

First Presbyterian Church



LOCATION

Columbia, Missouri

DESCRIPTION

32,700 sf Renovation & 9,332 sf Addition

COMPLETION DATE

March 2009

CONSTRUCTION COST

\$3.8 million

CLIENT REFERENCE

Wayne McCoy, Building Committee Representative
573-819-9800

CONTRACTOR REFERENCE

Crawford Construction - Mark Crawford
573-874-8656

The existing First Presbyterian Church u-shaped complex was developed in three separate wings with eleven different floor elevations and multiple points of entry. Through an initial master planning process, SOA assisted the church in defining their three primary goals: Enhance Fellowship; Increase Accessibility; and Create a unified look and entry to the Church Complex. The subsequent design and documentation phases proceeded in exploring creative solutions to economically and efficiently address these three principal goals.

The primary design approach to address the desire for enhanced fellowship as well as a unified look and entry was to infill the courtyard with a Welcome Center and enlarged Fellowship Hall. The configuration of the new spaces was such that it opened interaction to the existing wings of the complex to create a unified whole. The addition was designed with care to present an inviting main entry that gave a fresh look to the church while respecting the existing language of brick and stone. The result is an understated yet integrated infill that provides transparent and flexible space for multiple functions.

To deal with the desire for increased accessibility, two elevators were incorporated to provide access to nearly every portion of the building. Incorporating two elevators was a special achievement because it was previously thought that a minimum of three elevators would be necessary. Through creative placement, SOA was able to conserve valuable space, money and resources through a more efficient design solution.

The remaining scope of the project addressed the relocation and update of existing functions and spaces to better serve the current and future congregation of First Presbyterian Church. The Nursery and Administrative areas were relocated to more visible and accessible areas while the educational spaces were consolidated in what is known as the education building that organizes different age levels by floor. The result is the most comprehensive update of spaces that the church has undergone since its original construction.

