

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

..... ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

I see in the development of a church design a number of specific points around which design concepts must evolve. These include: The needs of the congregation both materially and spiritually; the restrictive budget of the first phase of construction; the need for bringing the church back as a strong influence in architectural design; the assimilation of many functions into one harmonious whole.

In discussion of the first item, it is necessary that we accept the differences, not only in the different congregations' approach to religion but in their general living habits and locale. It is quite apparent that a city church, the majority of whose members are college graduates, cannot be approached the same as one designed for people in the small rural community.

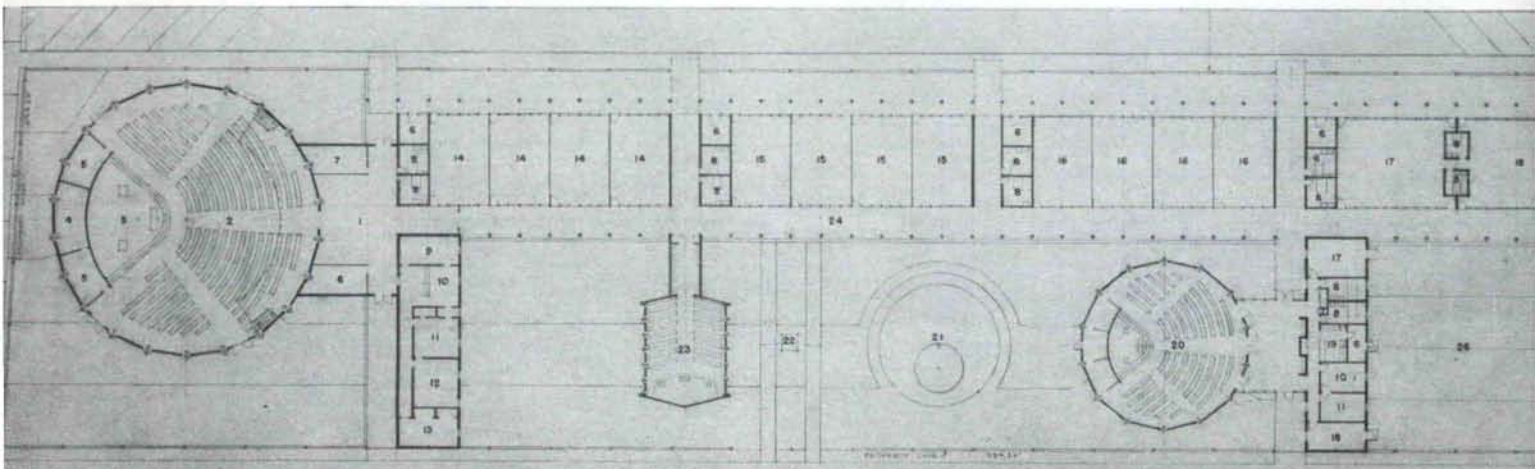
The restrictions of low budgets in the first phase of construction are a constant challenge. Usually for the first phase the congregation has a budget of from \$40,000 to \$60,000 which has to cover all costs in connection with land improvements. It is extremely important that the church organization understand the limitation of this budget and that the first unit be designed with its relation to the eventual master plan having precedence over the amount of square footage achieved.

