

Calvary Building Planning Project

Frequently Asked Questions

August 2018

What is the history of our building? When was it last remodeled?

Calvary started out as "Svea" and was built in 1885 and then rebuilt in 1910. The congregation added the current sanctuary in 1954 and the education wing, offices, and elevator in 1982.

What are we seeking to accomplish?

To provide additional space for more effective, comprehensive ministry to members and the community and to live out our mission to Worship, Connect and Serve while supporting the ministries that are currently in place.

Why do we need two sanctuaries?

Our current beautiful sanctuary is well-suited to formal worship and will be preserved. A growing desire for an informal style of worship can be better fulfilled in a second more modern multi-purpose worship space. Flexible furnishings will make the new space appropriate for various activities and events and two worship centers would allow concurrent worship services.

Where can I find all the current information and updates about the project?

The looping video in the narthex outside the sanctuary will be refreshed with new information and printed copies of materials will be available in the church office. Communications will be sent directly to members when needed. In the coming months, information will be posted to www.calvaryalex.org and updated often.

When will I have the opportunity to offer input?

There will be multiple opportunities for all to offer their input in the coming months. Congregational forums in *August & September* will reveal more information and detailed drawings of the design. JLG Architects will work to further develop the plans and there will be congregational forums in *November* to view revised plans and offer input. Once again, the architects will further refine the design and provide one more opportunity for feedback in *January* at congregational forums. At the Annual Meeting on *January 27, 2019*, the congregation will be asked to vote on both the design and the start of a fundraising appeal. Members are encouraged to participate at all these points.

What is the timeline for the project?

The remainder of 2018 will consist of listening and plan development in order for the congregation to vote on a set of plans and the start of a fundraising appeal at the January 27, 2019 annual congregational meeting. If approved, it is anticipated that 2019 will be spent focused on fully developing the plans and starting the fundraising appeal. Construction could potentially begin as early as 2020.

Why are we looking at updating and expanding our facility instead of spending on other ministries?

Since 2011, worship attendance has grown by 78%. Through an expanded facility Calvary will be able to welcome more worshippers and continue to serve and give to ministries outside of our membership.

How do we know that Calvary can afford this project?

The Financial Feasibility Team has been formed to help identify the capacity and the boundaries for the project. Their study of Calvary's financial history and projections for future growth indicate that the project can be afforded. Calvary has seen a budget surplus for several years, has almost \$200,000 in reserve, and has no debt.

How much money will the project cost? Will there be debt?

The Financial Feasibility Team's goal is to maintain a high level of responsibility and stewardship of resources so that Calvary remains financially secure. The Financial Feasibility Team is projecting the project capacity to be at \$6 million, and believes that it can be achieved without long-term debt.

How will fundraising be done? When? Over how long a period?

The Financial Feasibility Team will share more information about their guidelines for funding the project at the November congregational forums. At this time, the intent is to conduct a five year appeal so that the project is conducted without long-term debt. The congregation will be asked to vote on the start of a broad fundraising appeal at the January 27, 2019 meeting, and if approved the formal appeal would likely begin later in 2019.

How will a building project affect regular, on-going activities?

This is unknown until the project reaches further development, but the goal will be to disrupt worship and other activities as little as possible.

Who are the decision makers?

Several teams of people have been working to get to this point.

- The *2017 Building Exploration Team* identified the current needs and explored future needs for Calvary's building.
- The *Building Planning Team* is guiding a realistic building plan that addresses Calvary's future needs so we can live out God's mission and vision for Calvary.
- The *Financial Feasibility Team* is working to identify our financial capacity, the financial requirements and boundaries needed for such a building project, educate the congregation to our financial position, and recommend an appeal process that accompanies a building project so that we can continue to be stewards of the long-term financial health of Calvary.
- The *Church Council's* role is to ensure that Calvary is fully staffed and operationally sound.

Ultimately, the *Calvary congregation* members are the decision makers.

How is initial JLG design project paid?

The ReNew project from 2013-2016 was focused on maintenance and improvement to the current structure, and raised over \$900,000 that was invested mostly in the infrastructure of the building. Through the ReNew project, the congregation elected to set aside \$38,000 to be used for future building exploration needs. The congregation voted to use that fund for the initial architectural fees to explore this remodel and expansion.