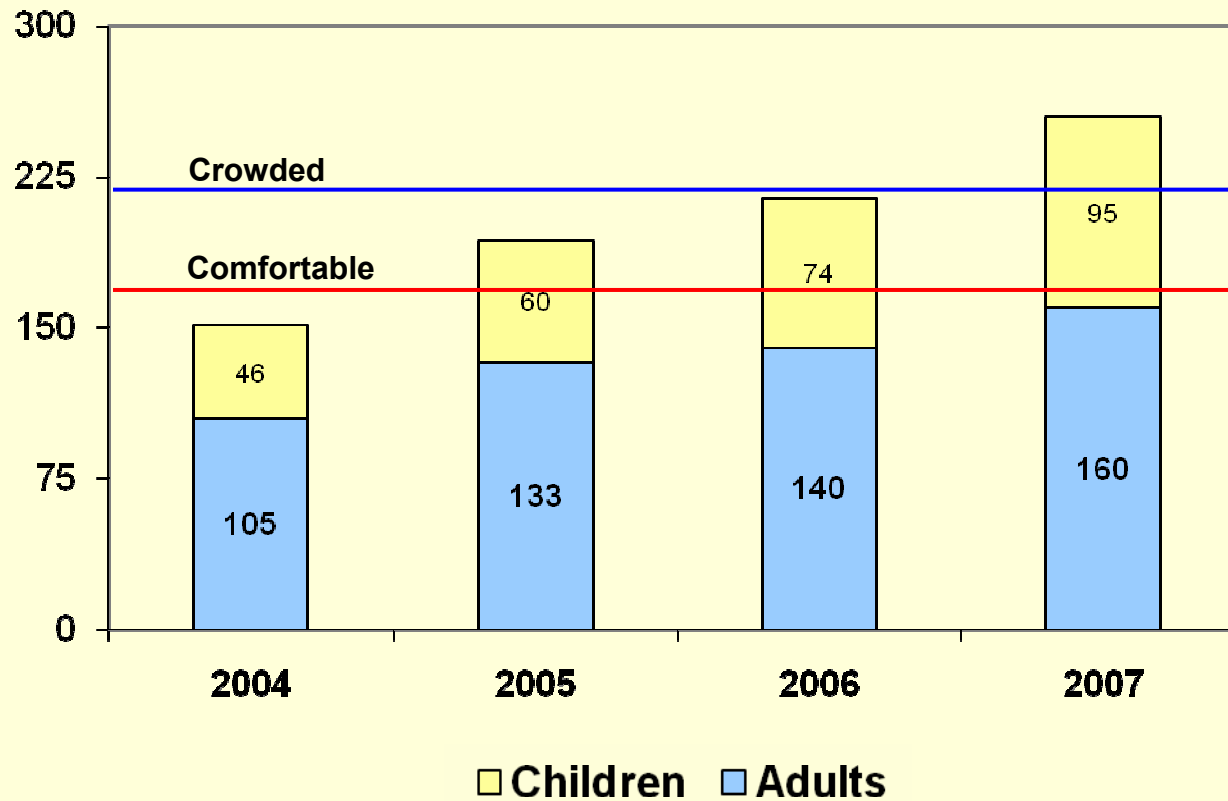
## Adults and Children in Worship and R. E.