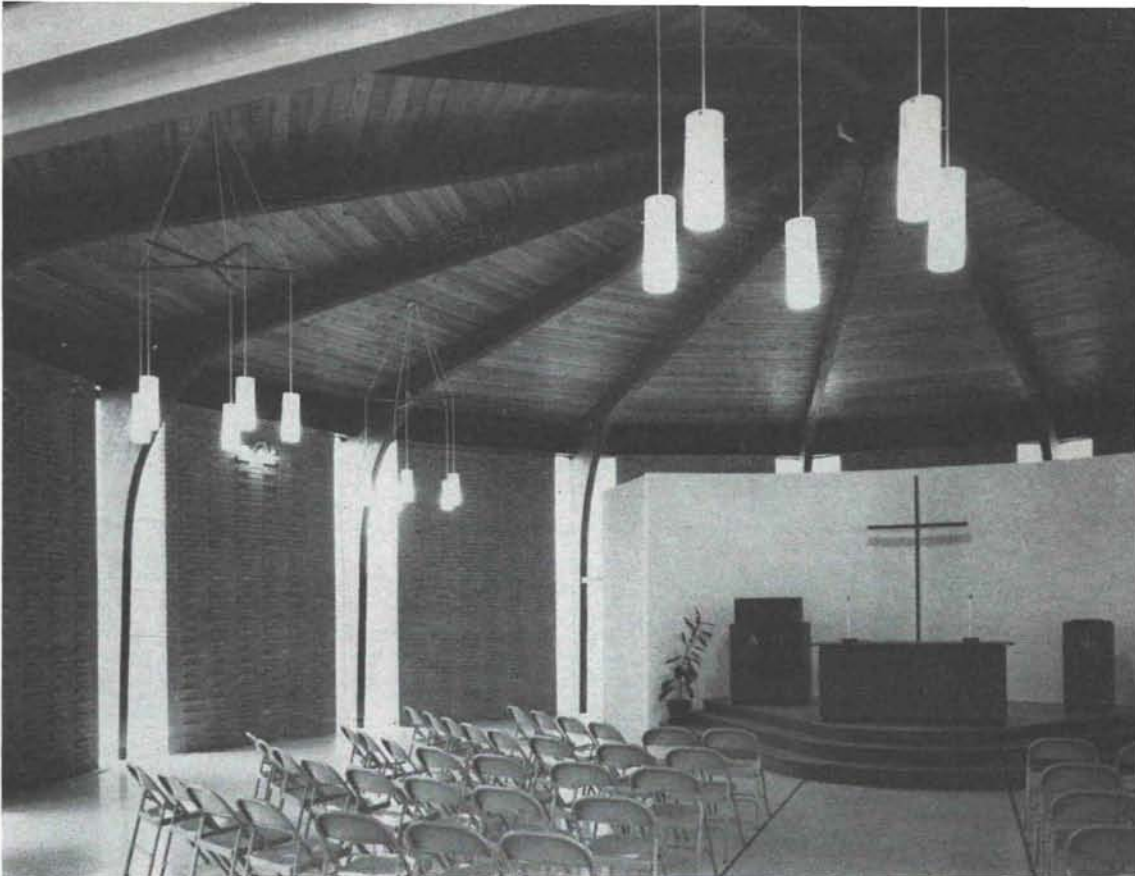
If one studies the history of architecture he soon finds that most innovations through the ages occurred in Ecclesiastical buildings. I believe that this approach must be resumed and that the church should represent the most forward thinking the individual Architect can give.

Finally, in relation to the overall master plan, the Architect must design a completed layout for the eventual church needs.

In doing this, it is realized that subsequently changes will be made as each stage of construction is undertaken, but the basic design must be determined in the beginning. A master plan must be maintained and adjusted at each of these stages to keep it current.

—Walter A. Gathman



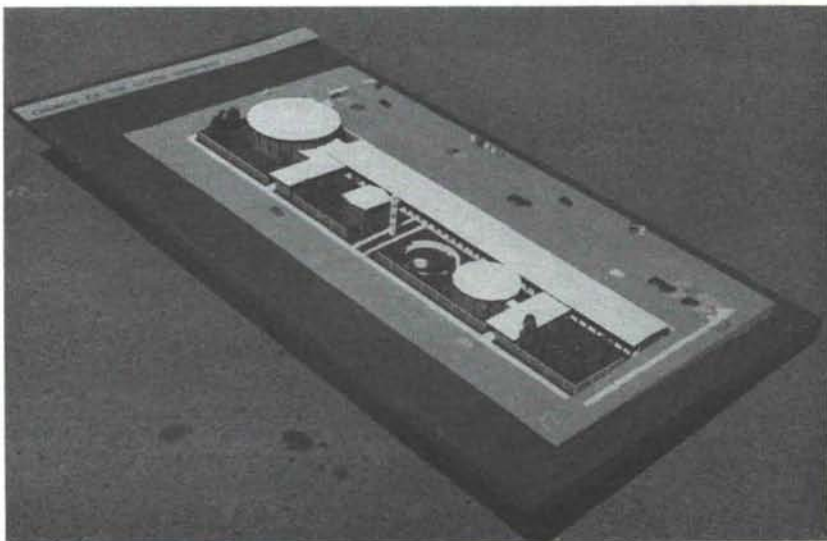


Architect: Walter Gathman, A.I.A.

