

## **Philosophy Regarding our Future Church Building**

### **For Practical Reasons, We Want the Building to be:**

1. Not just a utilitarian building, just as we have not chosen to live in just utilitarian homes.
2. Flexible in design.
3. Supportive of fellowship and interaction of people, with gathering places.
4. Consistent with our commitment to the sellers of the land to build a nice building; consistent with the surrounding community.
5. A message to the zoning and building approval people, and to the rest of the community, that we fit in with the community, and the building is an asset to the community. This will have the practical benefit of facilitating future additions.
6. One that does not ignore light, topography, a mountain view, and other aesthetics.
7. Built with an awareness that, historically, the concept of building a minimalist church structure is a very recent development; historically, God's people have been inspired to build in a way to try to honor God, the architect and builder of the universe.

### **Spiritual Reasons**

1. We recognize that the temple was built directly in response to God's clear calling and direction for a place for Him to dwell. But, we also believe that, just as the Israelites built a building that honored God, we too want to bring Him glory through the building. We want to show that we are willing to go all-out for God. (1 and 2 Chronicles)
2. We want to maintain unity in the body, so we are choosing to build a building that is in the middle ground between a strictly utilitarian facility (a box-shaped building that saves money, but may lack aesthetics) and an awesome building that inspires (a crystal cathedral, but may be wasteful). We would like a structure that will avoid extravagance to satisfy the pragmatists, but still provide for aesthetics to satisfy the artistic; one that is both practical and creative. We believe God is leading us to this middle ground, as we see a consensus amongst all those on the Facilities Planning Team and amongst all those on the Elder Board. (Phil. 2)
3. We want the building to be attractive, so that we might attract others. (I Cor. 9:19-23).
4. Creativity and beauty are values we receive from God, who Himself is the originator and epitome of those things. His creation resounds with evidence of his divine flair, from the heavens to the earth, from animals to humankind. Music, writing, architecture, design and other artistic enterprises were ordained by Him and are valuable in his sight. God delights in our attempts to use our God-given creativity to glorify his name. (Psalm 19)

The Elders of Mountain View Community Church  
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