



The following are Questions & Answers from the task force meetings held on December 4, 8, 11, & 18; and January 11:

Q: Is it decided that All Souls is moving downtown?

A: In 2011, the church members voted overwhelmingly to accept a gift of land and move downtown by our centennial year of 2021. In 2016, the Board of Trustees appointed a task force to do a thorough review of the decision. After extensive research, there is unanimity among church leadership and ministers that moving downtown is in the best interest of the church. To move forward, the next step is to begin a capital campaign. On April 9, congregation members, including those who have joined since 2011, will have an opportunity to show their support for the capital campaign.

Q: Why is the church moving downtown?

A: Although it is sad for many to leave our current building, surrounded by such beauty, there is a profound hope for future generations, that this church will continue to be an indomitable voice for religious freedom and human dignity, in a city that is known for religious fundamentalism and racial segregation. As those before us, we are willing to leave the home we know, in order to include more people in our All Souls family.

Q: How will the new church address current space limitations?

A: The new church will be designed with greater technological capacity, more security for children, and more flexible use of space. The structural design will be thoughtful and allow for expansion to meet the needs of the future.

Q: Will the downtown location help us retain and attract members?

A: The new location on 6th street, just a few blocks off Peoria, is a short drive from the current location and a short walk from Centennial Park and the bicycle trail. The proximity to the highways going into downtown will make us highly visible and accessible to people from the Greater Tulsa area. Another advantage of being downtown is that many retirement facilities offer transportation into downtown on Sundays for church. In the planning stages of the new church, we will be thoughtful and committed to serving the needs of all our members. The downtown location will allow people of all ages and from all parts of Tulsa to attend and belong to a welcoming and inclusive congregation, representing our liberal religious tradition as an alternative to other downtown churches, far into the 21st century.

Q: Will there be adequate space for music programs?

A: The church is committed to meeting the needs of all our music programs, including additional rehearsal space. Music is central to the life of our congregation.

Q: Will there be space included for an organ?

A: Yes.



Q: Could office space in the existing building be moved off-site, possibly to one of the Conservage houses we own?

A: Any church use of the Conservage houses will require re-zoning and a vote by the homeowner association. This may not be possible.

As regards a homeowner association vote:

Q: What entitles one vote in the Southmore addition (homeowner, lot owner...), because many homeowners are on 1.5 lots?

A: One vote per residence, not per lot, so homes on 1.5 lots are entitled to only one vote.

Q: Will the neighbors support us on zoning and other issues?

A: There's no way to predict.

Q: Is it possible to have a footprint at both places?

A: In the resolution that was voted on in 2011, it states that All Souls is to relocate "as a whole."

Q: Is there a plan for moving the memorial gardens?

A: Not yet. We would need everyone's input to do this in the most respectful and meaningful way possible.

Q: Will there be a columbarium? (A columbarium is a place for the respectful and usually public storage of cinerary urns)

A: We don't know. We would need everyone's input to do this in the most respectful and meaningful way possible.

Q: What do we know about other development opportunities surrounding the downtown site?

A: Single family housing and several mixed use developments are underway.

Q: If we build downtown what is the plan for the existing site?

A: We do not know who will buy this property or how they will use the building or develop the site.

Q: Will the church take the new building's environmental impact into consideration?

A: Yes.

Q: Can't we just build up on this site?

A: No. It is not structurally possible to add vertically onto our building.

Q: Do we have architectural renderings?

A: YES/NO. Whether we stay here or move downtown we would be beginning the design process again.



Q: If we expand here, what will that be like?

A: Hard to tell. The expansion would happen in phases and thus the timeline would be extended. Historically/Traditionally attendance decreases and it's hard to grow during construction. We may have to move off site. Some of our programming, such as classes and social justice efforts, and online ministries might suffer.

Q: Can we create a map of where our members live?

A: Yes, we have one.

Q: Can we make a chart of financial commitments needed and a timeline?

A: Yes, and we will. Members will have a 3-5-year timeline to pay their pledges.

Q: How many people have joined the church since 2011?

A: 423

Q: Can we raise the money?

A: With the sale of the building, a well-planned capital campaign, and strong member engagement, we are confident we can raise this goal.

Q: Which of our programs are currently most stressed for space?

A: Childrens' programs, including our nursery, our fellowship space on Sundays, space for large church events, adult programs, music programs, offices, sound, video production and editing, communications. In addition, having one traditional sanctuary does not meet our needs for the styles of worship we offer.

Q: Will the downtown location be safe for our members and staff?

A: Yes. Probably more safe. We will be able to design a safer and more secure building for our children and our times. It's also important to consider that there have been multiple instances when our members and staff of color have been stopped or profiled by police in our current location. A downtown building will be more welcoming and more secure.

Q: Do the ministers support the idea that relocation is in the best interest of the church and the future?

A: Yes.

Q: Will the new church be designed in the same style as the current building?

A: We do not have an architectural design yet. Since it will stand at the primary entry point for downtown, the new building will be the first thing many people see when they enter our city. The design is an opportunity to do something special for the future of our free religious tradition and for the city of Tulsa.