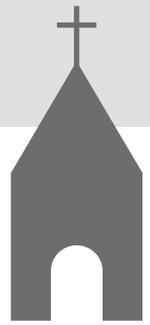


Town Hall Q&A



Please join members of the Building Committee after masses on July 20 and 21 for a town hall meeting in the Crosby church basement. The status of the building process will be reviewed, and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. For more information, please review this list of questions.

Current Church Campuses

1. What is the status of the Deerwood Church?

The last mass was celebrated and it is for sale. There are items we still need to remove: altar, stained glass windows, holy water fonts, and a few other items. There has been interest in the property, but no firm offers.

2. When are we going to put the Crosby church, house and school up for sale? Will we wait until after the new church is completed?

The general plan is to wait until the new church is completed. However, if we receive an offer we cannot refuse, we could reconsider the plan. Similar to Deerwood, we will plan to move many things from Crosby to the new church, including the stained glass windows, altar, etc.

3. Could the school be sold separately from the church, or will it all be sold as one property?

It is a possibility. We need to wait and see how it unfolds.

4. What if we sell the current church before a new one is built? Where would the temporary worship space be?

It is not foreseeable that we would sell the church before a new church is built.

5. What is the status of the Crosby-Deerwood merger?

It is in process. We are waiting for the formal decree from the Bishop. Once that is issued, we will have meetings with trustees in Duluth to do the civil and canonical mergers. If all goes as planned, it will be as early as this fall.

New Church Campus

6. How much did the land cost?

\$200,000.

7. Are the land purchases complete?

The payment for 12 acres has been completed. The additional 20 acres is on a contract for deed, to be paid over the next 4 years.

8. How much will the new Church cost?

It is hard to tell. Ten years ago, Aitkin built a church for \$5 million and Crosslake for \$7.5 million. Since then building costs have increased. We have estimated between \$5-10 million.

9. Will the project be completed in phases or all at once? How long will it take to build?

It depends on how much we can fundraise. Once we know our fundraising capability, we will decide if we build all at once or in phases. Once we achieve 75% of the funds needed to build, we can start construction. It will probably take 1 – 2 years to build.

10. Who decides how the new church will look?

We have a committee that is looking at the options for a new church. Based on needs assessments from each group at church, we will create a rendering for parishioners to review and provide feedback.

11. What will it look like?

While we do not know what it will look like, the general feeling is the church will be more traditional. We are looking for something that is durable, convenient and beautiful. We hope it will inspire all in their Catholic faith.

12. Where will it be built?

We hope to have two access points: Highway 31 and Deer Trail Road. The actual layout will depend on the overall campus plan and whether or not it is done at once or in phases.

13. What kind of spaces will it have (handicapped parking, Adoration Chapel, more bathrooms, social hall on 1st floor, classrooms, rectory, basement, etc.)?

We are assessing needs for various groups. As we analyze our services now and potential to grow, your input is important. There will be ongoing opportunities to share your thoughts. We encourage you to talk with any of the Building Committee members to share your ideas.

14. Who is designing the new parish?

Initially, the Building Committee will create a conceptual plan. Once an architect and contractor is selected, they will work from the conceptual plan to create a more detailed blueprint.

15. When will the rectory be built?

Ideally at the same time, but will depend on fundraising.

16. What's been done so far? What still needs to be done?

See the process map posted on the church bulletin board. You can also check the parish website, cuyunacatholic.org, for building updates.

17. When will we actually see the project completed?

Once we raise 75% of funds, we can begin building. The following are examples of other church projects:
Immaculate Heart in Crosslake
6/1/2000 – Inception- Parish began discussions.
2/1/2008 – Goal for 75% requirement was met
6/1/2008 – Broke ground and construction began.
6/1/2009 – New construction completed.
St. James in Aitkin
2002 – Inception – Parish began discussions
2005 – Goal for 75% requirement was met
2006 – Broke ground and construction began.
2007- New construction completed.

Town Hall Q&A (continued)

18. Will we be using any of our existing windows or furnishings in the new parish?

Yes, we will want to be prudent with our resources and use what we can, what is meaningful and useful.

19. Can parishioners with special skills provide help with building (i.e. painting, woodworking, etc)?

We would hope to enlist the help of parishioners where we can.

20. Will Deer Trail Rd. be paved?

In time we hope so, but we don't have total control over it.

21. What if I have ideas to share about the new church?

Feel free to contact any Building Committee member (listed in question #36); or schedule an appointment/ email Fr. Eli (pastor@cuyunacatholic.org) or Deacon Dan Goshey (218-316-0607/dangoshey@gmail.com).

Fundraising

22. Who will pay for the new Church?

Does the Diocese help?

We are responsible for raising the money for the church. The Diocese will have input in the building project but does not provide any financial aid.

23. Will the parish be taking out a loan from the Diocese or a bank to complete the project?

Likely, we will have a bank loan for the project. It will be as minimal as possible. The Diocese does not provide loans.

24. How much money has to be raised before we can begin building?

We need 75% of the total project cost, roughly between \$3.5 – 7.5 million. Uncollected pledges count differently than cash in hand (75% of face value). For example, if someone gives \$100, it counts as \$100 toward the goal; but if you pledge \$100, it will count as \$75 toward the goal. Currently between the two churches we have approximately \$1 million saved.

25. How will we raise funds for the new church?

We will have a fundraising committee and will hire a capital campaign company to help us achieve the goal. Recently built churches we visited told us that pledges are the main source of fundraising. We hope to have a variety of opportunities for people to support the new church that could include pledges and fundraising events.

26. How will you ask parishioners to pledge money?

Making a pledge is completely voluntary. We want to be compassionate and confidential. We hope to meet with parishioners and have a conversation about ways to help.

27. When can I start making donations to the building fund?

Even though the official capital campaign has not started, a general building fund has been established. If you wish to start contributing just designate the building fund on your donation.

28. Can I make a pledge to be paid over time?

Yes.

29. How long will the pledges be for — how many years?

We are not certain yet, but it will most likely be between 3 to 5 years.

30. Can a person change their pledge or stop it if something unexpected comes up?

Yes.

31. What if I make a pledge and I pass away or am unable to fulfill the pledge? Will my family be responsible for completing the pledge?

No.

32. If I have given money, is it possible to get it back?

There are legitimate reasons that a person may want their donation returned. We do not fully know the legalities of how that can be done. In working with a capital campaign company, they will be able to guide us if this need arises.

33. What is the estimated donation per family?

Pledges will be based on each family's personal comfort level. Dividing the cost by the number of families is not a reasonable way to reach the goal. Each family will need to determine their own ability to support the project.

34. What percentage of families are expected to give?

We would love to see everybody contribute and participate in the ways they can: prayers, volunteering, and/or financial contributions.

35. Are contributions tax deductible?

These types of financial contributions are generally tax deductible, but consult your tax professional.

Administrative

36. Who will be on the Building Committee? How selected?

Currently the committee is: Mike Aulie, Steve Freese, Fr. Eli Gieske, Deacon Dan Goshey, Joan Hasskamp, Kim Hutchison, Michelle LeMieur, Doreen Miller-Fish, Joanne Ruttger, Justin Smith, and Tom Sablan. The group will probably shift and evolve over time as we need more subcommittees and as we consult with people who may have special expertise in areas that are relevant.

Building Committee members were selected through suggestions from the Planning Committee, Trustees, Deacon Dan Goshey and Fr. Eli.

37. Will Fr. Eli be our priest during the entire building process?

While there is no guarantee, when the Future Planning Commission asked Bishop Sirba this question, he responded with a suggestion that it would be ideal.