

All Souls Building Renovations and Capital Campaign Frequently Asked Questions, Part 2

To have additional questions answered and displayed, please email the questions to Lamar Hicks at dixieandlamar@yahoo.com or Jane Wilson at jane.r.wilson@gmail.com.

How can I be involved in the Building Renovation and Capital Campaign Project?

Members of All Souls can be involved in many ways, at many levels and with varying time commitments. Consider one—or many—of the following:

1. Take time to read *The Flame*, email blasts and information at <http://allsoulskc.org/about-us/forms-documents-and-reports/2015-renovation-project/>. Look at the bulletin board in Conover to see drawings that reflect current building use and a timeline. Information is on the TV screen in Conover and on the announcements screen in Bragg. Early in 2016, members will be asked to vote on a concept design and a capital campaign goal. Be an informed participant!
2. Attend Steering Committee and task force meetings. Watch for dates and times in the Friday email blasts. Members are always welcome as observers and may ask any committee member to put an item on the agenda of the next meeting.
3. Ask questions and seek information from reliable sources. Members of the Steering Committee and/or Architectural Design Task Force will be at a table in the lobby on Sunday mornings. You also may email Lamar Hicks or Jane Wilson (emails above).
4. Watch for upcoming Church Chats and congregational meetings, and plan to attend.
5. Volunteer to serve on future task forces. The Steering Committee will be forming task forces with time- and task-limited assignments to accomplish what needs to be done. Please contact Lamar Hicks or Jane Wilson to let them know your interests, your skills and talents, and your availability. They will work with you to find a good fit. All are welcome!
6. When you are approached by a steward about the Capital Campaign, listen and respond with good will and generosity.

If we can't afford to meet our operating budget, how can we afford a capital campaign?

First of all, we don't know we can't *afford* to fund our operating budget and/or a capital campaign. We know that we don't give generously enough through our annual pledges to fund our operating budget. Our stewardship consultant, Barry Finkelstein, will help us more reliably predict our giving capacity.

Secondly, during our Vision Listening Sessions in 2014, participants voiced an understanding that if we are not increasing our membership, we will fade away as a congregation. Preserving the status quo is not an option. Currently our office space, storage space, meeting space and classrooms are nearly or already maxed out. To attract and accommodate new members, we must create a safe, accessible and aesthetically inviting facility. Can we afford *not* to conduct a capital campaign?

Finally, our last capital campaign was a generation ago. The time is right for providing a legacy giving opportunity to another generation.

Don't we have to address maintenance and safety first?

GastingerWalker are working on holistic plans to address maintenance, safety, accessibility, space and aesthetic needs. It is not efficient or financially advantageous to look at just one need without

considering solutions within the context of all the other issues.

In November, the architects will deliver three concept designs. These designs will represent “good, better, best” plans at three different costs. Our stewardship consultant will help us reliably predict what we can raise in a capital campaign. Using that information, the congregation will vote to select the concept design that will best address our needs at the price point we choose.

Why don't we use the drawings from our last renovation effort instead of spending money on a new concept design and new plans?

In 2014 the Vision Task Force conducted extensive listening sessions to determine the vision of All Souls' current membership for our future. The Architectural Design Task Force has made sure GasterWalker has all the documentation of those sessions and earlier building and renovation projects, proposed and realized. To the extent they are useful, those documents will inform the current undertaking. However, with a significantly different vision than that proposed in 2008 and with changes in building materials, design and technology, it would be impossible to work from old plans.

Will parking be addressed in the concept design phase?

Yes. The entire All Souls campus has been reviewed and evaluated. At this time, no renovations are being considered for Simpson House, but everything else is “on the table.”

During the building phase, will there be a time we can't use the building at all?

No, but some renovations will have to be done in steps in order to keep parts of the building open at all times. We will be flexible and creative in the way we use our space during this phase.

Can technology address our space needs?

We certainly can use technology better to connect people, e.g., video streaming the Sunday service. Office space, storage space, meeting space and classroom space are the greatest needs right now and in the near future. We can use technology and we can use space smarter, but we cannot address all these needs without renovation and enhancements.

Are we ensuring that the building will be adaptable to future needs?

Of course, we want space that will be adaptable to future needs, but we have only a limited ability to predict what those needs will be. Who, 20 years ago, could have predicted the role of the Internet in our lives today? In visioning sessions, the architects have repeatedly heard about our desire for flexible space. Their goal will be to balance creating space that is well-suited to our needs without limiting it to just one function.

Do we really need more space? Are we going to grow?

An analysis of current building usage shows that at peak times, we need more space and we need to use what we have more efficiently. During the Vision Listening Sessions in 2014, members indicated a membership of as many as 500-600 would be comfortable. Nobody spoke in favor of anything larger than that. If we do not aggressively work to increase our membership, we will die as a congregation. Preserving the status quo is not an option. To attract and accommodate new members, we must create a safe, accessible and aesthetically inviting facility.