Photographs: Jean Rodgers Oliver

LEGEND

1. NARTHEX
2. NAVE
3. CHANCEL
4. ORGAN
5. STORAGE
6. MECHANICAL
7. COATS
8. TOILET
9. WORKROOM
10. OFFICE
11. STUDY
12. PARLOR
13. CHOIR
14. ADULT & H.S. CLASSROOM
15. JUNIOR CLASSROOM
16. PRIMARY CLASSROOM
17. KINDERGARTEN
18. NURSERY
19. KITCHEN
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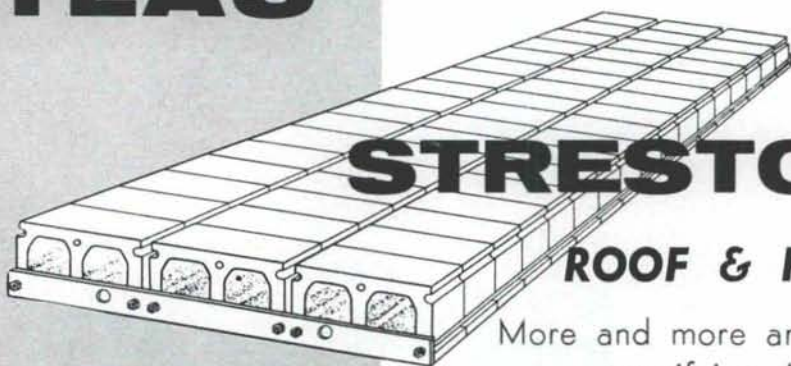
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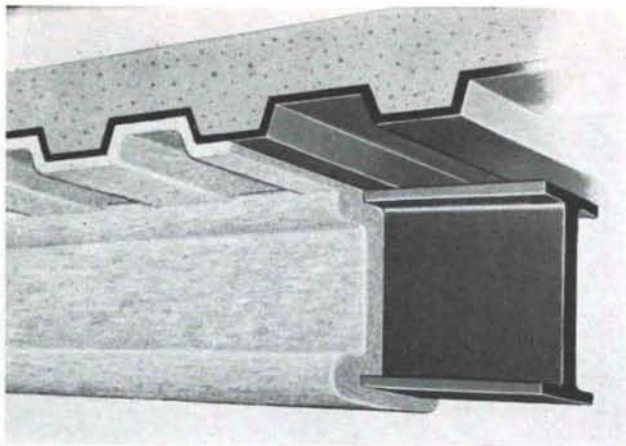
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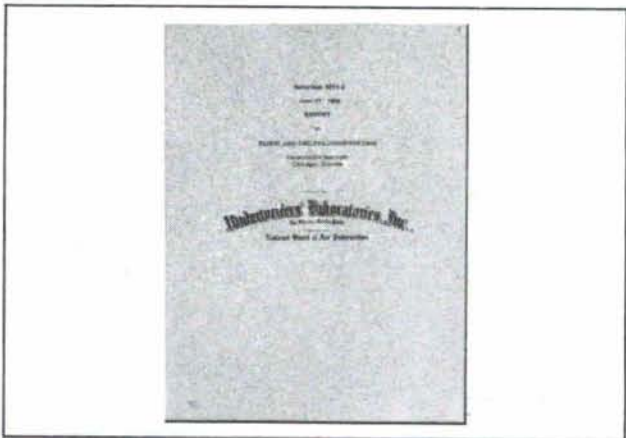
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