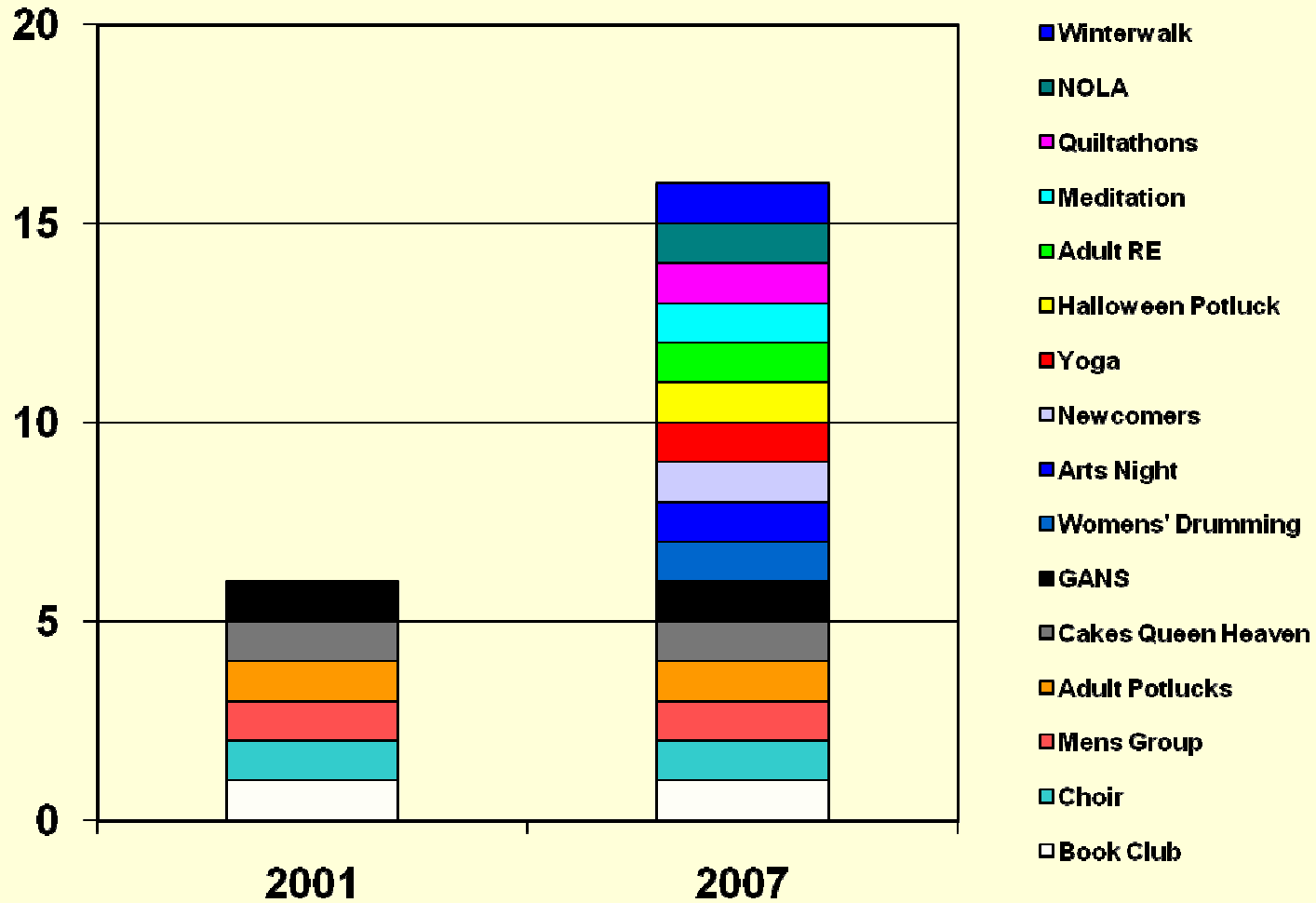
# Average Attendance



# Peak Attendance



# Programs



# How Did we Respond to the Needs?

1. We decided that expansion was the best option.
2. We hired Architects Adams & Smith.
3. We reviewed three expansion proposals.
4. We reached consensus around one proposal.

# Our Three Expansion Options

Option	Additional Space	RE and program space	Meeting Space	Sanctuary	Parking
A	8700 sf	Accommodates aggressive growth	New Unity Hall on main floor	More pews Interior updates	Additional parking
B	5400 sf	Accommodates moderate growth	Unity Hall expanded	More pews Interior updates	Additional parking
C	3500 sf	No room for more growth	Unity Hall expanded	More pews Minimal updates	No additional parking

# Our Recommendation: Get the Most for Our Money

Options	Preliminary Estimates	Comments
A	\$2.5 - 2.8 MM	Provides the best finish and the most space.
B	\$1.5 MM	Provides sufficient space for moderate growth. Achieves a balance between realized space, level of finish, and basic costs.
C	\$1.25 MM	Meets today's space needs. High percentage of money goes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site Improvement</li> <li>• Excavation</li> <li>• Foundation work</li> <li>• Fees</li> </ul>

# Why Expand?

We have room in our minds and our hearts.

Now we must make room in our church:

- for those who seek our liberal religious message
- for our children who are the future of our faith
- for those who seek a welcoming religious community.

Now we must make room for us, to provide space where we can socialize, share our ideas, and support one another.

Now we must make room to support our Beloved Community.