

## **Feasibility Study: Identifying the Financial Support for the Church Expansion**

The church needs to determine the amount of financial support available within the membership for the church expansion. A financial analysis of this nature is called a feasibility study. The study provides an assessment of the congregation's potential for raising funds, identifies possible major gifts and key leadership for the program. The study is tailored to reveal the answers to the questions of greatest importance to a congregation's mission. Questions that need to be answered are:

- )= What is the image of the congregation?
- )= Are members aware of the proposed Capital Fund Appeal for the church expansion?
- )= How important is the expansion to the ministry and mission of the congregation?
- )= What type of communication program is required to create a greater awareness, understanding and interest in the need for the expansion plan and the Capital Fund Appeal?
- )= Is leadership available for the proposed program?
- )= Will members financially support the program at the needed level of giving?
- )= When is the appropriate time to conduct a Capital Fund Appeal?

The James Company, a stewardship-consulting firm, has been engaged to help us prepare for the Capital Fund Appeal. The James Company will be conducting interviews with members of the congregation during the next few weeks. Additional plans related to the feasibility study are as follows:

- )= 50-60 people will be interviewed
- )= Members may volunteer to participate
- )= Interviews will primarily, be conducted at the church. However, members may make arrangements to be interviewed at other locations, as needed.
- )= Information that is shared will be held in confidence.
- )= No financial commitments will be requested during the interview.

The criteria for selecting persons to be interviewed are as follows:

- )= Members who are regular in attendance and active in at least one activity besides worship
- )= People representing a variety of ages, length of membership and life situations
- )= People who are significant financial supporters
- )= People who are former elected leaders or informal leaders of the congregation
- )= People who are well connected to others in the congregation.

A thorough survey interview process is vitally important in preparing for the Capital Fund Appeal. The Feasibility Study is designed to help determine the financial support available. Based on the study's results, and if warranted, a plan of action will be developed to implement a Capital Fund Appeal.

The members who are chosen or who volunteer to participate in the Feasibility Study will receive a telephone call from a member of the congregation to arrange a time for the interview with The James Company. Your cooperation in this effort is greatly appreciated.

### **Expansion Committee Members**

Dr. Nancy Walters – Chair  
Deacon Redissa Bruce  
Deacon Andrew McGlory  
Brother Sebastian Stewart  
Brother Tommy Tolson

Rev. Charles L. Gill, Jr. – Pastor  
Trustee Stephanie Dilworth  
Brother Charles Propps  
Deacon Leona Tanner  
Trustee Alzena Wiley

Brother Jerry Beal  
Brother Nathaniel Galloway  
Sister Althea Rupert  
Deacon Obedia Thomas

**Did you know?**

The church expansion will occur in phases. Major building enhancements planned for each phase are:

- Phase 1A -- Elevator and handicap accessible restrooms. **Construction plans will be finalized in 2005.**
- Phase 1B -- New nursery, new choir room, new industrial-sized kitchen, new classrooms
- Phase 2 -- "The Great Room" which will be a large, elegant room for dinners, receptions, plays, etc., new church offices, new library, new book store and 54 new parking stalls
- Phase 3 -- remodeled and expanded sanctuary, remodeling of the existing fellowship hall

**Did you know?**

Pilgrim Baptist Church is one of the first African American churches in the state of Minnesota.

**Did you know?**

Pilgrim's current building was built during the Great Depression. The educational unit was added to the building in 1949.

**Did you know?**

Pilgrim is expanding the current building to continue to provide service to the community through its ministries. One example of the services that the church provides is the food shelf.

**Did you know?**

Pilgrim has purchased and cleared seven lots adjacent to the current church building for the church expansion.

**Did you know?**

One of the ways that Pilgrim serves the community is providing space for some community-based organizations to hold their meetings and other activities. These groups include the Jolly Seniors and the Scouts.

**When was Pilgrim Baptist Church founded?**

Pilgrim Baptist Church was founded in 1863 and is a historic church. Rev. Robert Thomas Hickman was the founder of Pilgrim. Rev. Hickman and the first members of Pilgrim were former slaves who survived a perilous journey up the Mississippi River. The first church building was located in St. Paul at Sibley and Morris Street. The second building was built at Cedar Street and Summit Avenue. The current church building at 732 W. Central in St. Paul was built in 1928.

