

State University of New York College at Buffalo - Buffalo State University

Digital Commons at Buffalo State

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Church Collections

1900

Correspondence; n.d.; Church Facilities Committee Survey

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/bethel-ame>



Part of the [History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Correspondence; n.d.; Church Facilities Committee Survey." Bethel A.M.E. Church. Monroe Fordham Regional History Center, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State.

<https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/bethel-ame/95>

This Papers is brought to you for free and open access by the Church Collections at Digital Commons at Buffalo State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bethel A.M.E. Church by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Buffalo State. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu.

Bethel A.M.E. Church Facilities Committee Survey Draft

Good evening/afternoon. I am (state your name, if necessary) and a member of the Bethel Facility Planning Committee. This committee, commissioned by Pastor Stenhouse, has been asked to determine the (current and future) ministry needs of Bethel. We have been asked to (1) analyze the economic viability of renovation versus other alternatives, (2) evaluate the feasibility of renovating the existing structure to meet our ministry needs and (3) make a recommendation to an upcoming Church Conference concerning a physical structure to meet the (long-term and near term) ministry needs of the church.

It is our intent to compare the costs of necessary and extensive upgrading of our present physical structure against the cost of building a new facility or relocating to a more modern facility.

Our first step in this process is to survey the church leadership and obtain their perspective on this initiative. This planning assumes that Bethel will not house the Head Start Program.

Would you be willing to participate in this information-gathering process?
=====

Items Driving Timely Decisions on Current Bethel A.M.E. Church Facility

- **Increased operating and maintenance expenses due to deterioration of an aging building;**
- **Building not currently accessible to the handicapped and disabled:**
 - **Lack of elevators;**
 - **Sanctuary on second floor;**
 - **Fellowship hall on second floor;**
 - **Church offices on third floor;**
- **Replacement of obsolete heating system;**
- **Replacement of obsolete wiring and lighting system;**
- **Absence of cooling system;**
- **No sprinkler system to protect facility from fire;**
- **Limited parking with access to facility;**
- **Current physical appearance does not project image of "lead church";**
- **Upgrading of facilities would likely serve as a "community beacon" for others to visit, join and perhaps bring others to Christ.**

1. Are you familiar with the current operating and maintenance costs for the existing church building?

Yes No Somewhat

2. In your opinion, does the current church facility meet the needs of your ministry?

Yes No

3. Will the current structure continue to meet those needs over the next 20-25 years?

Yes No

4. If you were given the opportunity to provide those items that would allow your ministry to operate at its best, what would those items be? (i.e. – additional classroom space, access to computers, state of the art sound system, video-conferencing ability, air conditioning, elevators, etc.) (List)

5. What recommendations would you have on improving accessibility to the church of aging and disabled individuals?

6. If you were given the following options, which would you choose and why? (Check one.)

- Maintain the present structure (with repairs as necessary).
- Investigate relocating to a more modern facility.
- Pursue the construction of a new facility.
- Do nothing.

7. In your opinion, what would be the largest obstacle/roadblock to a major renovation or building project for Bethel?

8. How would you suggest we overcome those obstacles?

PLEASE NOTE ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BELOW.
