

BUILDING A CHURCH WITH MARANATHA

Taking a Church Family through the process of building a new Mission Center (Church) to support the work of evangelism in a specific region can be an exciting and rewarding process. It can also be a lot of work and expense.

Some congregations would like to consider partnering with Maranatha International, as Maranatha has been encouraged by the North American Division to assist in the construction of buildings here in North America, for congregations with limited resources.

There are many factors to be aware of when considering working with Maranatha, some of which can be a great help to a small congregation. However, there are also limitations to what Maranatha can provide for the building process and you need to be well aware of these as you consider inviting them to partner with you.

In General, This Is What Maranatha Can Provide:

- Architectural plans for 3 sizes of affordable, small churches. These plans need to be compared to local codes and requirements.
- Basic framing of the structure.
- Setting the roof trusses and roof decking.
- Setting the exterior doors and windows.
- Consultation on how to prepare the job site ahead of time for the 2 weeks Maranatha is present and working.

Items Maranatha May Be Able To Do, But In All Likelihood Will Be The Responsibility of The Local Church:

- Vaper wrap.
- Exterior cement board / “Hardiboard” siding.
- Some basic wiring.
- Some basic plumbing.
- Some framing of interior walls.
- Platform framing.
- Roofing.

What The Local Church Will Be Responsible For While Maranatha Is Onsite:

- Obtaining housing for all the Maranatha volunteers.
- Many volunteers may come and bring their own recreational vehicles, so the local church will need to provide a place for them to park, with water and electric supply and preferably sewer as well.

- Meals every day for all the volunteers. Often a large tent is pitched and the local church prepares and serves the meals there. Or a nearby SDA church school can be used.
- Primary liability insurance for each volunteer at the rate of \$2.50 per person per day.

Local Church Responsibilities For The Over-All Building Process:

- Purchase the property
- Determine through site-engineer and consultations with Association Building Consultant Darrel Starkey that proposed project will fit and be allowed on the property based on local code and requirements.
- Must have a contractor/builder that is licensed to “pull the permit” for the church and will be responsible for the permitting and code processes.
- Must have a site project manager if the county allows “owner/builder.”
- Church/builder/contractor responsible for obtaining realistic bids and developing the overall budget for all expenses. Maranatha’s part is basically only to provide a plan and the labor to do the framing.
- Church/builder/contractor to get all state, city and county approvals. Occupancy. Fire Marshal, etc.
- Church needs to advise the builder/contractor of the participation of Maranatha participation so that the builder/contractor can adjust the price of total construction cost. (Framing, window set, etc.)
- Church/builder/contractor responsible for any and all zoning, easements, set-backs, access to water, sewer, and other service access.
- Church/builder/contractor responsible for all site prep. Excavation and grading. Footers, initial plumbing, electric, concrete, sewer, etc., to be done before Maranatha ever gets onsite.
- Church/builder/contractor is responsible for obtaining and supplying all building materials needed for the entire construction process.
- Church/builder/contractor is responsible for items after church is framed. Finish plumbing, electrical HVAC, insulation, sheetrock, finish, trim, carpet, tile, paint, lighting, furnishings, etc.
- Church/builder/contractor is responsible for all inspections, occupancy, permits and all items to finish project.
- Church/builder/contractor responsible for parking, paving, water retention, landscaping, lighting, road/highway access, etc.
- If the congregation has trades within the membership or from sister congregations, and the builder is willing to utilize them, members can do much or most of the work toward finishing the project. Also unskilled members can volunteer for basic actions under the direction of skilled trade workers.”
- All trades who are paid for their work in any form must carry workman’s compensation and general liability insurance. If they are fully volunteering their services, they are covered under the volunteer insurance.

Sequence Of The Process If Church Is Working With Maranatha:

- Local church contacts Georgia-Cumberland Association.

- Expresses interest in partnering with Maranatha.
- Conference contacts Maranatha and asks for architectural plans to fit the size that the church can expect to build, based on the property the church has, the estimated funding from the church, etc.
- Church discusses utilizing the consulting services of the Georgia-Cumberland Association for a Capital Campaign.
- After consulting with the Association, church may apply to become a Maranatha project.
- Maranatha project approval is granted, "Subject to..." That would include plans, financing in place, owning land, have designated builder that can "pull the permit," etc.
- Association Building Consultant can work with the local church in reviewing the "Subject too..." list to determine how this items will be addressed before construction is to start.
- The Association must have documentation from the local church that the church is able to fulfill all the Maranatha "Subject to..." requirements before approval to proceed.
- Local Church must develop and produce to their Church in Business Session (voted) and to the Association (voted) a realistic building cost budget, taking into account that Maranatha will only provide the framing of walls and roof trusses, and that volunteers will need to be fed and a place to stay provided.
- Maranatha will need a minimum of six (6) months lead time before the actual dates to be onsite with volunteers in order to obtain willing volunteers and give them sufficient time to plan and commit to come.

This process may be revised or updated at any time. The updated/revised process may not be the one currently on this website. Contact the Association for the current process.