

Grace Church



“If I was going to do this again, I would go with Bossardt Corporation. It was critical to have an owner’s representative given the project’s complexity. Bossardt Corporation clearly understood our intent and purpose.”

Jim Rightler
Former Executive Pastor
Grace Church

Square Footage: 343,000
Project Cost: \$38,465,000
Architect: Hammel Green
Abrahamson Inc.
Schedule: December 2000 to
August 2002



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For more than 50 years, Grace Church has ministered to the Twin Cities community. Each decade, the congregation has expanded, outgrowing its Edina, Minnesota, location in the late 1990s. With relocation a necessity, the church purchased 62 rolling acres in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, an ideal location to integrate its ministries and continue its outreach.

In 2000 the congregation launched a capital campaign to fund church construction on the new site, a 4,500-seat worship center that would make it the largest religious facility in the Upper Midwest. Aware of the monumental task ahead, the church formed a skilled volunteer task force to manage the construction project. Yet it soon became

clear that even more help was needed. Grace Church turned to Bossardt Corporation to serve as owner's representative to manage quality, schedule and costs.

"We just weren't staffed to be on top of every detail," says Jim Rightler, former executive pastor of Grace Church. "Yet we knew it was critical to be responsible stewards of our members' funds. They made construction possible. We wanted to make sure every decision was the right decision on behalf of our members and our ministry."

Bossardt Corporation reviewed all bids, often re-initiating bidding processes to ensure the best price possible. "They certainly saved us their fee and beyond," says Rightler. "But it wasn't just that money was saved, it was the way it was saved. Bossardt Corporation maintained good working relationships with everyone, stressing open communication. I think that directly relates to the project's success."

The current facility, phase one of a multiphase program,

also features a 200-person choir loft, kitchen, bookstore, offices, classrooms, eight nursery toddler rooms and more. Since the church is located near an airport, integrating 'symphony-grade' acoustics was critical.

Upon completion, the church immediately bustled with activity, with cars lined up for over a mile to get into the parking lot. Today the ministry teams are optimizing their use of the space, "bringing faith to life" in their congregation and beyond.

