



Are YOU on the Team?

As congregations grow out of their existing facilities or are in need of replacing them, GuideOne Taylor Ball Construction Services (GTB) encourages congregations to consider the use of the “Team Approach” to guide them through the planning, designing, financing, and construction phases of building facilities. GTB has assisted over 450 churches either build a new facility or restore their existing facility following a major loss. On every project, GTB promotes and employs the “Team Approach”.

Since there are very few architects or contractors who are familiar with working with churches and their building committees, GTB has become committed to engaging a “Team Approach” where GTB will bring the Church, The Architect and GTB as the Contractor to work together to bring the church’s needs and dreams to a realization.

GTB employs the “Team Approach” to save churches time and money, as they pursue their design and construction goals. Bringing all of the team players on board early in the building program process, allows for a better chance of bringing the project to completion within budget and on time. From the onset of the design phase, the “Team Approach” provides the best cost control tool in protecting all team members from over designing and over spending.

Typical construction methods (design-bid-build) allow for the church hired architect to design a facility as requested by the church; place the design out to bid, only to find the contractor bids have exceeded the budget. Using the “Team Approach”, GTB works to keep all team members apprised of any cost implications as the design progresses.

The “Team Approach” also provides better cost control results rather than going through the process of hiring each professional separately as needed for the project. The church will avoid spending thousands of dollars on architectural drawings for a facility that may never get built because the construction costs are beyond the church's budget.

How does the “TEAM APPROACH” work?

Initially GTB meets with church leaders to identify the needs of the congregation and its budget before presenting the church with a plan of how to proceed. This is done before any design work begins. This planning process can save the church literally thousands of dollars in design fees.

Following the initial review, GTB will bring a design professional with church experience to the team with the churches concurrence. One of the biggest challenges of any church design project is matching vision with reality. Typically, church pastors and building committees want to design larger facilities than their congregations can afford. Early in the planning and design process, it's a real challenge to bring the pastor and building committee back to reality as to what they can safely afford to build.

GTB operates in the national market place, giving GTB an acute awareness of what construction costs are doing at all times. In most cases, when sufficient historical, current, and projected construction cost data is given to the church, and lenders come on board early in the process, it's relatively easy to bring them back to reality.

When the design starts to go beyond current finances, GTB will recommend alternatives to the facility design. Alternatives can range from using different materials, decreasing the size of the facility or phased construction. GTB is confident the “Team Approach” will bring the dreams of any congregation to realization within budget and in a timely manner.

GTB is based in Des Moines, Iowa and have worked in 41 of the contiguous states of the United States. GTB is a fully owned subsidiary of GuideOne Insurance who is one of the most prominent church insurers in the country.