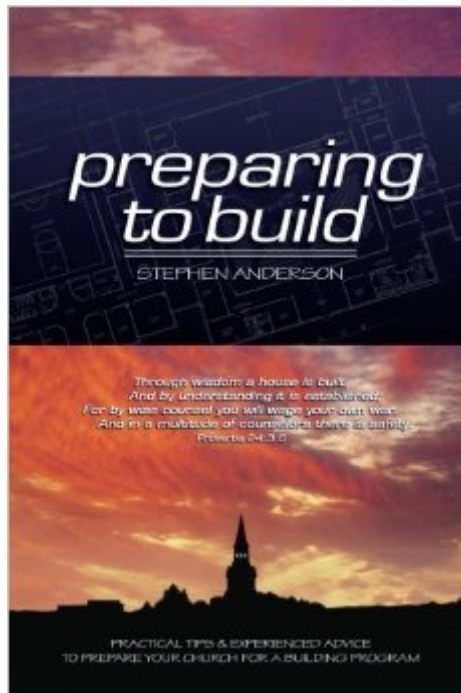


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# Preparing To Build: Practical Tips & Experienced Advice To Prepare Your Church For A Building Program



## Synopsis

From concept to completion, your church will not undertake a more demanding or complicated task in terms of money, risk, and effort than it will in a building program. *Preparing to Build* will educate and guide the church through the process of becoming prepared to build in a manner that will save time and reduce costly mistakes. They don't teach this in seminary and most church leaders are unequipped by experience or training to lead their church through a building program in the most optimum manner. Being prepared to build, in its simplest terms, means the church has objectively quantified as many of the variables as possible and developed a building plan strategy within the financial ability of the church. A church that is prepared to build can articulate, based on factual analysis, what it needs to build to meet future needs, it understands the cost of construction, has measured its financial ability, and knows the vision can be built on the selected property. It's about the process. The result of an objective process is objective fact. In the absence of an objective process, all a church is left with is subjective opinion, and in a church of a few hundred people, you will have a few hundred opinions. *Preparing to Build* discusses the process from visioning to selecting a builder and discusses topics including: space planning, design, financing, capital campaigns, land acquisition, organizing a building committee, and special information for smaller or start-up churches. The book concludes with several appendices, including a readiness to build assessment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Our church has been in the planning process for some time now to relocate and build and a larger facility. As a member of the Elder board I began seeking out resources to help us with this

overwhelming process/task. I made contact with Steve Anderson from Church Development Services which we eventually had do our Feasibility Study, which was key in continuing to move us forward. At that time I began reading Steve's book Preparing To Build assuming we would reach that point sometime in the future. I was pleasantly surprised that the book was much more than just about building a building. From start to finish Steve lays out a very logical and straight forward path to tackling a project such as this. Even though we are only at the beginning phase of a potential relocation and new building, this book has already given our church leadership foundational steps to take as we move forward. I have shared portions of the book with Elders and Sr. Pastor as we take first steps. I am sure that I will come back to this book many times in the future as we move forward, God willing, to learn from Steve's experience and wisdom which he lays out in the various sections of the book. Thank You Steve for giving knowledge and wisdom to those of us who are not experienced in tasks such as these in order that we can hopefully grow His Kingdom for His Glory!

We lost our church to fire a few months ago and are in the process of rebuilding. Some of the comments and quotes really fit what can and will happen if you don't stay focused on the task at hand and if you don't keep God in your plans. This book is geared more to new congregations preparing to take the leap of buying property and building their new facilities. Explains pitfalls that can happen with poor and hasty planning vs organizing and thinking things out.

Steve has written a thought provoking book. I am a pastor with a construction background. We have been moving towards our own building for the last several years. We did use Steve for our Capital Campaign. We found Steve's expertise invaluable for our Capital Campaign. He helped us to ask questions that we did not know to ask. The most thought provoking statement in Steve's book is "not knowing all the questions to ask". Over the last three years I have discovered hundreds of questions that need to be asked. I am sure that there are many more that I have not yet thought of that need to be answered. The book is an easy read and has reignited my passion to ask questions. My thinking on the best way forward in our building process was definitely challenged by Steve's book. I would recommend this book for any pastor who is in the process as a good place to start asking the right questions.

Stephen has written an excellent book on the subject of church building for all church leaders. He breaks the project into phases and considers the spiritual, pastoral and practical aspects of each phase. I am smarter for having read Stephens book.

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