

THE RIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

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Choosing the right committee members are very important. The right people can make a project or put the brakes on a church project moving forward. Many factors are involved in picking a committee.

First and foremost, the folks on the committee need to be well-known, trusted members of the church congregation. When the people of the church feel that they can trust committee members, that they have knowledge of the committee member's background, and know that as decisions are made, the entire church congregation is well represented—that things will get done. People who are trusted and are well-known church members have gained this respect through constant dialogue, friendship, and because they have knowledge in certain areas that will help the cause of the church. They show that the church family is a top priority in their lives.

These established representatives will not only create that warm trusting relationship to get things moving, but as their excitement grows so will the funds flow, knowing their voices are being heard.

Second, if outside sources are brought in (such as Kirby-Smith Associates or Bahret Church Interiors and/or others) the church committee/representatives should feel that same comfort level and reassurance when working with the experts, as the congregation feels with people they trust as committee members. The expertise of a company is just as important as the relationship that is created. It is important that outside companies, brought in as experts, hear what the committee/church/congregation is asking for and their needs. Every church and congregation has different needs, personalities, geography, history, style, architectural era, etc. Each church, like each person, has very different ways and ideas. They need to be listened to and heard. From start to finish, a true friendship should be created.

Third, but definitely not third in importance, is the committee relationship with pastors. We always joke with pastors that they only work one day per week. (Not so, of course.) Our pastors put in a tremendous amount of time each week,



ministering to our needs, our spirituality, giving worship time, counseling in times of crisis, conducting the business of the church, and, of course, carving out some of their own personal time. Many times, we take our pastors for granted. A pastor/committee relationship is very important. We need to remember that our pastors have studied their faith to become who they are and to pass on the knowledge they have gained. This information and knowledge can be so helpful, in so many ways, as we go through the process of completing church projects. The pastor should be heard as a vital, crucial part of the process.

On the other hand, since pastors are busy "pastoring" our church, they also need to be able to delegate to the trusted people in our committee(s). A balance is important.

Please contact us at Bahret Church Interiors to discuss committee needs in further detail or to ask for any assistance.