**Why is Pilgrim Baptist Church expanding the church building?**

In order to meet the needs of our growing congregation and its many ministries, the church building needs to be expanded. The expansion will enhance our worship and fellowship in the following ways:

**Accessibility.** Our senior members and guests, and those challenged by Pilgrim's stairway access today, will benefit from Phase One of the improvements. Those improvements include installing an elevator, widened doorway access near the elevator (rear entry), and handicap accessible restrooms on all floors! The elevator will improve access to the entire building and make transporting supplies to your meetings, conferences, and fellowship events easier. Exterior ramps will be built to provide wheelchair access near the elevator and easier outside access for everyone, especially during inclement weather. Parking lot space will almost double under the new plan.

**Christian Education.** Our children's Christian education will blossom in a new child-focused space. The children will have their own discrete space for Bible School and Christian learning. Flexible walled classrooms will allow space to be utilized efficiently for various children activities like the Boy Scouts, Teen Church, etc.

**Fellowship.** An elegantly designed Great Room will permit wedding and funeral receptions to be held on-site. This same multi-functional space will provide improved space for Church social events and hospitality. Several meeting rooms will provide needed space to our various ministries.

**Worship.** The new sanctuary will provide more space for our increasing participation in Church services. Our members will more comfortably enjoy, both physically and visually, activities like communion, call to worship, music and mime ministries, and our praise dancers. The pulpit and choral areas will be enlarged and designed to improve the congregation's listening experience. In the sanctuary, state-of-the-art technology will be utilized to enhance the delivery of Pilgrim's worship services and membership communications.

**Hospitality and Administration.** Pilgrim's church offices will be located near the main entrance to service and greet our visitors. The office equipment and technology will be updated to provide better service to our members, ministries, and those who communicate with Pilgrim Baptist Church. Our kitchen will remain centrally located to service all areas and will benefit from an improved traffic pattern.

**How can persons support the church expansion?**

Each person can perform a key role in the expansion of the church by financially contributing on a regular basis. Be sure to state the amount that you are giving to the church expansion by writing the amount in the space provided on the offering envelope.

Here are other ways that you can contribute to the expansion:

- Memorial and honor gifts to honor loved ones or commemorate a special occasion
- Corporate matching gift
- Gift of stock
- Contributions from companies or civic groups
- Planned gifts by naming Pilgrim Baptist Church in your will or estate plan

**Questions?**

Contact the church office at the number listed below or you may speak with any member of the Expansion committee.

## Phase One A Plans Lower Level, Main Level and Upper Level

**Features:**

- )= Elevator that provides access to the basement, lower level, main level and the upper level
- )= Handicap accessible restrooms on each level (except basement)
- )= Classroom on each level (except basement)



1254 sf NEW CONSTRUCTION

9/10/04

PHASE 1A  
GROUND LEVEL PLAN

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH STATION NINETEEN ARCHITECTS INC

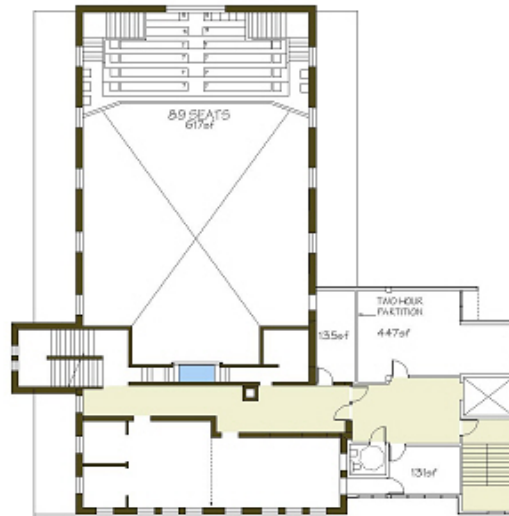


1288 sf NEW CONSTRUCTION

9/10/04

PHASE 1A  
MAIN LEVEL PLAN

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH STATION NINETEEN ARCHITECTS INC



