



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: While everyone who knows and loves our church is grieving the thought of leaving our beloved building and beautiful grounds, most seem to also be energized by the thought that a move downtown will ensure 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. Uprooting the church is a difficult decision to make. Our goal is to be faithful stewards of the legacy we have inherited. Please join us for the congregational meeting and vote, so we can make the best choice for the church.

Q: Why isn't this a revote of the 2011 decision to move downtown?

A: In 2011, the congregation voted by supermajority to move downtown. The task force and Board of Trustees found no obstacles to the downtown move, nor any findings to warrant a change in direction. As such, this vote is the next step.

Q: Will there be sufficient parking downtown?

A: Yes. Additionally, the parking commitment from the donor family was just renewed. The donors continue to stand by their original gift to ensure approximately 275 spots across the street from the church for All Souls exclusive use on Sundays, Saturdays and weekday evenings. We also plan to have approximately 30 parking spots, on-site, mostly handicapped. For comparison, we currently have a 165-spot parking lot. The donors will also reserve a portion of the parking lot for use during the week days to handle smaller events and employee parking. They may choose to lease out a portion of the remaining parking to help offset the cost of purchasing and maintaining the parking facility. The weekday needs of the church would need to be surveyed to determine adequate coverage. For large weekday memorial services and special events, it may be necessary to enter into an agreement with other facilities/churches in the area to provide the needed parking and make use of our shuttle buses to accommodate the need. There are also approximately 70 free, on-street parking spots directly surrounding the church block.



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, in many ways more safe. We will be able to design a 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. It will also be more welcoming and more secure for more people.

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.