1434 sf NEW CONSTRUCTION

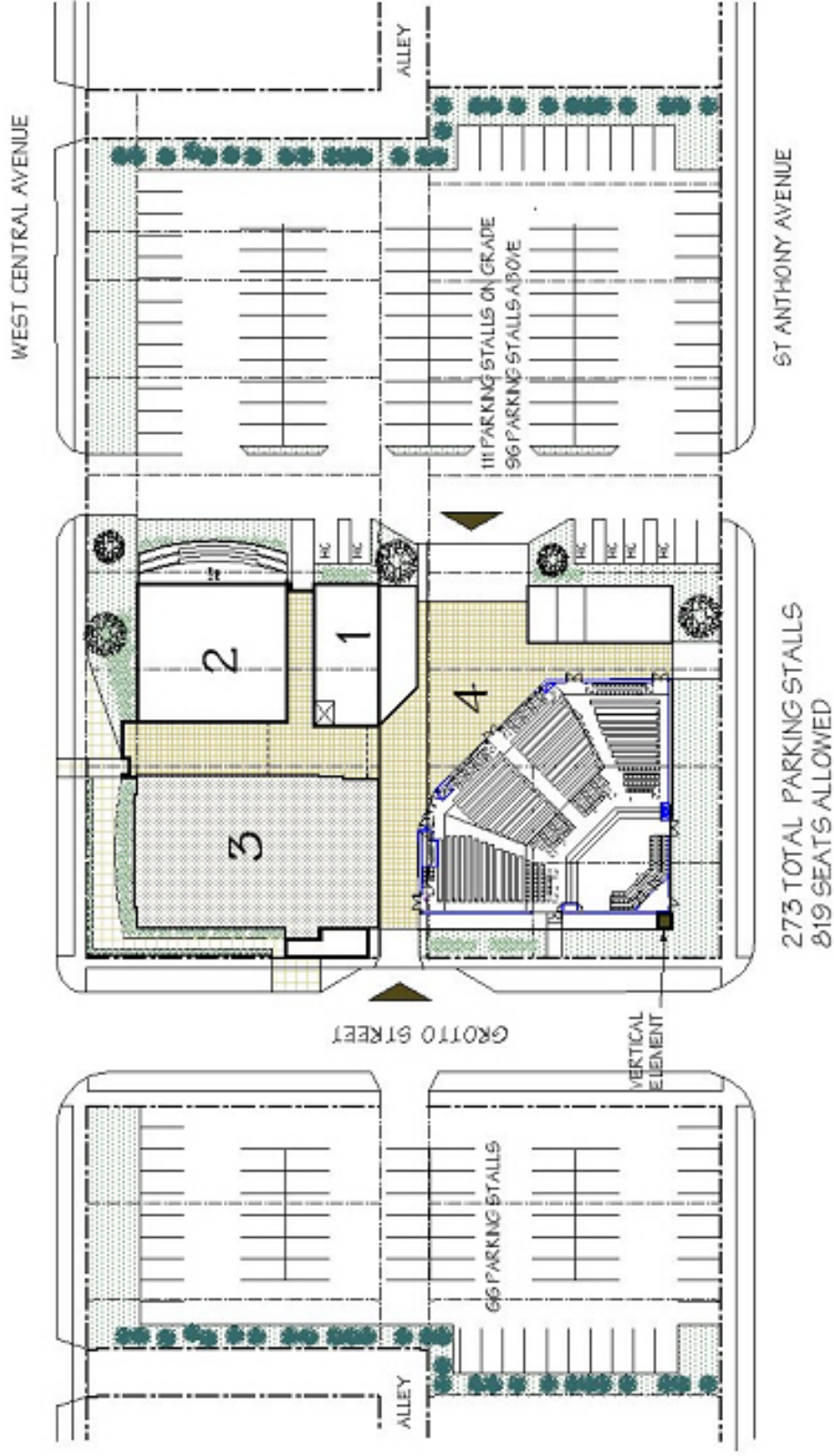
9/10/04

PHASE 1A  
UPPER LEVEL PLAN

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH STATION NINETEEN ARCHITECTS INC



AT THE  
CROSSROADS



LONG RANGE MASTER SITE PLAN

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH



URBAN DESIGN PERSPECTIVES  
STATION NINETEEN ARCHITECTS